



**MINUTES OF THE 62nd MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 29 March 2012**

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 27 June 2012

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Dr Karsten Sach
Chair, EEA Management

Record of proceedings:

The Chair Dr. Karsten Sach opened the meeting by welcoming new Board members and presenting apologies on behalf of those members unable to attend. The tabled documents were acknowledged during the course of the meeting (list included after the agenda in Annex 1).

Final agenda:	Annex 1
Attendance list:	Annex 2
Action list:	Annex 3
Decision list:	Annex 4
Summary MB seminar:	Annex 5
Summary MB-West Balkans	Annex 6

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board adopted the agenda (Doc.EEA/MB/62/01rev.1) without changes.

Item 2 Adoption of the 61st Management Board minutes, 23 November 2011

The Board adopted the minutes of the 61st MB meeting held on 23 November 2011 with minor changes. The final version (Doc. EEA/MB/62/02- final) of the minutes is available on (Forum).

The members also took note of the tabled MB rolling action list.

ITEMS 3-6 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes of the 56th Bureau meeting, 7 February 2012

The members took note of the draft minutes from the February Bureau meeting that had been sent to them for information.

Item 4 Update by the Chair (oral)

Under this item the Chair updated the MB on the following issues:

- successful completion of four MB written procedures for the approval of the 4th amendment of the EEA Budget 2011; approval of the EEA Budget 2012; approval of the EEA AWP2012; approval of the approach for the EEA five-year evaluation;
- meeting of the Steering Committee of the EEA five-year evaluation (specific discussion under item 9);
- communication on improving the delivery of benefits from EU environment measures: building confidence through better knowledge and responsiveness ([here](#))

In addition, the Chair informed that a staff member from the helpdesk team would be available during the day for questions on the new on-line library, Forum.

Item 5 Update by the Scientific Committee Chair (oral)

Under this item, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee (SC) gave feedback from the EEA-SC seminar "Fresh ideas for the EEA" (see document EEA/MB/62/05rev.1), and 53rd SC meeting (15-16 February 2012).

Future activities of the Scientific Committee include:

- EEA-SC transport seminar on 2 October, in Ljubljana;
- support to the ETC review.

In addition, the SC Chair informed the MB of a video conference with the European Parliament earlier that morning, to discuss bioenergy accounting and carbon debts. Further to that, he reported that the SC members had published, in their individual capacity, the reasoning behind the Committee's last Opinion on Greenhouse Gas Accounting in relation to Bioenergy in the peer review journal Energy Policy.

The Board members took note of the update

Item 6 Update by the Executive Director

Taking the progress report ([Doc.EEA/MB/62/06](#)) as read, the Executive Director specifically mentioned the publication of a report on air pollution and climate change at the end of 2011, and the launch of a report on efficiency and water accounts on

occasion of the World Water Forum in Marseille. This report is the first on a series of five that will be published during 2012, the year of Water.

The representative of the European Commission (EC) highlighted the agreement with the EEA to work on two pilot implementation projects for air quality and waste, confirming that work on those projects had already started (for more information, see item 20).

More specific issues were discussed under their respective items.

The MB took note of the update.

ITEMS 7-19 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 7 EEA Executive Director recruitment. Update CLOSED SESSION

The content of this item was confidential and taken in a closed session without broadcast. The discussions were not recorded.

The representative of the European Commission (EC) reported that the selection procedure was advancing as foreseen. Further to that, he gave an overview of the different stages of the procedure (see tabled document EEA/MB/62/07).

The MB members designated Elisabeth Freytag, MB Austria and Vice-Chair/Bureau member, as the MB Observer in the Pre-Selection Committee.

Item 8 EEA 2012 timetable of major MB-related processes

The Board took note of the timetable of the major MB related processes for 2012, and agreed to keep the document as a rolling document in the Forum.

Item 9 EEA five-year evaluation

In introducing this item, the Chair took stock of the steps done towards the EEA five-year evaluation, thus far. He reported that the Steering Committee for the evaluation had met in two occasions to discuss the new approach of the project and its Terms of Reference. Referring to the approach being proposed, the Chair said that the change was related to the effectiveness part of the evaluation, which would be done by an external evaluator following a call for tenders. In addition, the Chair informed that the proposal reflected a request from the European Commission for the evaluation to clearly show that it was being done independently; the EEA and Steering Committee considered the new proposal in February.

In the discussion that followed, the Board members reflected on the proposal, tendering process and cost of the evaluation. Given that the tabled document was circulated only after the Steering Committee meeting in the morning, the Chair invited the MB to send feedback on the document, as well as nominations to participate in the Evaluation Committee, by Wednesday 4 April 2012.

Item 10 EEA Scientific Committee, future structure and operation

In introducing this item, the MB Chair gave an overview of MB decisions that would have to be taken in March and June with respect to the Scientific Committee; those included agreement on the roles paper, honorarium, renewals of SC terms, and agreement on the areas for the next SC call.

The SC Chair gave an overview of the current membership and number of members whose first term would come to an end in November 2012. In addition, he gave feedback on the structure of the Committee's work for 2012, and of the discussions on the roles paper and honorarium, highlighting that the issue of SC independence was not clear enough in the roles paper that had been put forward for MB decision.

In the discussion that followed, the Board agreed to adopt the role of the Scientific Committee document with the following changes:

- to add 'independent' after 'providing' in the third line of the preamble;
- to change the third bullet point under 'In its work, the SC:' to 'Ensures the opportunity to discuss main findings and timing of such opinions with the Management Board and Executive Director;'
- to clarify that activities of the SC have to stay within the budget envelope defined by the MB in the annual budget of the EEA;
- to add a requirement on the SC to develop an annual work programme.

With regard to the proposal for a Scientific Committee Work Plan, the MB Chair would take this discussion with the SC Chair and the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau and SC members. The Scientific Committee Work Plan for 2012 would be presented to the MB for information at the next MB meeting.

In closing, the MB Chair encouraged the MB to send contributions for the SC Work Plan and their reflections on the SC honorarium, to the MB secretariat.

Item 11 Review of European Topic Centres (ETCs) in relation to the new EEA Strategy 2014-2018

The Executive Director introduced the timetable for the review of the European Topic Centres (ETCs) as set out in document EEA/MB/62/11, and the work that would involve being part of such review.

Further to that, the Chair reported that the Bureau had endorsed the recommendation that the review of all six topic areas should be carried out in 2012-2013. This option would take into account the EEA evaluation and the development of the new EEA strategy 2014-2018, both to be carried out in 2012 and 2013.

The representative of the European Commission strongly recommended that in view of the external evaluation of the EEA, interlinkages between such evaluation and the ETC assessment should be drawn accordingly. In addition, he recommended to take into account other elements such as the 7th Environmental Action Plan (7EAP), expected to be available at the end of 2012, and to allow enough time for the discussion on new Topic Centres.

The Chair of the Scientific Committee confirmed that two SC members, of the four that had volunteered, would serve in the review.

In closing this item, the Chair invited MB members to volunteer to participate in the ETC review by 4 April 2012. Should there be no volunteers, he advanced that the EEA would have to identify MB members to work in the review.

Item 12 Conclusions from the MB seminar held on 28 March 2012

The Chair thanked everybody for their contributions to the MB seminar on the Governance and use of environmental indicators held on 28 March 2012, and made reference to the tabled seminar conclusions, inviting Board members to share the conclusions with experts back home. He also invited Board members to send feedback to the EEA by 23 April 2012. The Bureau on 8 May would then discuss the first operational steps, and develop a proposal for MB discussion in June.

