

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE 80TH MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING,
held in Copenhagen on 6 December 2017**

Adopted by the Management Board
at its meeting on 7 March 2018

Signed

Laura Burke
Chair, EEA Management Board

Record of proceedings

The Chair, Laura Burke, opened the meeting by welcoming the Management Board members, alternates and observers.

Final agenda:	Annex 1
Attendance list:	Annex 2
List of decisions and guidance:	Annex 3
List of items for future discussion and presentation:	Annex 4

ITEMS 1–2 FOR DECISION

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Management Board adopted the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/80/01REV1) with the following modification: swapping the order of Item 18 ‘Approval of the annual budget 2018’ and Item 17 ‘Adoption PD 2018-2020, incl. AWP 2018’ (in order to adopt the budget before the PD).

Item 2 Adoption 79th Management Board minutes, 13 June 2017

The minutes (Doc. EEA/MB/80/02) were adopted without any changes.

ITEMS 3–4 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes 73rd Bureau, 4 October 2017

The Management Board took note of the draft minutes of the 73rd Bureau meeting held on 4 October 2017 in Lisbon (Doc. EEA/MB/80/03).

Item 4 Update by the Management Board Chair

The Chair reported on the following matters:

- the Chair’s meeting with European Environment Agency’s (EEA) staff and Senior Management Team (SMT) on 23–24 August 2017, in preparation of taking up office on 1 September 2017;
- the Chair’s participation at the NFP/Eionet meeting on 3 October 2017 (back-to-back with the Bureau meeting), allowing introduction of the Chair to the network;



- the Chair's participation and presentation at the 6th European Environmental Evaluators Network Forum (2017 EEEN Forum) in Edinburgh on 23–24 November 2017 ⁽¹⁾. The event looked at the role of both ex-post and ex-ante evaluation by a range of researchers and policy makers. A topic of particular interest for the EEA addressed at the Forum is the link between research and policy in environmental evaluation;
- in the context of the two-yearly review of the mandate of the Bureau as required by the Rules of Procedure of the EEA Management Board and Bureau (RoP) ⁽²⁾, which is included under item 11, the Chair informed on the proposed initiative to use this opportunity to open-up the review to include how the two governance bodies operate and whether there are opportunities for changes. In light of the heavy burden on the Management Board, the RoP Review Committee could look into the efficient use of time of the Board with regard to its oversight role and on whether things could be done differently or better.

Finally, the Chair acknowledged the effort of Management Board members, which provided CVs and Declarations of Interest (DoI) to ensure an increased transparency.

ITEMS 5–7 FOR INFORMATION

Updates by the Scientific Committee Chair, the Executive Director and the European Commission

The Chair proposed to organise the questions and answers for the items 5–7 in one session, and this after the presentations from the Scientific Committee Chair, the Executive Director and the European Commission. The Chair stressed the importance of the exchange of information and views, and that more opportunity for discussion and engagement should be allowed for those elements at future Board meetings.

Item 5 Update by the Scientific Committee Chair

On behalf of the Scientific Committee Chair, the Vice-Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) provided a presentation on the activities of the Scientific Committee since the last Board meeting in June. The presentation addressed in particular:

- the Joint EEA–Scientific Committee seminar '*Big Data and environmental knowledge*', of 10 October 2017 (Doc. EEA/MB/80/05), discussing the challenges and opportunities of Big Data for contributing to the core processes of EEA and Eionet related to monitoring, data and information management, assessments, reporting and knowledge developments. A detailed report of the seminar will be available early 2018; and
- the Scientific Committee opinion on the Draft Programming Document 2018–2020 (Annex 4 to Doc. EEA/MB/80/17⁽³⁾) in accordance with Article 8.5 of the EEA/Eionet Regulation, which includes:
 - Agency activity with regard to safe drinking water and children's environmental health deserves greater attention considering prominence under SDG goals;
 - encourages the Agency to continue its reporting and analysis on the social, technological and economic nature of sustainability transitions, incl. the systemic challenges; and

¹ The presentations of the EEEN 2017 Forum are available at:

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/policy/events/eeen2017/eeen-2017-presentations>

² Rules of Procedure of the Management Board and the Bureau of the European Environment Agency as adopted by the Management Board on 8 February 1994 and last amended on 26 November 2015 (MB decision num. 016/EEA/MB(74)-GOV/2015) (RoP), and in particular Article 2(13)

³ Scientific Committee opinion on the Draft PD 2018–2020 is published on the EEA website at:

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/governance/scientific-committee/sc-opinions/opinions-on-eea-management-plan/opinion-of-the-scientific-committee-5/view>



- observes that austerity measures are having undesirable implications for Agency activities due to reductions in core funds.

Item 6 Update by the Executive Director, including publication plan 2017 progress

Taking the document 'Update by the Executive Director' (Doc. EEA/MB/80/06) as read, the Executive Director presented an overview of some recent key EEA products (AQ index ⁽⁴⁾, bathing water report ⁽⁵⁾ and map viewer ⁽⁶⁾, map viewer on the Natura 2000 and Emerald network ⁽⁷⁾, and the indicator report in support to the monitoring of the 7th EAP ⁽⁸⁾). The presentation underlined on the one hand the importance of differentiation of the Agency's products and dissemination channels, which reflects the variety of stakeholder user needs and knowledge uptake methods; and on the other hand the collaboration across MDIAK ⁽⁹⁾ with the network and the relevant policy actors.

The Chair welcomed the presentation and stressed the relevance of the Agency's visual tools such as maps in terms of communicating outcomes.

Item 7 Update by the European Commission

Taking the document 'Update by the European Commission' (Doc. EEA/MB/80/07) as read, the Commission representatives highlighted the following developments since the June Board meeting:

- the **DG ENV representative** highlighted the following Commission activities:
 - The update is structured around the three pillars of the DG ENV mandate: Greening the economy; connecting better with citizens; and making it happen.
 - Greening the economy: new set of proposals in the context of the Circular Economy Action Plan is foreseen to be adopted on 16th January 2018.
 - Connecting better with citizens: the EU AQ index is an important interface, and with the different EU institutes working on knowledge (in particular Eurostat and EEA) it will be possible to have assessments on the socio-economic impact of ecosystem degradation, knowing that in the future years the urban aspect will become of increased importance, in particular in relation to air quality.
 - Making it happen: Welcome the improvements to the EEA website and look forward to future integration of knowledge from other EU institutions such as JRC and Eurostat.
 - Sustainable finance as a new emerging priority: the Commission established a High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance (HLEG) ⁽¹⁰⁾ to advise on developing a comprehensive EU strategy on sustainable finance, and this under the lead of DG FISMA ⁽¹¹⁾. The interim report published in July 2017 shows the need to map all initiatives on sustainable finance in different DGs and EU institutions, and it should be further evaluated how the EEA can contribute to this emerging EU priority. The HLEG will deliver its final report by January 2018.

⁴ Air Quality (AQ) index: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/air/air-quality-index/index>

⁵ Bathing water report: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/more-european-sites-meet-excellent>

⁶ Bathing water map viewer: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/interactive/bathing/state-of-bathing-waters>

⁷ Natura 2000 and Emerald network map viewer: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/explore-interactive-maps/european-protected-areas-1>

⁸ Environmental indicator report 2017: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/critical-gaps-remain-in-europes>

⁹ MDIAK: Monitoring (in the broadest sense) through Data, Information and Assessments to Knowledge

¹⁰ Sustainable finance and HLEG https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/banking-and-finance/sustainable-finance_en

¹¹ DG FISMA : Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union



- Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) beyond 2020: The Commission will come forward with a proposal for a new MFF by May 2018, which will include the draft legislation for the different programmes for the next budgetary period post 2020. The SDGs will form the framework for the next financial period.
- The **DG JRC representative** informed about the following Commission activities:
 - JRC is gradually shifting from a research organisation to a science producer organisation, which is producing and gathering data and analysis to provide integrated support to the colleagues in the different DGs (such as DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG DEVCO, DG GROW). In light of this, the JRC is launching different knowledge centres, which group together activities in a specific area (for example on bio-economy, global nutrition and food security, and global climate change).
 - The recent report on science related to Africa ⁽¹²⁾ is a synthesis of the information gathered over 30 years of cooperation in different fields with the Africa Union, and including scientific information on subjects such as demography, water, energy, infrastructure, forest, land-use and desertification. The JRC intends to continue this type of activity of creating an integrated entry point for all science and knowledge available in a certain area, which is necessary for the further developing of a base for policy development.
 - The reorganisation of the JRC work will also include a close collaboration with all EU institutions and international organisations.
- The **DG CLIMA representative** highlighted the following Commission activities:
 - International developments: as a follow-up on the Paris Agreement, the COP 24 in 2018 will be key and should a) deliver a rule book for both developing and developed countries; and b) form the start of the five-yearly cycle with as a first milestone the facilitative dialogue ('Talanoa dialogue') with regard to the Paris Agreement commitments.
 - EU legislative developments: A political agreement has been reached on the EU ETS Directive for the period 2021–2030 and on the ETS aviation; negotiations on Energy Union Governance, Effort Sharing and LULUCF are ongoing; the second Mobility Package was published in November; the third Mobility Package addressing Heavy Duty Vehicles is foreseen for the first half of 2018; the outcome of the EU Adaptation Strategy review is foreseen for the second half of 2018; and the necessary analytical work required for the mid-century strategy is taking place.
- The **DG RTD representative** emphasised the wish to reinforce the cooperation with EEA on GEO, and in particular on in-situ data for GEOSS as Eionet has been identified as being a critical data source.

Q&A on items 5-7

Following the update presentation by the DG ENV representative, the Board engaged in a discussion including the following topics:

¹² Science for the AU-EU Partnership - Building knowledge for sustainable development, <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/science-au-eu-partnership-building-knowledge-sustainable-development>



- Updates by EEA and the Commission

Several Board members expressed appreciation for the written update from the Commission and highlighted its usefulness in particular with regard to further distribution in the countries.

Several Board members thanked the Executive Director for the presentation on the different innovative ways of presenting data and reaching such a wide audience. One Board member also expressed thanks for the inclusion of the NRC light review in the update from the Executive Director, as this is a considerable task involving the countries.
- SOER 2020

Upon a request for increased Management Board involvement in the SOER 2020, the Executive Director informed on consultation with the Commission, Eionet and the Scientific Committee on the SOER 2020 prototypes; the implementation plan, which will be finalised by early 2018; and the analysis, which is foreseen to start in 2018.
- Joint EEA/Scientific Committee seminar on Environmental Justice (21 February 2018)

Upon a request for clarification, the Executive Director informed on the fact that a main aim of the seminar is to support the future EEA report on Environment, health and wellbeing. The Vice-Chair of the Scientific Committee informed that the seminar is still in the planning stage and that the aspect of environmental justice on a sub-national level will be considered for inclusion in the seminar.
- Tourism

Upon a request for clarification with regard to the two products replacing the tourism report, the Executive Director informed that a) the technical note aims at indicating the possibilities on what a report on tourism and the environment could look like; and b) a non-exhaustive first set of indicators, towards such a report. It was further clarified that further work on tourism and environment would require an investment at the European level, and this in cooperation with the tourism sector.
- Climate change adaptation

Upon a request for clarification on activities on climate change adaptation besides the ongoing evaluation of the Adaptation Strategy, the DG CLIMA representative clarified that:

 - The ongoing key work is in on the review of the Adaptation Strategy, including the review of the national adaption plans (established by 25 countries); and
 - The Paris agreement placing the mitigation and adaptation on par, and put forwards a number of requirements with regard to climate change adaptation. Some of the issues have been included in the Energy Union Governance proposal, for example the periodicity on reporting on adaptation (from ever four to every two years). While respecting the subsidiarity principle, the Commission put forward a proposal for an annex on what should be included in the reporting on adaptation, around six elements in terms of a joint international submission of the EU and the Member States.
- Cooperation between JRC and EEA

Upon a question for clarification on the future cooperation between the JRC and EEA; the Executive Director recognised the growing need for high level dialogue on the distribution of work between all JRC partners and allocation of the joint EU resources. The JRC representative stressed the complementary nature of the two organisations, as well as the JRC intention to organise a dialogue on distribution of work. The DG ENV representative recognised the need to organise a multi-lateral discussion in the context of the EKC on the distribution of work among its partners.