Item 13 Review of indicators

In conjunction with item 12, the Chair informed that document EEA/MB/62/13 should be taken as background material to inform the state of affairs on the indicator process. He invited MB members to send feedback to the EEA by 23 April 2012.

Item 14 SEIS, Inspire, GMES, GEOSS, and EC coordination activities

Further to the information provided in document EEA/MB/62/14, the Chair clarified what EC coordination activities involved. Further to that, he inquired about the state of affairs of the SEIS Implementation Plan.

The representative of the European Commission informed that a large part of the SEIS implementation rests with the Member States (MS) and other partners. He invited the MB members to read the Communication Plan and reflect on the different suggestions for future actions. With regard to Inspire, he reported on the internal reallocation of tasks for those institutions involved in the management of Inspire (JRC, ESTAT, DG ENV), this development should however not affect the different steps on the Inspire implementation.

In closing, the MB took note of the update.

Item 15 Follow-up on Astana Ministerial Conference 2011

Taking document EEA/MB/62/15 as read, the Executive Director reported that work in the area was ensured through the ENP-SEIS activities, however for those countries beyond the ENP, there was no EC funding.

The representative of the European Commission advised to be clear that the resources provided were to support EU work. He also reported that the Bureau had requested an evaluation of the process and prospects for future actions.

The Chair clarified that the EEA and MB were still in the process of defining what could be offered through the Neighbourhood policy, for that reason he invited Board

members to send reflections on the process by 16 April. Further to that, the EEA would update the Bureau on the outcome of the discussions in Geneva on 17 April.

Item 16 Election Vice-Chair/Bureau member

Elections for two Vice-Chairs/Bureau members were postponed until June.

The Chair invited the Board members to forward nominations from EU Member States by 16 April.

Item 17 Update on MASPP (Multiannual Staff Policy Plan) and Budget 2013

Under this item, the Executive Director gave an overview of the process of developing the Budget 2013. With regard to the MASPP table, the representative of the European Commission informed that the Commission services were soon to send feedback on the MASPP; the table would be updated to reflect the outcome of the discussions held with Commission services.

The Board members took note of the interim information.

Item 18 Accounts 2011 and discharge process 2010

Further to the information provided on tabled document EEA/MB/62/18add1, the Chair reported on the state of affairs of the EEA Discharge 2010, following the vote at the hearing of the European Parliament's Budget Control Committee on 27 March 2012, postponing the discharge of the EEA.

The MB members supported the Chair's proposal to write to the Chair of the Budget Control Committee in order to ask for advice on actions. They also agreed that the EEA would circulate the draft discharge report post 27 March, and would provide a comprehensive response to the COCOBU and to the MB.

In addition, the MB took note of the closing of the accounts 2011.

Item 19 Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2011, and delegation to the Bureau

In line with the procedure followed in previous years, the Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual Report 2011 and Annual Activity Report 2011. The two reports will be produced separately, as requested by the Court of Auditors.

ITEMS 20-24 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 20 Pilot implementation projects for air quality and waste 2012-2014

The MB members took note of the two implementation projects for 2012-2014.

Item 21 EEA involvement in Rio +20

The Board took note of the EEA activities in Rio +20.

Item 22 Overview of audits

There had been no recent visits from the Court of Auditors (CoA) and Internal Audit Service (IAS) to report upon. The next visit of the CoA is planned for May 2012. In view of the Discharge discussions under item 18, the IAS visit could take place earlier than initially planned.

Item 23 EEA Publication Plan 2012

The Board took note of the EEA Publication Plan for 2012.

Item 24 Feedback from members of the Management Board

Zita Geller, alternate from Hungary, informed that she had made available a flyer reflecting recent changes in the Ministry.

Nuno Lacasta, MB Portugal, said that he would be circulating a similar information by e-mail.

The meeting closed at 16.30

**Annex 1 : Agenda of the 62nd Management Board, 29 March 2012****FOR DECISION**

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the 61st Management Board minutes, 23 November 2011

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes of the 56th Bureau meeting, 7 February 2011
4. Update by the Chairman
5. Update by the SC Chairman
6. Update by the Executive Director

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

7. EEA Executive Director recruitment. Update
8. EEA 2012 timetable of major MB-related processes
9. EEA five-year evaluation
10. EEA Scientific Committee, future structure and operation
11. Review of European Topic Centres (ETCs) in relation to the new EEA Strategy 2014-2018
12. Conclusions from the MB seminar held on 28 March 2012
13. Review of indicators
14. SEIS, Inspire, GMES, GEOSS and EC coordination developments
15. Follow-up on Astana Ministerial Conference 2011
16. Election Vice-Chair/Bureau member
17. Update on MASPP (Multiannual Staff Policy Plan) and Budget 2013
18. Accounts 2011 and discharge process 2010
19. Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2011, and delegation to the Bureau

FOR INFORMATION

20. Pilot implementation projects for air quality and waste 2012-2014
21. EEA involvement in Rio +20
22. Overview of audits
23. EEA publication plan 2012
24. Feedback from members of the Management Board

Tabled documents: [link](#) to Forum



Management Board meeting - Attendance list

Copenhagen, 29 March 2012

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
	Karsten SACH	Chairman of the EEA Management Board	SIGNED
AUSTRIA	<u>Member:</u> Elisabeth FREYTAG <u>Alternate:</u> Georg REBERNIG <u>Expert:</u>	Bundesministerium für Land-und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft Umweltbundesamt	SIGNED
BELGIUM	<u>Member:</u> Philippe D'HONDT <u>Alternate:</u> Véronique VERBEKE <u>Expert:</u>	Flemish Environment Agency Institut Bruxellois Pour La Gestion De L'environnement	SIGNED
BULGARIA	<u>Member:</u> Vanya GRIGOROVA <u>Alternate:</u> Philip PENCHEV <u>Expert:</u>	Bulgarian Environment Agency Bulgarian Environment Agency	SIGNED
CROATIA	<u>Observer:</u> Hana Mesić	Croatian Environment Agency	SIGNED
CYPRUS	<u>Member:</u> <u>Alternate:</u> Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS <u>Expert:</u>	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Jiří Hlaváček HLAVÁČEK	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i> Miroslav HAVRANEK	Czech Environmental Information Agency	
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Mikkel AARØ-HANSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Henrik HEDEMANN OLSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
	<i>Expert:</i>		
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of Environment	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Pekka HARJU-AUTTI	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
FRANCE	<i>Member:</i> Bruno VERLON	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
	<i>Expert:</i> Velery MORARD	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
GERMANY	<u>Member:</u>	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Julia WERNER		
	<u>Expert:</u>		
GREECE	<u>Member:</u> Maria PEPPA	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u>		
	<u>Expert:</u>		
HUNGARY	<u>Member:</u> Istvan TEPLAN	National Institute for Environment National Institute for Environment	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Zita GELLER		
	<u>Expert:</u>		
ICELAND	<u>Member:</u> Hermann SVEINBJORNSSON	Ministry of Environment The Environmental Agency	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Gunnar Steinn JONSSON		
	<u>Expert:</u>		
IRELAND	<u>Member:</u> John McCARTHY	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Laura BURKE		
	<u>Expert:</u>		
ITALY	<u>Member:</u> Corrado CLINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente Ministerio dell'Ambiente	SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Giuliana GASPARRINI		
	<u>Expert:</u> Giovanni BRUNELLI		
LATVIA	<u>Member:</u> Andris EGLĀJS	Ministry of Environment Latvian Environment Agency	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u> Andris LEITASS		
	<u>Expert:</u>		