- **Third mobility package**
Upon a question for further information on the scope of the third mobility package, the DG CLIMA representative informed that the scope is yet to be fully defined, but that it will include a proposal on emission standards from heavy duty vehicles.
- **Natural capital accounting under the auspices of the EKC**
Upon a request for clarification on the status of a natural accounting system for Europe, the Executive Director informed on the cooperation between the EKC partners under the lead of Eurostat, and in particular on the progress in terms of partial accounts (e.g. water and land accounts) as a stepping stone to a single natural accounting system for Europe.
- **EEA role in UNEA3 in Nairobi**
Upon a request for clarification on EEA's role with regard to the third UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) meeting (on 4-6 December 2017), the Executive Director clarified that two Agency staff members are embedded in the EU delegation, and this in support of the EU agenda and in particular on: the ecological dimension of SDGs, the role of science in terms of bringing knowledge to the policy processes, and health.
- **Circular Economy (CE)**
Upon a request for clarification on Circular Economy, the DG ENV representative provided further clarifications on this key priority of the Commission across a wide range of DGs, and in particular cover all of the 54 actions included in the action plan and to ensure the necessary legislative proposals by 18 May 2018. This will most probably include a proposal on single use of plastics. DG ENV also stressed the importance of the CE monitoring framework.

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

ITEMS 8–11 FOR GUIDANCE

Item 8 Evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation

Taking document EEA/MB/80/08 as read, the Chair stressed the importance of the EEA/Eionet evaluation seeing the potential impact on the future of the EEA and Eionet; referred to the Commission organised stakeholder workshop held on 5 December 2017 in Lyngby (Copenhagen) as a step in the process; and invited the DG ENV representative to inform the Board on the next steps and, in particular in relation to the Management Board role in the process.

The DG ENV representative reminded the Board members of information on the EEA/Eionet evaluation provided in document EEA/MB/80/07 on the 'Update by the European Commission'. DG ENV further thanked Board members participating in the stakeholder workshop and informed on the following:

- The next steps of the consultancy study in support to the evaluation performed by the Commission consist of:
 - the report of the workshop by 14 December 2017 and open for feedback by participants to the workshop by 10 January 2018, and
 - draft final and final study report.
- The Commission evaluation, including potential proposals and recommendations is foreseen to be published by summer 2018 as a Staff Working Document (SWD), following an impact assessment, Commission inter service consultation and adoption by the College. The SWD will aim at opening the further in-depth debate with the Management Board and for example the



European Parliament and Council. The SWD to which the final study report will be annexed will be provided to the Management Board in advance of its December 2018 meeting.

Following the introduction by the Commission, the Board engaged in a discussion including the following topics:

- Commission organised stakeholder workshop on the evaluation of the EEA and Eionet, held on 5 December 2017 in Lyngby (Copenhagen):
 - The high level of participation of Management Board members to the stakeholder workshop was seen by the Board members as a reflection of the high commitment of the Board to contribute to the study,
 - Board members expressed concerns with regard to the quality of the background document to the stakeholder workshop, and in particular with regard to the methodology and empirical basis for conclusions; and asked for further clarifications in terms of the quality assurance process for the (draft) final study report. The DG ENV representative informed the Board that the aim of the background document was to inform participants in advance of the stakeholder workshop and should not be seen as the (draft) final study report, and that the study report will be quality-assured and take into account feedback provided at the workshop.
- Aspects to be considered in the evaluation, such as:
 - The distribution of tasks between EU institutions,
 - The cooperation between the EEA and the Eionet network, for example in the context of the developing data landscape,
 - The resource austerity versus the increasing EEA tasks, and
 - The mandate of the Agency's Board and Bureau.
- Role of the EEA Management Board in the further process
 - Management Board members requested the Commission to further clarify the Management Board access to the draft final and final support study conducted by the consortium led by COWI; as well as the process and timelines for further Board contributions to the Commission lead study and evaluation. The Chair asked the Commission to provide the Board over the coming weeks with the necessary clarifications with regard to all aspects of relevance for the Board to fulfil its governance function.
 - The Chair proposed to include the EEA/Eionet evaluation as a standard item at the EEA Management Board meetings for the foreseeable future, and to discuss the scope of the upcoming SWD at the March 2018 Board meeting.

Item 9 Commission report on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting: impact on EEA and Eionet

The Chair of the Management Board introduced the agenda item by referring to the EEA background document EEA/MB/80/09 on the proposed strengthened role of EEA and Eionet in support to the proposed actions by the European Commission to streamline environmental reporting, following the fitness check on environmental monitoring and reporting (EU Better Regulation Agenda).

The DG ENV representative provided an update on the Commission's activities and the cooperation between the Commission services and the EEA in relation to the follow-up on the Commission report on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting (Doc. EEA/MB/80/07, heading 1.4). DG ENV also highlighted the link with the INSPIRE Directive, as well as the foreseen publication of the alignment proposal (action 1) by summer 2018 as included in the Commission Annual Work Programme (AWP)



2018. With regard to the background document, DG ENV clarified that although the Commission is not in agreement with the statement that *'For any new support, the principle of additional resources to EEA is endorsed.'*, it recognises that the question with regard to additional resources has to be discussed and this in the context of the overall programming of the Agency. It was further clarified that any increase in EEA tasks resulting from a co-decision process should be reflected in an increase of the Agency's resources. Finally, the DG ENV representative expressed the commitment to report on progress to the Board on a regular basis.

The Executive Director informed the Board of the Agency's appreciation for this initiative of streamlining and simplifying monitoring and reporting; as well as for the opportunity to increase the Agency's capacity to ensure the modernisation of Reportnet. It was further clarified that the Agency is discussing with the relevant DG ENV policy units potential EEA contributions to the ten actions, including the use of pilots; while also highlighting that for activities requiring substantial EEA resources, a more in-depth reflection is needed, which would include the evaluation of options to down-prioritise current activities in the thematic areas concerned (e.g. on water). Finally, the Executive Director informed on a data gap in the slipstream of incomplete inspire implementation requiring the Agency to use open source data to deliver the Corine Land Cover plus.

The Management Board engaged in a discussion, including on the following topics:

- Energy efficiency

Following the suggestion of a few Board representatives regarding a potential strengthened cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA) on energy efficiency, the Executive Director clarified that informal cooperation on project level (e.g. carbon lock-in) is already ongoing.

- The importance of streamlining of environmental reporting
- Reportnet

Following a request for a further briefing on Reportnet 2.0 and 3.0 in light of the Board's oversight role, the Executive Director informed on the planned activities. The Chair suggested to include a specific item on Reportnet and the link to the streamlining of reporting at the next Board meeting in March 2018.

Item 10 Energy Union: current and future role for EEA and Eionet with regard to climate change mitigation and energy

Taking background document EEA/MB/80/10 as read, the EEA highlighted the main aspects of relevance to the Board:

- The proposed new responsibilities for the EEA set out in the proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union (article 35). These concern assessment, monitoring and reporting work as regards the decarbonisation (including renewable energy) and energy efficiency dimensions of the Energy Union. These new tasks build upon and recognise the work done by EEA in the energy field in the last decade (tracking progress to energy targets, indicators, assessments, etc.) in the context of the current Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) 2014–2020;
- The proposed new EEA responsibilities on energy work will mean additional tasks from 2018 onward, for which additional core resources (staff and operational) have been proposed as already reflected in the Programming Document 2018–2020; and
- EEA's intention to examine, together with its partners from the Eionet and the Commission, the type and nature of data and assessments that would be relevant to its future activities under the Governance of the Energy Union. For example, the EEA will reflect on how its current set of energy



indicators should be adapted in order to contribute best to the monitoring of progress towards Energy Union as well as longer-term climate and environment objectives of the EU.

The Management Board engaged in a discussion, including on the following issues:

- In the context of the proposed new tasks, the topic of energy efficiency is least developed in terms of methodologies for tracking progress. EEA informed on its intentions to cooperate with JRC and DG ENER on this, and on its commitment to liaise with the IEA with regard to a potential formal cooperation.
- Upon a request from some Board members with regard to potential support to countries to fulfil the new reporting obligations under the Energy Union, the EEA agreed to look into the possibility to provide assistance through the ETC, while also highlighting that the allocated resources will be required to fulfil the Agency's new tasks.
- The EEA further informed on the fact that EEA, in the interest of efficiency, offered Reportnet as an efficient solution for the e-reporting platform required for reporting under the Energy Union and this against DG ENER setting up an alternative platform.

Item 11 Organizational review of the Board and Bureau

The Chair introduced background document EEA/MB/80/11 and referred to the update under item 4, and in particular on the intention to use the opportunity of the two-yearly review of the mandate of the Bureau to review the functioning of the two governance bodies.

The Management Board decided on the establishment and the mandate of a Review Committee on the Rules of Procedure of the EEA Board and Bureau (Decision EEA/MB/2017/033 on a RoP Review Committee). The following members of the RoP Review Committee were designated:

- Mr Björn Risinger (Chair of the RoP Review Committee), Sweden (MB member);
- Mr Gilles Gantelet, European Commission (MB member);
- Ms Laura Burke, Chair of the Management Board and MB member for Ireland;
- Mr Pierre Prum, Luxembourg (alternate MB member); and
- Mr Valéry Morard, France (MB member).

It was recognised that two ongoing processes could require a future revision of the RoP, namely the outcome of the Commission evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation and the recast of the EU Financial Regulation and its Rules of Application.

Finally, the Chair invited the Board members to provide any suggestions in relation with the review to the Management Board Secretariat.

ITEM 12 FOR INFORMATION

Item 12 European Knowledge Community (EKC)

The Chair introduced background document (Doc. EEA/MB/80/12).

The Management Board took note of the information provided by the DG ENV representative on the scope, goals and activities of the European Knowledge Community (EKC), and informed on the intention to open some meetings to other guests such as members of the EEA Scientific Committee and the European Parliament.

The Executive Director highlighted the importance of the EKC in terms of the work on innovation, coordination of organisational aspects in relation to data centres and knowledge centres, and the strategic coordination on work load distribution across the EKC partners in light of the resource conditions and constraints.

Board members welcomed the report on the working of EKC. It was also suggested that the Board should receive regular updates with a focus on EKC decisions, in particular in relation to division of labour, to ensure the Board is fully informed in light of its oversight role on the Agency's work programming.

CLOSED SESSION

ITEMS 13–15 FOR DECISION

Item 13 Renewal of the Executive Director's contract

The Board decided on the renewal of the contract of employment for Dr Hans Bruyninckx as Executive Director of the EEA at grade AD 15 with effect from 1 June 2018 for a period of five years (Decision EEA/MB/2017/018).

The decision was taken by a secret vote resulting in a unanimous vote (27 out of 27 available votes) in favour of the Commission's proposal.

Item 14 Approval of Key Performance Indicators for the Executive Director

The Board adopted the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for the assessment on performance of the Executive Director from 2018 onwards (Decision EEA/MB/2017/026).

The revised set of KPIs provide for a stronger alignment of the Executive Director's KPIs with the Commission's KPI Guidelines ⁽¹³⁾. The adopted KPIs included a minor editorial modification.

Item 15 Appraisal of the Executive Director

- Implementing rules applicable to the Executive Director

The Management Board decided to delegate the decision on the implementing rules with regard to the 'appraisal, and probationary and trial period of the EEA Executive Director' to the Bureau (Decision EEA/MB/2017/028).

The Board is invited to provide comments to the proposal on implementing rules, and in particular on the concept of carryover by 20 December 2017. The final adoption of the implementing rules will be subject to a Commission decision on the agreement with the draft implementing rules.

The Management Board should be kept fully informed on all guidance provided by its members, and on how its comments provided are taken into account by the Bureau.

- Reporting officers and appeal assessor for the appraisal of the Agency's Executive Director for reporting year 2017

The Board appointed the reporting officers and the appeal assessor for the annual appraisal of the Executive Director of the EEA for the reporting period January–December 2017 (Decision EEA/MB/2017/027).

¹³ Commission Staff Working Document SWD(2015)62 final on Guidelines on key performance indicators (KPI) for directors of EU decentralised agencies of 13 March 2015 (KPI Guidelines)



STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

ITEMS 16–19 FOR DECISION

Item 16 ETCs beyond 2018: ETC/ACM topic review, ETC light reviews and ETC designation process

16.A ETC/ACM topic review

Taking background document EEA/MB/80/16A as read, the Executive Director highlighted the recommendation of the ETC/ACM Review Committee following a detailed review of the topic area addressed by the present European Topic Centre on Air Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation (ETC/ACM), as well as the Bureau's support to the ETC/ACM Review Committee's findings. The Board members were also reminded of the Board oversight throughout the process through participation in the ETC/ACM Review Committee.