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
LIECHTENSTEIN	<i>Member:</i> Felix NÄSCHER <i>Alternate:</i> <i>Expert:</i>	Ministry of Environment, Dept. Forests, Nature and Landscape	APOLOGIES
LITHUANIA	<i>Member:</i> Aleksandras SPRUOGIS <i>Alternate:</i> Liutauras STOSKUS <i>Expert:</i>	Ministry of Environment Environmental Protection Agency	APOLOGIES
LUXEMBOURG	<i>Member:</i> Eric DE BRABANTER <i>Alternate:</i> Pierre PRUM <i>Expert:</i>	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	APOLOGIES
MALTA	<i>Member:</i> Petra BIANCHI <i>Alternate:</i> Marie BRIGUGLIO <i>Expert:</i>	Malta Environment and Planning Authority Malta Environment and Planning Authority	SIGNED
THE NETHERLANDS	<i>Member:</i> Koen DE SNOO <i>Alternate:</i> Adriaan OUDEMAN <i>Expert:</i>	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	SIGNED
NORWAY	<i>Member:</i> Kari HOLDEN <i>Alternate:</i> Øysten NESJE <i>Expert:</i>	Climate and Pollution Agency Ministry of Environment	SIGNED SIGNED
POLAND	<i>Member:</i> Andrzej JAGUSIEWICZ <i>Alternate:</i> Lucyna DYGAŚ-CIOŁKOWSKA <i>Expert:</i>	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
PORTUGAL	<i>Member:</i> Nuno LACASTA	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Paulo LEMOS		
	<i>Expert:</i>		
ROMANIA	<i>Member:</i> Gabriel ABOS	National Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
	<i>Expert:</i> Gabriela VASILIU-ISAC	National Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Daniel SCHMIDTMAYER	Slovak Environmental Agency	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Katarína KOSKOVÁ	Slovak Environmental Agency	
	<i>Expert:</i> Milos VINCIK		
SLOVENIA	<i>Member:</i> Silvo ZLEBIR	Environmental Agency	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
	<i>Expert:</i>		
SPAIN	<i>Member:</i> Guillermina YANGUAS MONTERO	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Elisa RIVERA MENDOZA	Environmental Strategic Information Unit	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
SWEDEN	<i>Member:</i> Maria ÅGREN	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	
	<i>Expert:</i>		

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
SWITZERLAND	<i>Member:</i> Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment	SIGNED SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Gérard POFFET	Federal Office for the Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i> Nicolas PERRITAZ	Federal Office for the Environment	
TURKEY	<i>Member:</i> Ercan TIRAŞ	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Sedat KADIOĞLU	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	
	<i>Expert:</i> Cagatay DIKMEN	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	
UNITED KINGDOM	<i>Member:</i> John ROBBS	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Peter HELM	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Robin MIÈGE	DG Environment	SIGNED
	Pascal LE GRAND	DG Environment	SIGNED
	Mireille DELPART	DG Research	SIGNED
	Pedro DÍAZ MUÑOZ	ESTAT- Sectoral and regional statistics	SIGNED
	Artur Runge-METZGER	DG Clima	SIGNED
	Peter PART	JRC	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	Peter HENNICKE	Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie	SIGNED
	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	Detlef SPRINZ	Chairman of EEA Scientific Committee	SIGNED
EEA STAFF	Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	SIGNED
	Gordon McINNES	Deputy Director, Head of programme - GAN	SIGNED
	Jock MARTIN	Head of programme - IEA	SIGNED
	Paul McALEAVEY	Head of programme - ACC	SIGNED
	Soeren NIELSEN	Acting Head of programme - ADS	SIGNED
	Chris STEENMANS	Head of programme - SES	SIGNED
	Ronan UHEL	Head of programme - NSV	SIGNED
	Sigtus BJARNASON	Head of programme - OSE	SIGNED
	David STANNERS	Head of programme - EDO2	SIGNED
	Jeff HUNTINGTON	Senior Adviser - GAN	SIGNED
	Petra FAGERHOLM	Head of group - EDO1	SIGNED
Elena OSTARIZ	GAN0 - Management Board Secretariat	SIGNED	

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

ACTIONS	Status 20 April 2012
To publish on Forum the final minutes of the 62 nd Management Board meeting	To do
To keep the table on MB-related processes & decisions 2012 as a rolling document in the Forum	On going
To keep the MB informed on the development of the SC work plan for 2012	To do
MB members to send written observations on the Evaluation methodology and candidacies for the Evaluation Committee by 4 April	Done
MB members to send offers to participate in the ETC Review Committee by 4 April	Done
MB members to put forward candidacies from EU MS for the posts of Vice-Chair/Bureau member by 16 April	Done
MB members to send feedback on the indicators process and conclusions from the MB seminar on the governance and use of environmental indicators by 23 April	On going
The MB Chair to send a letter to the Chair of the COCOBU, asking for advice on actions regarding the EEA discharge 2010	Done
EEA to circulate the draft Discharge 2010 report, following the vote on 27 March 2012, when available.	Done
EEA to circulate the response to the draft Discharge 2010 report, when available	Done
To include a discussion/guidance item on the new strategy 2014-2018 in the agenda of the 63 rd MB	Done


DECISIONS taken at the 62nd Management Board meeting, 29 March 2012, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 1. Adoption of agenda	Adopted	-
Item 2. Adoption of the 61 st Management Board minutes, 23 November 2011	Adopted	The minutes were approved with two minor changes.
Item 7. EEA Executive Director recruitment. Update	The Board designated Elisabeth Freytag (Austria) Vice-Chair/Bureau member as the MB Observer in the Pre-selection committee for the recruitment of the EEA Executive Director	DG Environment offered a summary of the selection process for the EEA Executive Director, outlining the different phases of the procedure.
Item 8. EEA 2012 timetable of major MB-related processes	Took note of the timetable and agreed to keep it as a live document on the Forum/MB library	-
Item 9. EEA five-year evaluation	The Board agreed with the overall methodology, and tasked the Steering Committee to finalise the ToR following final comments from MB members	MB members to send written observations on the overall methodology, and candidacies for the Evaluation Committee by 4 April. The Steering Committee would consolidate the feedback into the ToR.
Item 10. EEA Scientific Committee, future structure and operation	The MB adopted the roles paper with the agreed changes	-
Item 11. Review of European Topic Centres (ETCs) in relation to the new EEA Strategy 2014-2018	The Board agreed with the outlined process for the review of ETCs	Offers to participate in the Review Committee to be sent by 4 April.

Item 12. Conclusions from the MB seminar held on 28 March 2012	The Board took note of the tabled conclusions from the MB seminar on the Governance and use of environmental indicators	MB members to send feedback on priorities for actions by 23 April. The Bureau, on 8 May, would have a discussion on the first operational steps and development of proposals.
Item 13. Review of indicators	The Board took note of the status of the review of indicators	MB members to send feedback, in conjunction with item 12, by 23 April.
Item 14. SEIS, Inspire, GMES, GEOSS and EC coordination activities	The MB took note of the state of affairs in SEIS, Inspire, GMES, GEOSS and EC coordination activities	-
Item 15. Follow-up Astana Ministerial Conference 2011	The Board took note of the information provided and agreed to keep the table on SEIS implementation activities as a live document	MB members to send feedback by 16 April.
Item 16. Election of Vice-Chair/Bureau member	Elections for two Vice-Chair/Bureau members were postponed to June	MB members to nominate candidates from EU MS for the posts of Vice-Chair/Bureau member by 16 April.
Item 17. Update on MASPP (Multiannual Staff Policy Plan) and Budget 2013	The Board took note of the status of the MASPP and Budget 2013	-
18. Accounts 2011 and discharge process 2010	The Board took note of the accounts 2011, and of the state of affairs in the discharge process 2010	The MB Chair to send a letter to EP asking for guidance on actions. The EEA to send to the MB the draft discharge report following the vote on 27 March, when available. A comprehensive report would be sent after Easter.
19. Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2011, and delegation to the Bureau	The Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual report 2011 and Annual activity report 2011 at its next meeting on 8 May 2012	In line with the procedure followed in previous years, the Annual report 2011 and the Annual activity report for 2011 will be produced as separate documents as requested by the Court of Auditors.

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board
on 29 March 2012

SIGNED

Dr. Karsten Sach
Chairman EEA Management Board



TABLED

Item 06
62nd Management Board Seminar
Doc. EEA/MB seminar/06
29 March 2012

Source: Integrated Environmental Assessments

Subject: Summary of the Management Board seminar on “The Governance and Use of Environmental Indicators”

For INFORMATION and FEEDBACK

This paper summarises discussions at the Management Board seminar and identifies a small set of issues that could be the basis for further reflection in the context of on-going activities and preparations for the next EEA strategy. Feedback is invited by Monday 23 April.

1. Introduction

A wide range of points were covered during the seminar, prompted by excellent panel inputs in the morning and break-out group discussions in the afternoon. These are summarised in sections 3 and 4. Six issues were highlighted by EEA at the seminar’s conclusion in an attempt to draw out fundamental points for further reflection by the seminar’s participants and subsequently the Management Board. These are considered in section 2.

2. Issues for further reflection

a) European reference data sets and gaps

A solid monitoring and data foundation is essential to underpin the production of multiple indicators and enable the calculation of new indicators in response to changing policy needs. There is a need to identify the key European reference datasets that exist and those that are needed to support established and emerging indicator production processes.

b) Restructuring indicators - an indicator pyramid

There is value in structuring indicators in a pyramid with a small number of aggregate/composite indicators at the top, followed by the ‘satellite’ or tailored sets, the core set of indicators, underpinned by thematic/sectoral sets and finally the aforementioned reference data sets. This hierarchy can also enable targeting and prioritisation of investments in indicator developments and maintenance. This will probably require in addition the development of stricter criteria for the identification of different types of indicators for addressing different types of problems.

c) Timeliness vs. precision vs. relevance vs. scale

Improving the timeliness of indicators is fundamental to improving their relevance and increasing their uptake and use. There will be trade-offs between this dimension and other factors such as precision, quality and scale. These issues require further consideration by indicator producers and users (see points e) and f)). Clarification of the possibilities could create the space and resources to develop indicators in support of systemic challenges such as those identified in the SOER2010.

d) Communication to different audiences

To improve the uptake and use of indicators there is a need to analyse who the different user groups are – experts, policy makers, politicians, informed public -, how indicators are being used

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and also to demonstrate how indicators can be used. This would enable targeted communication and also the development of narratives on the connections between the environment, society and human wellbeing within which indicators are used to highlight key trends.

e) Improving co-operation and efficiency – a producer’s forum

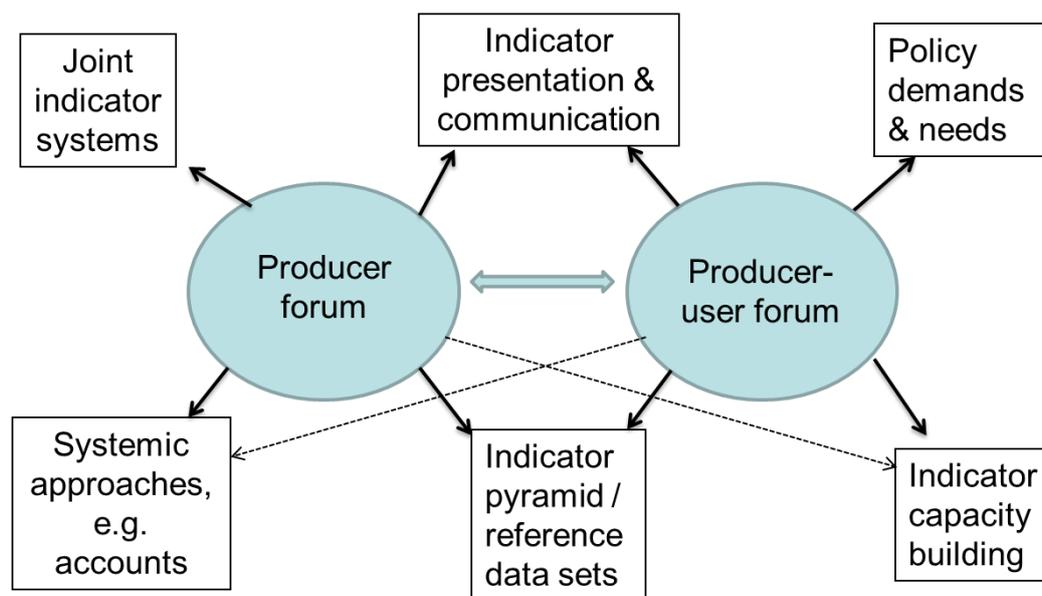
A dialogue between indicator producers will improve co-operation and efficiency at a European level. A producer’s forum consisting of EEA, Eurostat, JRC and member countries could be a mechanism for considering key indicator development issues such as gaps, methodologies, scales and underpinning data sets. It could also address issues related to building capacities in countries and at the EU level on indicator development.

f) Improving indicators – a producers –users forum

A dialogue between producers and users could also inform indicator developments by identifying user needs alongside considering the policy implications of issues such as timeliness, the acceptable balance between precision and relevance, and the scope of narratives so that indicators have maximum impact.

Points a) to f) are inter-related. A first demonstration of the relationships is given in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Tasks in future indicator development



2. Morning session - EU governance of current and future indicators

2.1 Panel session:

The introduction to the panel presentations addressed the role of indicators highlighting that if indicators want to influence policy and decision making they need to be timely and relevant. Therefore environmental indicators will need to encompass traditional topics and newer issues such as how the environment contributes to the economy.

The panel presentations addressed a wide range of issues which are summarised below:

What do we need indicators for?

- Indicators are increasingly popular and so clarity is needed on their purpose and use. Key

purposes include monitoring policy implementation, policy development and communication.

- Different indicators can have different functions e.g. the use of aggregate indicators such as the Ecological Footprint for communication and awareness raising. This is acceptable as long as there is transparency about the limitations of the particular indicators.

What are the key issues for aligning indicator sets to current and emerging policy needs?

- Indicators need to be policy relevant but the relationship between indicators and policy questions requires consideration. In many cases the best needed indicators are not available so proxy or 'best available' indicators are used and this has implications for their interpretation and use in policy and decision making. There will always need to be a balance between policy relevance and feasibility of producing indicators.
- While indicators should be policy relevant there are drawbacks in linking indicators too explicitly to current policy priorities as these will change, but indicators should be responsive to policy interventions.
- There are challenges in using indicators to provide information on complex issues and the interlinkages between issues as there are a lot of uncertainties. Improving this understanding will require an interdisciplinary approach and stakeholder dialogue.
- In the immediate term for Europe 2020, policy priorities are for indicators that address environmental and economic linkages in four areas: taxes, subsidies, waste and water. Such indicators are needed to inform budgets and policies on growth and jobs. In the longer term indicators on ecological resilience are needed and this will require identifying thresholds and tipping points.
- As the policy context is continually evolving there is a need to ensure indicators also cover fundamental environmental components and the environment should not be reduced to the contribution it makes to the economy.

What to consider for future indicator development?

Timeliness:

- The production of environmental indicators tends to have long time delays and so there are structural issues of timeliness and time series availability that need to be addressed which relate to data quality and completeness.
- The availability of real-time monitoring data and data generated by citizen science requires further consideration in terms of their potential for indicator development. The availability of this data may enable the production of less robust but timelier indicators.