The Board engaged in an exchange of view, which included:

- the implications of the foreseen EEA tasks under the energy union governance;
- the resource-efficiency of the different options, and in particular with regard to management costs both at the side of the EEA and the ETCs; and
- the synergies between ETCs: Following a request for clarification from several Board members regarding the coordination between ETCs and how synergies between ETCs will be ensured (for all ETCs); the EEA clarified that synergies can be ensured in several ways: a) ETC partners can take part in several ETC, b) a key role of the Agency is to ensure synergies between ETCs, and c) for these two ETCs in particular (ETC/ATNI and ETC/CME) a coordination will be required and documented in the annual ETC Action Plans (AP).

In line with the recommendation from the ETC/ACM Review Committee, the Board decided to establish two new ETCs in the topic areas of Air Pollution, Transport, Noise and Industry (ETC/ATNI) and of Climate Change Mitigation and Energy (ETC/CME), for the period 2019–2021. The Board also decided to adopt the terms of references (ToR) for the associated open call for proposals (ETC/ATNI: Decision EEA/MB/2017/029 and ETC/CME: Decision EEA/MB/2017/030) ⁽¹⁴⁾.

16.B ETC light reviews and ETC designation process

Taking background document EEA/MB/80/16B as read, the Executive Director reminded the Board of the light review process, being an internal EEA process with the aim of making the ETC ToRs fit-for-purpose for the testing of the market within the existing financial framework of the MAWP 2014–2020, in comparison with the ETC/ACM review process.

The DG ENV representative reminded the Board that the ETCs should focus primarily on supporting the EU priorities, and that ETC activities should be coordinated with the work of other bodies contributing to these EU priorities. DG ENV further expressed the view that the EEA Management Board and the countries should have access to sufficient information on the running plans for the ETCs.

Following a request for clarification regarding the Forest Information System for Europe (FISE), the Executive Director informed on the ongoing discussions with DG ENV and JRC, including EEA resource allocations; and that as a result this work has not been reflected in the Terms of References of the ETCs.

The Board agreed to launch Calls for Proposals for five new ETCs, which have been subject to the light review process, and to adopt the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the call for proposals for the ETCs in the following topic areas:

¹⁴ The decisions will be made public once the respective calls for proposals would have been launched.



- Biological Diversity (BD)
- Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ICM)
- Urban, Land and Soil Systems (ULS)
- Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (WMGE)
- Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCA)

Item 17 Adoption Programming Document 2018–2020, incl. Annual Work Programme 2018

The Executive Director introduced background document EEA/MB/80/17 on the Programming Document (PD) 2018–2020, which includes the Annual Work Programme 2018 and the financing decision for the ETCs for 2018; and highlighted the process for the drafting and finalisation, the increased information with regard to the resource outlook, potential new tasks and EEA priorities.

The Chair acknowledged the Agency's efforts with regard to the drafting of the PD 2018–2020, in particular seeing the complexity with regard to the various engagement process with the different actors; and highlighted the importance of the information with regard to new tasks, growth of existing tasks and efficiency gains in light of the Management Board's oversight role and in particular in terms of understanding the changes compared to previous years.

The DG ENV representative called for a rolling working plan, including the ETC contributions for the different activities; and this in light of the long process from the first draft until the adoption of the Programming Documents, DG ENV also informed on the increased demands from the budgetary authorities⁽¹⁵⁾ with regard to the resource allocations per priority and priority settings by the Agencies. In addition the inclusion of the new contributions to the core-budget should be more transparently included. This will be particularly of importance for the PD 2019–2021.

The Executive Director highlighted that the present overall level of granularity is rather high compared to the requirements in the PD Guidelines of activity-based programming for 4-5 activities or more, and the practise across other Agencies⁽¹⁶⁾; and asked for further clarifications from the Commission with regard to the expectation for further details on the budget allocation.

The Chair concluded the discussion by calling for a further bilateral follow-up between EEA and the Commission to come to a common understanding of the requirements for the PD in terms of resource programming, and how they could be met by the Agency.

The Board adopted the EEA Programming Document 2018-2020, including the Annual Work Programme (AWP) for 2018 (Decision EEA/MB/2017/031).

The Board also adopted the financing decision concerning the European Topic Centres in 2018 (Decision EEA/MB/2017/032), which allows the EEA to enter into a contractual agreement with the European Topic Centres (ETCs) on the financing of the ETC action plans for 2018.

Item 18 Approval of the annual budget 2018

The Executive Director introduced background document EEA/MB/80/18 on the EEA budget for 2018, including the Agency's core funding as well as non-core funding in relation to the Delegation Agreement on Copernicus Services between DG GROW and EEA.

The following aspects in relation to the 2018 were highlighted:

- Title 1 budget

15 Council, Commission DG BUDG and ENVI Committee of the European Parliament

16 The EEA PD includes 22 activities and the level of detail regarding the budget allocation per activity is 100k€



EEA informed that the budget increase in title 1 (salaries) is due to an insufficient financing of Contract Agents and to the significant increase of the weighting factor for Denmark last year.

- Non-core Copernicus budget

EEA further informed on the amendment to the Delegation Agreement by DG GROW in August 2017 to allow the EEA to request bi-annual pre-financing based on forecasted commitment needs. If the Board were to use this possibility, the adoption of the non-core budget on Copernicus by the Board would shift from a decision every year to every two years (see also Doc. EEA/MB/80/18, page 14).

The delegation agreement between EEA and DG GROW under the Copernicus Programme Regulation foresees a total budget allocation to the Agency of about 90 million Euro over the period 2014-2020, with a the budget adoption by the Board on an annual basis. EEA received pre-financing of EUR 27.2 million for 2017, bringing the total pre-financing received to date for the Delegation Agreement to 45.4 million Euro.

The Chair required the annual adoption of the Copernicus non-core budget to ensure the Board can fulfil its oversight role, and to limit the deviation from the original conditions in the delegation agreement signed in 2014 ⁽¹⁷⁾.

The DG ENV representative welcomed the way the 2018 budget was presented, including the transparency on the budget.