Production of indicators:

- Indicators need to be flexible but this should be balanced with continuity.
- Indicator sets are best developed through a stakeholder dialogue between producers and users and with an emphasis on stability and coherence within the set. There also needs to be a dialogue between producers i.e. Eurostat, EEA and JRC which is vital to improving efficiency and identifying gaps and needs.
- Physical and monetary environmental accounting frameworks have an important role to play in underpinning the production of indicators. They can also provide a stable and improved framework for analysing the linkages between the environment and the economy due to the links to national accounts.
- A solid monitoring and data foundation will underpin the production of multiple indicators and enable the calculation of new indicators in response to changing policy needs. There is a need to identify the key European reference datasets that underpin the indicator production and development process, ensure that this data collection is maintained and the potential of an EU monitoring network explored.

Use of indicators:

- Different users have different needs e.g. policy makers, experts, researchers and so the

needs of the different user communities should be considered in indicator development and publication.

- For communication and public engagement purposes there is still a need for a headline indicator or small number of indicators that can be used to answer the question ‘ is the environment improving?’ at a strategic level.

2.2 Q&A and discussion session:

The points raised in the panel discussion were further developed in the discussion session and are summarised below.

European reference data sets and gaps:

- Identifying the key monitoring and data needs will provide a foundation for indicator development. The frequency of updating needed for different indicators should also be identified.
- The use of European reference data sets will underpin comparability and consistency of indicators.
- Indicators are also derived from sectoral data and so this needs to be integrated with environmental information.

Indicator pyramid:

- There is value in structuring indicators in a pyramid equivalent to the Level 1-3 system with aggregate/composite indicators at the top, followed by a small group of ‘satellite’ indicators and then the core set of indicators.
- Germany has structured their indicators into three levels with a set of headline indicators that do not evaluate policies, followed by 40 indicators focused at policy processes and then a third group for detailed analysis.
- A hierarchy or pyramid can also enable targeting of investment in indicator development and maintenance.

Timeliness – precision – relevance – scale

- The public want timeliness over precision.
- There is a need for indicators that reflect the environment, economy and society, their interlinkages and policy priorities.
- The Water Exploitation Index is a good example of an indicator that despite certain weaknesses enabled discussion of an issue at a time when there was a general perception that water availability was not a problem. The title of the indicator is very important to its relevance.
- The timeliness of indicators can be improved by increasing efficiency at an EU level and also through reducing quality. This trade-off is acceptable as long as it is transparent.
- There is a need to consider what an acceptable level of uncertainty is for indicators.
- There is merit in implementing some top-down approaches to produce less precise but more relevant and timely indicators.

Communication:

- To the public the message is more important than the indicator or how it is measured as when it is communicated in the media as the authority comes from the source of the information. However that authority is based on the quality of the analysis and robustness of the information and indicators.
- Consideration should be given to the use of symbols such as ‘smilies ☺’ in communicating indicators.
- A group of 20 indicators can provide a good overall picture for policy makers, if the indicator set is too large, it can be difficult to have clear messages.
- The narrative is as important as the indicator, and consideration should be given to how other sources of information are used and how these sources are treated.

- The human dimension should be emphasised in the narrative to show the connection between the environment and society and raise awareness.

Co-operation:

- Co-operation should be improved at EU level and member country level with National Statistical Institutes.
- There would be clear benefits in having a producer's discussion possibly through a producer's forum.
- The need for dialogue between producers and users was repeatedly emphasised possibly through a producer – user's forum.
- Requests for change to indicator sets need to take into account the time period needed to adapt systems at national level in any implementation plans.

Indicator development:

- Indicator development has become a policy objective in itself. Examples include the Resource Efficiency Roadmap and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Indicators have also become the policy objective and target e.g. GDP, 2°C temperature rise and this can lead to a narrow policy focus.
- A key question is how to make the most of what indicators are already there and to get the added value from current sets of indicators. The approach in Chapter 11 of the indicator report is a good example of how to do this and use current indicators to give an integrated assessment perspective.
- Indicators that have versatility of uses and can inform different decisions are good and could be prioritised.
- There are still issues with methodological approaches and comparability of indicators amongst countries.
- In order to develop indicators on ecological resilience, resource efficiency and human wellbeing there is a need to identify quantitative criteria to describe these and the interrelationships between them. This could be a discussion for the Scientific Committee.
- There is a skills gap and lack of experience amongst countries in the development of integrated sets and those that give a strategic overview as most expertise is in thematic areas.
- There is a demand for indicators that are calculated using a consumption perspective i.e. they incorporate the embodied emissions, material use etc. in the consumption of goods and services.

Additional contributions:

- What is the unique contribution of EEA?
- To improve the uptake and use of indicators there is a need to analyse who the different user groups are, how indicators are being used and also to demonstrate how indicators can be used.

3. Afternoon session - Use of current indicators and meeting new demands

The breakout sessions addressed four questions:

- What is the extent of indicator gaps to be filled?
- Is there a strong demand for composite and aggregate indicators?
- What balance is feasible between indicators at the EU level and the MS level for priorities like resource efficiency
- What options exist for building MS capacities for new indicators given likely future financial constraints?

Records of discussions in the break-out groups are provided in Annex 1.

Annex 1 – draft reports from breakout groups

Breakout group 1 (Conference room)

Chair: Peter Helm (UK)

Rapporteur: Peter Helm (UK) / Thomas Henrichs (EEA)

Participants: Nicolao Perritaz (CH), Jacqueline Burkhardt (DE), Kari Holden (NO), Silvo Zlebir (SI), Katarína Kosková (SK), Pedro Diaz (Eurostat), Peter Helm (UK), Peter Pärt (JRC / EEA), Gordon McInnes (EEA), Thomas Henrichs (EEA)

Observers: Milan Chrenko (EEA), Roberta Pignatelli (EEA)

1. What is the extent of indicator gaps to be filled?

Issues related to specific indicator gaps

- Lack of indicators that address consumption, i.e. indicators that describe behaviour of consumers and their use of natural resources
- Link between consumption and environmental impacts is often not quantified
- Lack indicators that allow to agree (012 discuss) trade-offs (i.e. how much environmental impact can we accept)
- Green procurement / green finance indicators
- Need both a territorial perspective and a consumption perspective (i.e. address trade and embedded impacts)
- Impact of toxic chemicals on the environment
- Soil / land dimension? – Links between water-land- Address a system perspective
- Check against indicator list highlighted in resource efficiency roadmap to see what gaps are identified there

Issues related to types of indicators:

- 225 indicators may be too many to manage on a regular basis, reduce to 20 to 50 high maintenance indicators ('regular indicators')
- Sectoral integration for key sectors is well covered (re. energy, agriculture...) – but link to consumption of food, water, mobility, housing, etc. is lacking: Need to define sets of indicators along the full life-cycle of natural resource use
- Lack of a process to identify new indicators / indicator needs (and how to get such indicators without waiting for new monitoring systems?)
- Need to re-visit indicator sets on a regular basis (see question 4)

2. Is there a strong demand for composite and aggregate indicators?

- Main value of composite & aggregate indicators is for communication (e.g. Env. & Health)
- 'Single' values / indicator hide key challenges, can easily be misunderstood
- Recent Eurostat Working Group concluded that composite indicators for ecosystems / environment are not recommended
- Risk mixing indicators with too different focus (pressure vs. state vs. impact) and too different time series (-> better 'environmental pressures index', but even this needs to be complemented with other sets)
- If we develop composite indicators, the methodology needs to be agreed at international (or at least European) level.
- Better instead: dashboard!