Following a request for clarification, the EEA explained that it is difficult to forecast the budget requirements for social security and unemployment allowance, and that the present budget allocation –which is lower than the 2017 budget spent – is the best estimate to date.

The Board adopted the EEA budget for the financial year 2018 (Decision EEA/MB/2017/025).

**Item 19 Draft Programming Document 2019–2021, incl. draft AWP 2019:
Board review and delegation of adoption to the Bureau**

Taking the document EEA/MB/80/19 as read, the Executive Director introduced the first draft of the Programming document (PD) 2019–2021, and highlighted that the new approach to the PD document and the revised information in Section I on the context; and this with the aim to bring the document more in line with the Commissions Guidelines on Programming Documents. It was also highlighted that the first draft PD 2019–2021 has been developed against a backdrop of increasing external uncertainty.

The Chair acknowledged that the first draft PD 2019–2021 is still a work in progress, and invited the Board to provide guidance for the finalisation of the Draft Programming Document 2019–2021 by January 2018.

The Management Board engaged in a discussion, including on the following issues:

- Budget allocation for non-EU Member States from 2019 onwards
Switzerland expressed a concern in relation to the calculation of the non-EU Member States' contributions as of 2019 onwards, and requested for a clarification in this regard ⁽¹⁸⁾. For example in Switzerland, the 2019 budget allocation for participation in the EEA should be introduced in the Swiss budget by March 2018.
- EEA activities on the alps, the arctic and insects

¹⁷ Article 25.2 of the 'Delegation Agreement between the European Union and the European Environment Agency on the implementation of the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service and In Situ component', foresees six monthly pre-financing requests

¹⁸ Relevant for the following non-EU Member States participating in EEA : Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland



Following a request from Germany regarding the Agency's priority setting with regard to the EU recognition of priorities on the Alps, Arctic and insects, the Executive Director provided the following clarifications:

- Arctic: In line by the decision taken by the Board, the EEA work in relation to the Arctic has been deprioritised following the publication of the report on the Arctic mid-2017 ⁽¹⁹⁾. The staff member, which was previously fully allocated to Arctic topic, has been partly redeployed to the marine topic; while continuing to support the Commission and the EU action service in the arctic networks, with the emphasis on the science-policy interface.
 - Alps: EEA has decided to deprioritise activities in the context of the mountain conventions in line with the EU emphasis and the downscaling of a number of convention Secretariats. EEA will continue to provide access to data and to contribute to the knowledge process, but limit its activities including in terms of EU contributions to the conventions.
 - Insects: The present EEA programming does not include the disappearance of insects as a separate topic, but work in relation to it relates to the EEA work on biodiversity, and more specifically in relation to ecosystems resilience.
- Priority setting

The Austrian representative called for a substantial discussion in the Board with regard to the Agency's strategic direction and priority setting, in light of the acknowledged uncertainties around the EEA programming and the associated need to demonstrate a flexibility in responding in the programming document to changing conditions and resource constraints.

The DG ENV representative stressed the importance of priority setting on a regular basis over the coming period, in light of the budget uncertainties over the next years.

The Executive Director informed on the increased transparency in the first draft PD 2019–2021 with regard to information EU proper, pan-European and Europe in the international context ⁽²⁰⁾.

The Chair acknowledged the need to recognise the uncertainties with regard to the Agency's programming, and proposed to schedule a Board discussion on the priority setting beyond 2018.

The Management Board decided to delegate the adoption of the Draft EEA Programming Document 2019–2021 to the Bureau (Decision EEA/MB/2017/034).

OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ITEMS 20–24 FOR DECISION

Item 20 Approval draft Eurostat Work Programme 2018

Taking the document EEA/MB/80/20 as read, the Executive Director updated the Board on the process for the adoption of the Eurostat Annual Work Programme (AWP) for 2018 by the Commission services.

The Board adopted the Eurostat Annual Work Programme 2018 in the field of the environment (Decision EEA/MB/2017/024).

The Chair and the Executive Director used the occasion of the adoption of the Eurostat AWP 2018 to underline again the importance of the cooperation with ESTAT as a key EU institution and in line with the cooperation under the Environment Knowledge Community (EKC).

¹⁹ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/european-action-can-help-ease>

²⁰ Information included in under heading II.2.2., II.2.3 and II.2.4 of Annex 4 to document EEA/MB/80/19



Item 21 Audits: Annual audit plan 2018 of the IAC and update of the internal audit charter for the IAC

21.A Annual audit plan 2018 of the IAC

The Agency's Internal Audit Capability (IAC) introduced background document EEA/MB/80/21A.

Following a request from France for clarification regarding audit criteria other than the budget implementation (such as the nature of the work being done), the IAC clarified that the IAC's auditing of and control system for the ETC focuses on the ETC budgets, and this following the scrutiny from the European Court of Auditors to the budget implementation with regard to the ETCs. It was further clarified that the ETC auditing is a recurring audit topic, next to topics which change year-on-year such as the audit on IT security in 2017.

The Chair stressed the importance of the audit function in light of governance oversight.

The Board approved the IAC work plan for 2018.

21.B Internal audit charter for the IAC

The IAC introduced background document EEA/MB/80/21B.

The Board adopted the Internal Audit Charter for the IAC (Decision EEA/MB/2017/020).

Item 22 Internal control: Revision of EEA anti-fraud strategy and new EEA Internal Control Framework

22.A Revision of EEA anti-fraud strategy

The IAC introduced background document EEA/MB/80/22A.

The Board adopted the revised Anti-fraud Strategy (Decision EEA/MB/2017/022).

22.B new EEA Internal Control Framework

The IAC introduced background document EEA MB 80 22B.

The Board adopted the new Internal Control Framework (Decision EEA/MB/2017/021).

Item 23 Budget 2017: second amendment

The Executive Director introduced the background document EEA/MB/80/23 on the second amendment to the EEA budget for 2017 (core funds) related to direct contributions from non-EU Member States.

The second amendment to 2017 budget was adopted by the Board (Decision EEA/MB/2017/023).

The Executive Director further informed on the expected need for an amendment to the 2017 or 2018 budget in relation to funding for a project under the grant agreement with DG NEAR under Instrument for pre-Accession (IPA II Regulation) on capacity building in West Balkan countries.

Item 24 Meeting calendar 2018 revision

The EEA Executive Director introduced background document EEA/MB/80/24.

The Board adopted the revised meeting calendar for 2018, which included the following changes:

- 81st MB meeting on 7 March (instead of 6 March),
- 82nd MB meeting on 19 June (instead of 5 June).



Following a recommendation from a Board member, the Chair recognised the need to avoid overlap between high level meetings across the EU institutions, while also acknowledging the complexity of accommodating the different needs and requirements.

ITEMS 25–27 FOR INFORMATION

Item 25 Priorities Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

The foreseen presentation by the Bulgarian representative was cancelled due to the notified absence of the Bulgarian representative. The presentation on the Bulgarian priorities for the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first half of 2018, will be provided to the Board members.

The Executive Director further informed on the ongoing discussion between EEA and the Bulgarian Presidency with regard to Agency support to the activities of the Presidency.

Item 26 Overview of audits

The Agency's Internal Audit Capability (IAC) introduced background document EEA/MB/80/26 on audits relevant to EEA by the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the Internal Audit Service (IAS), external auditors and the IAC.

The Chair welcomed the initiative of the IAC to provide in future updates to the Management Board information on European Court of Auditors special reports and review-based publications in the field of environment ⁽²¹⁾.

The Board took note of the overview of audits presented by EEA's Internal Audit Capability.

Item 27 Feedback from Management Board members

The Executive Director reminded the Board members of the ongoing call for Seconded National Experts (SNEs) and National Experts in Professional Training (NEPTs), for which the deadlines was extended until 15 December 2017 due to a low response rate. National experts are an important contribution from the countries to the EEA, and a support on which the Agency relies as national experts account for 10% of the total EEA staff. It was further clarified that national experts are fully embedded in the EEA work.

The Chair reminded the Board that sending a seconded national expert is of mutual benefit for the EEA and the country concerned.

Finally the Board members congratulated the Chair with her first Board meeting as the Chair of the EEA Management Board.

The meeting closed at 16h.01

²¹ Recent special reports and review-based publications from ECA include :

Audit brief: Air quality in the EU, <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=42386>;

Landscape Review: EU action on energy and climate change,

<https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=41824>;

Special Report No 1/2017: More efforts needed to implement the Natura 2000 network to its full potential,

<https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=40768>;

Special report no 34/2016: Combating Food Waste: an opportunity for the EU to improve the resource-efficiency of the food supply chain, <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=40302>



**Annex 1 Agenda of 80th Management Board meeting,
Wednesday, 6 December 2017, 9.30-17.00, EEA premises**

FOR DECISION

1. Adoption draft agenda
2. Adoption 79th Management Board minutes, 13 June 2017

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes 73rd Bureau, 4 October 2017
4. Update by the Management Board Chair
5. Update by the Scientific Committee Chair
6. Update by the Executive Director
7. Update by the European Commission

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

FOR GUIDANCE

8. Evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation
9. Commission report on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting: impact on EEA and Eionet
10. Energy Union: current and future role for EEA and Eionet with regard to climate change mitigation and energy
11. Organisational review of the Board and Bureau

FOR INFORMATION

12. European Knowledge Community (EKC)

CLOSED SESSION – FOR DECISION

13. Renewal of the Executive Director's contract
14. Approval of Key Performance Indicators for the Executive Director
15. Appraisal of the Executive Director

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

FOR DECISION

16. ETCs beyond 2018: ETC/ACM topic review, ETC light reviews and ETC designation process
17. Adoption of the Programming Document 2018–2020 and the ETC financing decision for 2018
18. Approval of the annual budget 2018
19. Draft Programming Document 2019–2021, including draft AWP 2019: Board review and delegation of adoption to the Bureau

OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

FOR DECISION

20. Approval draft Eurostat Work Programme 2018
21. Audits: Annual audit plan 2018 of the IAC and update of the internal audit charter for the IAC
22. Internal control: Revision of EEA anti-fraud strategy and new EEA Internal Control Framework
23. Budget 2017: second amendment
24. Meeting calendar 2018 revision

FOR INFORMATION

25. Priorities Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union
26. Overview of audits
27. Feedback from Management Board members

Annex 2 Attendance list - 80th Management Board meeting, Copenhagen, 6 December 2017

COUNTRY/AFFILIATION		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
CHAIRMAN	-	Laura BURKE	Chair of the EEA Management Board	<i>Signed</i>
AUSTRIA	<i>Member:</i>	Sabine McCALLUM	Environment Agency Austria	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Florian EYWO	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management	<i>Signed</i>
BELGIUM	<i>Member:</i>	Véronique VERBEKE	Brussels Institute for the Management for the Environment Site de Tour et Taxis	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Michiel VAN PETEGHEM	Flanders Environment Agency	
BULGARIA	<i>Member:</i>	Kameliya RADEVA	Executive Environment Agency	<i>Apologies</i>
CROATIA	<i>Member:</i>	Ivana GUDELJ	Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Rene VUKELIĆ	Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature	
CYPRUS	<i>Member:</i>	Costas HADJIPANAYIOTOU	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Irene CONSTANTINO	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i>	Michal PASTVINSKÝ	Ministry of the Environment	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Markéta KUČEROVÁ	Ministry of the Environment	
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i>	Henrik HEDEMAN OLSEN	Danish Ministry of the Environment	
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Thomas Nicolai PEDERSEN	Danish Ministry of the Environment	<i>Signed</i>
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i>	Meelis MÜNT	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Kerli KIILI	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	<i>Signed</i>
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i>	Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of the Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Pekka HARJU-AUTTI	Ministry of the Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
FRANCE	<i>Member:</i>	Valéry MORARD	Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Elisabeth LOUVET	Ministry for an Ecological and Solidary Transition	
GERMANY	<i>Member:</i>	Julia WERNER	European Union - Strategic and Legal Aspects	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Holger MÜRLE	Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety	
	<i>Expert:</i>	Christina Pykonen	NFP	<i>Signed</i>
GREECE	<i>Member:</i>	Maria PEPPA	Ministry of Environment and Energy	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Nicholas MANTZARIS	Ministry of Environment and Energy	
HUNGARY	<i>Member:</i>	Teréz Krisztina SZABÓ	Ministry of Agriculture	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Mariann NEMES	Eionet National Focal Point	