3. What balance is feasible between indicators at the EU level and the MS level for priorities like resource efficiency?

- Different for resource efficiency and for resilience (depends on user needs)
 - Resource efficiency indicators need to be scalable, build on country-level info
 - Resilience indicators depend on related ecosystem scale
- Some indicators can only be obtained at high spatial aggregation (e.g. consumption (MFA), early CO2 emission estimates, etc.)
- Test know-how on EU level, if it works use in countries (EU-level to pilot)
- Reporting obligation is an important driver: defines scale -> new reporting obligations?

4. What options exist for building MS capacities for new indicators given likely future financial constraints?

- Need to re-visit (establish a mechanism / process for this (NFP)) indicator sets regularly
- Co-development process (top-down and bottom-up) to identify new indicator needs (i.e. experts + stakeholders)
- Often different groups address the different / 3 green economy circles in countries -> need to bring them together
- Sharing research and experiences on new indicators between countries (and EEA)
- Who can develop indicators along the full life-cycle (of consumption)?
- Is there potential to use EU funding mechanisms (like LIFE+) to strengthen capacity development)
- Idea of a task force is good, but needs to be well defined!

Breakout group 2 (Room 128)

Chair: Elisabeth Freytag (AU)

Rapporteur: Vanya Grigorova (BG)

Participants: Charalambos Hajipakkos (CY), Øysten Nesje (NO), Pascal LeGrand (DG ENV), Pekka Harju-Autti (FI), Bruno Verlon (FR), Zita Geller (HU) (Jan-Erik Petersen, Andre Jol; EEA)

1. What is the extent of indicator gaps to be filled?

- Are there gaps or a surplus of indicators?
- Indicators sufficiently targeted to policy debates / questions?
- Gaps are in the inter-linkages of economy / society / environment
- Prioritise to maintain / improve quality
- Try to add value to existing data / indicators -> create space for aggregates
- Indicators are proxies for environmental trends -> they should not just represent a data series, but a wider environmental trend
- Acceptance of indicators is crucial
- More integrating approaches are very desirable
- Re-visit the indicator concept
- Distinguish different indicator types: basic, integrative, composite, etc.
- Focus investment on those that provide more value-added
- Scope for reducing the total indicator no.
- Indicator gap re human well-being
- Think about new ways of generating environment information
- Discussion on data gaps, social dimension as key area here

- Significant gaps exist
- Aim to create solid data foundation for existing indicators as 1st priority
- Better exchange of information between data providers is needed, from national to international level
- Different types of policy questions in different policy debates: e.g. what, why, how...?

2. Is there a strong demand for composite and aggregate indicators?

- Yes, these are potentially useful and powerful
- Identify first what is the (policy) demand + communication function: e.g. alternative to GDP
- Careful reflection on policy needs + method. Soundness
- Full transparency on approach + interpretation of such indicators is required

3. What balance is feasible between indicators at the EU level and the MS level for priorities like resource efficiency?

- Types of data to be collected matter
- Issues to consider: comparability, level of detail required, types of policy questions, transparency, timing
- Involvement of + cooperation with countries is important (example: production of Corine Land Cover data set)
- Europe-wide approach can be faster and conceptually more coherent
- Centrally-coordinated approach can be better suited to analysing systemic issues, e.g. resource efficiency and ecosystem management
- 'Top-down' (European) approach to be fast-track solution, to be replaced later, where appropriate
- GMES as example for efficient EU-approach to data collection
- Ensure continuity of time series
- Combination of European + national approach will be necessary

4. What options exist for building MS capacities for new indicators given likely future financial constraints?

- Support coordination between relevant national bodies
- SEIS principles are important, but still need to be implemented
- Focus should be on existing indicators
- Better collaboration (at national level) can lead to efficiency gains + unlock existing but 'hidden' data sets
- European coordination is primary route for integration of existing data (e.g. social domain) into new EU indicator approaches
- Environmental accounting as priority area for improving cooperation
- Consider EU funding for priority data

Breakout group 3 (Fontana room)

Chair: Michael Scoullos (European Parliament)

Rapporteur: Peder Jensen (EEA)

Participants: to be completed

2. Is there a strong demand for composite and aggregate indicators?

The key area of discussion was around composite indicators. All agreed the need for such indicators but a point was made several times that indicators should not just be backward looking and descriptive. Forward looking (model based) indicators were also needed to inform policy development. This was particularly true for broader areas such as resource efficiency.

In developing impact assessments for new policies there should be an obligation to also describe the indicators needed to monitor and follow the policy. The sustainability criteria for biofuels illustrate the challenge in reality. It is not easy.

Composite indicators must evolve with policy, but there is a need for long term consistency in the underlying data. It must be possible to go back and recalculate the time series of composite indicators once needs change. This way both time series (long ones) and adaptability are safeguarded.

Another aspect is the reporting burden. The issue of cost of data collection was raised around the table. There is little appetite for additional data flows. In fact it was suggested to make an estimate of the cost of the existing reporting requirements.

Breakout group 4 (Creative space)

Chair: Phillippe D'Hondt (Belgium)

Rapporteur: Ybele Hoogeveen (EEA)

Participants: To be completed

1. What is the extent of indicator gaps to be filled?

- The discussion focused more on the question which social issues would need to be addressed in a green economy perspective (the bottom boundary of the GE box in the circles diagram) than on the issue how to capture resource efficiency and ecosystem resilience (the green and blue circles and their overlap). Welfare, well-being and quality of life were discussed as relevant aspects to capture in indicators. It was stressed that the indicators should go beyond a purely economic perspective, i.e. address 'well-being' rather than 'welfare'. Climate change impacts on health were mentioned as a concrete example where more information would be needed.
- As for economic aspects, net job creation (or loss) was seen as a crucial element of a green economy assessment. It was also stressed that baskets of indicators should provide insight in the performance and related environmental pressures of key sectors but specific suggestions were not given. Much emphasis was given on the need for analysis of policy responses, particularly cost effectiveness evaluations.
- As for environmental aspects it was flagged that the rapidly growing national data sets on water issues (developed in the context of the WFD) appear underutilised in indicators at European level (with the water extraction index currently being the only GE/RE indicator listed). Furthermore, a need for aggregate biodiversity and natural capital indicators was expressed.
- Overarchingly, a plea was made for addressing health issues in a wider context of resource efficiency (energy, food and water were mentioned) and environmental impacts, without giving precedence of one aspect over the other. This is consistent with the conceptual approach behind EEA 'circles' diagram in the GE indicator report.

2. Is there a strong demand for composite and aggregate indicators?

- The general feeling was that a 'single' environment indicator vs. the GDP would make little sense. A 'dashboard of relevant subsets was clearly preferred.
- Apart from the already mentioned biodiversity indicator, 'sustainability gap' and 'footprint' indicators were mentioned. As for the latter, a breakdown in relevant sub-indicators was called for (e.g. 'carbon footprint').
- Much of the discussion focused on the different needs for different audiences and purposes. A distinction was made between production and consumption-based aggregate indicators, which would allow/require different levels of aggregation. For informing the general public and policy makers about the state of the environment, highly aggregated production-based indicators would be suitable. Affecting consumer behaviour, on the other hand, would require a lower level of aggregation, for example a footprint indicator for different categories of consumer products.

3. What balance is feasible between indicators at the EU level and the MS level for priorities like resource efficiency?

- Much depends on European legislation and data availability. Available remote sensing data allow for efficient top-down approaches. Bottom-up processes with stakeholder participation are generally regarded as preferable, but are also costly and time-consuming. In its indicator development the Agency was seen as striking a reasonable balance.
- Tension was flagged between bottom-up and top-down processes in for example the WFD implementation.

4. What options exist for building MS capacities for new indicators given likely future financial constraints?

- This was not addressed in much detail. EU obligations are a key driver. Without them things may become problematic.



Management Board Seminar - Attendance list

Copenhagen, 28 March 2012

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
	Karsten SACH	Chairman of the EEA Management Board	SIGNED
AUSTRIA	<u>Member:</u> Elisabeth FREYTAG <u>Alternate:</u> Georg REBERNIG	Bundesministerium für Land-und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft Umweltbundesamt	SIGNED
BELGIUM	<u>Member:</u> Philippe D'HONDT <u>Alternate:</u> Véronique VERBEKE <u>NFP:</u> Marleen VAN STEERTEGEM	Flemish Environment Agency Institut Bruxellois Pour La Gestion De L'environnement Flemish Environment Agency	SIGNED SIGNED
BULGARIA	<u>Member:</u> Vanya GRIGOROVA <u>Alternate:</u> Philip PENCHEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency Bulgarian Environment Agency	SIGNED
CYPRUS	<u>Member:</u> <u>Alternate:</u> Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Jiří Hlaváček HLAVÁČEK	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>NFP:</i> Miroslav HAVRANEK	Czech Environmental Information Agency	SIGNED
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Mikkel AARØ-HANSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Henrik HEDEMANN OLSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of Environment	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Pekka HARJU-AUTTI	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
FRANCE	<i>Member:</i> Bruno VERLON	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire	SIGNED
	<i>Expert:</i> Velery MORARD	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire	SIGNED

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
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	<u>NFP:</u> Jens Günther	Federal Environment Agency	
GREECE	<u>NFP:</u> Jacqueline BURKHARDT	Federal Environment Agency	SIGNED
	<u>Member:</u> Maria PEPPA	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change	SIGNED
HUNGARY	<u>Alternate:</u>		SIGNED
	<u>Member:</u> Istvan TEPLAN	National Institute for Environment	
ICELAND	<u>Alternate:</u> Zita GELLER	National Institute for Environment	SIGNED
	<u>Member:</u> Hermann SVEINBJORNSSON	Ministry of Environment	
IRELAND	<u>Alternate:</u> Gunnar Steinn JONSSON	The Environmental Agency	SIGNED
	<u>Member:</u> John McCARTHY	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	
	<u>NFP:</u> Micheál LEHANE	Environmental Protection Agency	
ITALY	<u>Member:</u> Corrado CLINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u> Giuliana GASPARRINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	
	<u>Expert:</u> Giovanni BRUNELLI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	
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COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
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LITHUANIA	<i>Member:</i> Aleksandras SPRUOGIS <i>Alternate:</i> Liutauras STOSKUS	Ministry of Environment Environmental Protection Agency	APOLOGIES
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PORTUGAL	<i>Member:</i> Nuno LACASTA	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	APOLOGIES
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	<i>Expert:</i> Milos VINCIK		
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COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
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	<i>Alternate:</i> Peter HELM	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	
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	Vivien TRAN-THIEN	DG Clima	SIGNED
	Peter PÄRT	JRC	SIGNED

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	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	
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	Jock MARTIN	Head of programme - IEA	SIGNED
	Paul McALEAVEY	Head of programme - ACC	SIGNED
	Soeren NIELSEN	Acting Head of programme - ADS	SIGNED
	Chris STEENMANS	Head of programme - SES	SIGNED
	Ronan UHEL	Head of programme - NSV	SIGNED
	Sigtus BJARNASON	Head of programme - OSE	SIGNED
	David STANNERS	Head of programme - EDO2	SIGNED
	Jeff HUNTINGTON	Senior Adviser - GAN	SIGNED
	Petra FAGERHOLM	Head of group - EDO1	SIGNED
Elena OSTARIZ	GAN0 - Management Board Secretariat	SIGNED	

Summary

EEA, West Balkan Top Executives/NFPs, and EEA Management Board meeting, 30 March 2012

European Environment Agency, Copenhagen, Denmark

Participants (*see attendance list*)

The meeting was opened by Dr. Karsten Sach, Chair of the EEA Management Board, by welcoming participants from the West Balkan countries and Board members, highlighting the special status of Croatia which will become a member of the EU and EEA in July 2013.

Prof Jacqueline McGlade, EEA Executive Director, welcomed participants on behalf of the EEA. She highlighted the progress made in the past years and stressed the importance of even closer cooperation between EEA and West Balkan countries in future under the new EEA Strategy. She also appreciated support of EEA member countries to the West Balkan through various EU funded twinning projects.

The proposed [agenda](#) of the meeting was approved with one small alteration – namely presentation of the Mr. Michael Scoullos was moved forward to the morning session.

Welcome speeches were followed by a short round of introduction of participants. All welcomed opportunity to discuss issues of common interest between EEA member and cooperating countries on a regular basis and appreciated the work and progress in cooperation between the countries in past years.

Prof Jacqueline McGlade, EEA Executive Director highlighted the major [EEA priorities for 2012-2013](#) and emphasised the value and importance of West Balkan country involvement in the EEA/Eionet activities.

Her presentation was followed by Mr. Michael Scoullos, member of the EEA Management Board, nominated by the EU Parliament. He presented work related to *Capacity Building under Horizon 2020 initiative in the Mediterranean* and emphasised its importance and opportunities for WB involvement.

Country presentations

Albania – Ms. Etleva Canaj, Director of the Albanian EPA presented on [Major developments and priorities of Albania](#).

In the follow up discussion a strong progress in environmental field, confirmed also by the recent UNECE -led Environmental Performance Review, was discussed as well as a need for further strengthening of administrative capacities and of enforcement of existing legislation in Albania.

Croatia – Mr. Rene Vukelic, NFP Croatia, presented the work of [Croatian EPA](#) and highlighted importance of cooperation with EEA in recent years as well as some of the challenges for the years ahead.

Kosovo under the UNSCR 1244/99– Mr. Rifat Morina, NFP presented participation of [Kosovo EPA in the work of EEA/Eionet](#) since 2010 when they started cooperation with EEA/Eionet.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia—Ms. Kaja Sukova underlined [major developments and priorities](#) of work with EEA/Eionet.

Within the discussion the fact that Macedonia does not have an independent environmental agency and participation in other international activities was discussed as well as specific gaps in the national monitoring systems that will be tackled in coming years.

Serbia—Mr. Dejan Lekic, Deputy Director of EPA, informed about the work of [Serbian EPA and cooperation with EEA/Eionet](#). The discussion touched upon recent merger of Serbian EPA with Hydro Meteorological Institute, the structure of national Eionet and ways of working with NRCs.

Country presentations were followed by a presentation of *EU cooperation with Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates in the field of climate change* by Ms. Nathalie Creste Manservisi, Head of Unit, DG Climate Action.

In the final presentation [Outcomes of the Instrument for Pre-Accession \(IPA\) project 2010-2011 and plan for activities in 2012-2013](#) by Mr. Gordon McInnes, EEA Deputy Director the results of the cooperation between EEA and cooperating countries in 2010-2011 were summarized and [plans for 2012-2013](#) briefly presented.

In the follow up discussion, the participants expressed their appreciation of the cooperation with EEA and specifically highlighted benefits of work of NFP Assistants that are directly supported by EEA to work along the NFPs.

Conclusions

Prof Jacqueline McGlade expressed her appreciation of the work of West Balkan countries in the last years and specifically stressed the positive outcome of Eionet country visits. She encouraged continuing a regular dialogue and cooperation between EEA and West Balkan countries.

Gordon McInnes thanked the participants for cooperation so far and expressed EEA interest to hear reflections on Eionet work and regional workshops to get as much value as possible from cooperation. He also informed that currently the positive experience in cooperation with WB countries is being used in initiating cooperation with countries under the EU neighbourhood initiative.

The presented plan for activities in 2012-2013 will be operationalized in the coming months with relevant EEA experts and ETCs.

Dr. Karsten Sach thanked all participants and presenters. He reiterated the importance of country visits and regular tailored dialogues as well as the importance of keeping the monitoring/reporting infrastructure operational. He expressed his wish for EEA to further support these activities.



**EEA Management Board
with Top Executives from West Balkan countries - Attendance list**

Copenhagen, 30 March 2012

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
	Karsten SACH	Chairman of the EEA Management Board	SIGNED
ALBANIA	Etleva CANAJ	Agency of Environment and Forestry	SIGNED
AUSTRIA	<i>Member:</i> Elisabeth FREYTAG	Bundesministerium für Land-und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Georg REBERNIG	Umweltbundesant	
	<i>Expert:</i> Philippitsch VIOLETA	Umweltbundesant	SIGNED
BELGIUM	<i>Member:</i> Philippe D'HONDT	Flemish Environment Agency	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Véronique VERBEKE	Institut Bruxellois Pour La Gestion De L'environnement	
BULGARIA	<i>Member:</i> Vanya GRIGOROVA	Bulgarian Environment Agency	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Philip PENCHEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	
CROATIA	Jasna BUTUCI	Croatian Environment Agency	SIGNED SIGNED
	Rene VUKELIC	Croatian Environment Agency	
CYPRUS	<i>Member:</i>	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS		

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Jiří Hlaváček HLAVÁČEK	Ministry of Environment	
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Mikkel AARØE-HANSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Henrik HEDEMANN OLSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Pekka HARJU-AUTTI	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i>		
FRANCE	<i>Member:</i> Bruno VERLON	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire	APOLOGIES
	<i>Expert:</i> Velery MORARD	Ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire	APOLOGIES

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
GERMANY	<u>Member:</u> <u>Alternate:</u> Julia WERNER	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	APOLOGIES
GREECE	<u>Member:</u> Maria PEPPA <u>Alternate:</u>	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change	SIGNED
HUNGARY	<u>Member:</u> Istvan TEPLAN <u>Alternate:</u> Zita GELLER	National Institute for Environment National Institute for Environment	SIGNED
ICELAND	<u>Member:</u> Hermann SVEINBJORNSSON <u>Alternate:</u> Gunnar Steinn JONSSON	Ministry of Environment The Environmental Agency	SIGNED
IRELAND	<u>Member:</u> John McCARTHY <u>Alternate:</u> Laura BURKE	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	APOLOGIES
ITALY	<u>Member:</u> Corrado CLINI <u>Alternate:</u> Giuliana GASPARRINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente Ministerio dell'Ambiente	APOLOGIES
KOSOVO (under UN SCR 1244/99)	Rifat MORINA	Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
LATVIA	<u>Member:</u> Andris EGLĀJS <u>Alternate:</u> Andris LEITASS	Ministry of Environment Latvian Environment Agency	APOLOGIES

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LIECHTENSTEIN	<i>Member:</i> Felix NÄSCHER <i>Alternate:</i>	Ministry of Environment, Dept. Forests, Nature and Landscape	APOLOGIES
LITHUANIA	<i>Member:</i> Aleksandras SPRUOGIS <i>Alternate:</i> Liutauras STOSKUS	Ministry of Environment Environmental Protection Agency	APOLOGIES
LUXEMBOURG	<i>Member:</i> Eric DE BRABANTER <i>Alternate:</i> Pierre PRUM	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	APOLOGIES
MALTA	<i>Member:</i> Petra BIANCHI <i>Alternate:</i> Marie BRIGUGLIO	Malta Environment and Planning Authority Malta Environment and Planning Authority	APOLOGIES
THE NETHERLANDS	<i>Member:</i> Koen DE SNOO <i>Alternate:</i> Adriaan OUDEMAN	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	APOLOGIES
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Kaja SHUKOVA Svetlana GJORGJEVA	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning	SIGNED SIGNED
NORWAY	<i>Member:</i> Kari HOLDEN <i>Alternate:</i> Øysten NESJE	Climate and Pollution Agency Ministry of Environment	APOLOGIES APOLOGIES
POLAND	<i>Member:</i> Andrzej JAGUSIEWICZ Lucyna DYGAS-CIOŁKOWSKA <i>Alternate:</i>	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	APOLOGIES

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
PORTUGAL	<u>Member:</u> Nuno LACASTA	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u> Paulo LEMOS	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	
ROMANIA	<u>Member:</u> Gabriel ABOS	National Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
	<u>NFP:</u> Gabriela VASILIU-ISAC	National Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
SERBIA	Dejan LEKIC	Serbian Environmental Protection Agency	SIGNED
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u> Daniel SCHMIDTMAYER	Slovak Environmental Agency	SIGNED SIGNED
	<u>Alternate:</u> Katarína KOSKOVÁ	Slovak Environmental Agency	
	<u>Expert:</u> Milos VINCIC		
SLOVENIA	<u>Member:</u> Silvo ZLEBIR	Environmental Agency	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u>		
SPAIN	<u>Member:</u> Guillermina YANGUAS MONTERO	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u> Elisa RIVERA MENDOZA	Environmental Strategic Information Unit	
	<u>Expert:</u>		
SWEDEN	<u>Member:</u> Maria ÅGREN	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	APOLOGIES
	<u>Alternate:</u> Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	

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SWITZERLAND	<i>Member:</i> Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Gérard POFFET	Federal Office for the Environment	
	<i>NFP:</i> Nicolas PERRITAZ	Federal Office for the Environment	
TURKEY	<i>Member:</i> Ercan TIRAŞ	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	SIGNED
	<i>Alternate:</i> Sedat KADIOĞLU	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	
	<i>NFP:</i> Cagatay DIKMEN	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	
UNITED KINGDOM	<i>Member:</i> John ROBBS	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	APOLOGIES
	<i>Alternate:</i> Peter HELM	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Robin MIÈGE	DG Environment	APOLOGIES
	Nick BANFIELD	DG Environment	APOLOGIES
	Pascal LE GRAND	DG Environment	APOLOGIES
	Manuela SOARES	DG Research	APOLOGIES
	Pedro DÍAZ MUÑOZ	ESTAT- Sectoral and regional statistics	APOLOGIES
	Daniel RASE	EUROSTAT	APOLOGIES
	Nathalie CRESTE MANSERVISI	DG Clima	SIGNED
Artur Runge-METZGER	DG Clima	APOLOGIES	

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	Peter HENNICKE	Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie	SIGNED
	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	
	Ludo HOLSBECK	Free University of Brussels	
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	Detlef SPRINZ	Chairman of EEA Scientific Committee	APOLOGIES
EEA STAFF	Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	SIGNED
	Gordon McINNES	Deputy Director, Head of programme - GAN	SIGNED
	Jock MARTIN	Head of programme - IEA	SIGNED
	Paul McALEAVEY	Head of programme - ACC	SIGNED
	Soeren NIELSEN	Acting Head of programme - ADS	SIGNED
	Chris STEENMANS	Head of programme - SES	SIGNED
	Ronan UHEL	Head of programme - NSV	SIGNED
	Petra FAGERHOLM	Head of group - EDO1	SIGNED
	Sigtus BJARNASON	Head of programme - OSE	SIGNED
	David STANNERS	Head of programme - EDO2	SIGNED
Elena OSTARIZ	GAN0 - Management Board Secretariat	SIGNED	