COUNTRY/AFFILIATION		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
ICELAND	<i>Member:</i>	Herdís Helga SCHOPKA	Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Land and Natural Heritage	<i>Signed</i>
IRELAND	<i>Member:</i>	Laura BURKE	Chair of the EEA Management Board	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Brian CARROLL	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	<i>Apologies</i>
ITALY	<i>Member:</i>	Giovanni BRUNELLI	MATTM	
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Felice CAPPELLUTI	MATTM	<i>Signed</i>
LATVIA	<i>Member:</i>	Alda OZOLA	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Kristaps TREIMANIS	Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre	<i>Apologies</i>
LIECHTENSTEIN	<i>Member:</i>	Helmut KINDLE	National Office of Environment	
LITHUANIA	<i>Member:</i>	Aldona MARGERIENĖ	Environmental Protection Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Vytautas NARUŠEVIČIUS	Environmental Protection Agency	
LUXEMBOURG	<i>Member:</i>	André WEIDENHAUPT	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Pierre PRUM	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	<i>Signed</i>
MALTA	<i>Member:</i>	Michelle PICCININO	Environment Resources Authority	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Marguerite CAMILLERI	Environment Resources Authority	<i>Apologies</i>
NETHERLANDS	<i>Member:</i>	Jetske VERKERK	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Jennefer BAARN	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment	
NORWAY	<i>Member:</i>	Bjørn BJØRNSTAD	Norwegian Environment Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Ingunn LIMSTRAND	Norwegian Environment Agency	
POLAND	<i>Member:</i>			
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Anna Katarzyna WIECH	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Expert:</i>	Małgorzata BEDNAREK	NFP	<i>Signed</i>
PORTUGAL	<i>Member:</i>	Nuno LACASTA	Portuguese Environment Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Alexandra CARVALHO	Ministry of Environment	
ROMANIA	<i>Member:</i>	Doina CATRINOIU	National Environment Protection Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Gabriela VASILIU-ISAC	Ministry of Environment and Climate Changes	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i>	Matej OVČIARKA	Slovak Environment Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Barbora DORIČKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic	
SLOVENIA	<i>Member:</i>	Joško KNEZ	Slovenian Environment Agency	<i>Apologies</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Slovenian Environment Agency	<i>Apologies</i>
SPAIN	<i>Member:</i>	Javier CACHÓN DE MESA	Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Elisa RIVERA MENDOZA	Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente	

COUNTRY/AFFILIATION		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
SWEDEN	<i>Member:</i>	Björn RISINGER	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	
SWITZERLAND	<i>Member:</i>	Marc CHARDONNENS	Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Christine HOFMANN	Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)	
	<i>Expert:</i>	Nicolas PERRITAZ	Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)	<i>Signed</i>
TURKEY	<i>Member:</i>	Mustafa ÖZTÜRK	Ministry of Environment and Urbanization	
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Mehmet Mustafa SATILMIŞ	Environmental Impact Assessment, Permit and Inspection	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Expert:</i>	Fatma Nur CEBECİOĞLU	NFP	<i>Signed</i>
UNITED KINGDOM	<i>Member:</i>	Robert BRADBURNE	Defra	<i>Signed</i>
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Vicky BEAUMONT-BROWN	Eionet National Focal Point	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION		Gilles GANTELET	DG ENV	<i>Signed</i>
		Jacques DELSALLE	DG ENV	<i>Signed</i>
		Giovanni DE SANTI	JRC	<i>Signed</i>
		Peeter PÄRT	JRC	<i>Signed</i>
		Marcel JORTAY	Eurostat	<i>Apologies</i>
		Anton STEURER	Eurostat	<i>Apologies</i>
		Jack METTHEY	DG RTD	<i>Apologies</i>
		Mireille DELPRAT	DG RTD	<i>Signed</i>
		Artur RUNGE-METZGER	DG CLIMA	<i>Apologies</i>
		Yrjö MÄKELÄ	DG CLIMA	<i>Signed</i>
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT		Peter HENNICKE	Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie	<i>Signed</i>
		Michael SCULLOS	University of Athens	<i>Apologies</i>
		Ludo HOLSBECK	Flemish Government; Department of Environment, Nature and Energy	
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE		Per MICKWITZ	Chair of EEA Scientific Committee	<i>Apologies</i>
		Mikael SKOU ANDERSEN	Aarhus University	<i>Signed</i>



Annex 3 **List of decisions and guidance**
80th Management Board meeting, 6 December 2017

Decision EEA/MB/2017/019

Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
1 Adoption of the agenda	The Board adopted the agenda as drafted.	
2 Adoption 79th Management Board minutes, 13 June 2017	The Board adopted the minutes as drafted.	The minutes will be published on the EEA website and the Forum.
3 Draft minutes 73rd Bureau, 4 October 2017		No comments were formulated by the Board in advance or during the meeting.
8 Evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation	In light of the importance of the evaluation for the Board, it was decided to include a standard item on the Board agenda for the foreseeable future.	The Chair invited the DG ENV representative to provide the soonest further information on the further process and timelines, and this to enable the Board to organise for the most appropriate and efficient contribution to the overall process.
11 Organisational review of the Board and Bureau	The Board decided to establish a Review Committee on the Rules of Procedure of the EEA Management Board and Bureau (RoP), and to designate its members and Chair (Decision EEA/MB/2017/033)	The RoP Review Committee, will consider the review and revision of the 2015 RoP in light of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The RoP review clause (article 2(13)) on the functioning of the Bureau, - The potential changes in the Board and Bureau mandate resulting from the new EU Financial Regulation, and - The review of the functioning of the Board and Bureau with the aim of increasing the efficiency and strategic impact of the governance processes
13 Renewal of Executive Director's contract	The Board decided on the renewal of the contract of employment for Dr Hans Bruyninckx as Executive Director of the EEA at grade AD 15 with effect from 1 June 2018 for a period of five years (Decision EEA/MB/2017/018)	The decision was taken by a secret vote resulting in a unanimous vote (27 out of 27 available votes) in favour of the Commission's proposal.
14 Approval Key Performance Indicators for the Executive Director for 2018	The Board adopted the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for the assessment on performance of the Executive Director from 2018 onwards (Decision EEA/MB/2017/026)	The revised set of KPIs provide for a stronger alignment of the Executive Director's KPIs with the Commission's KPI Guidelines. The adopted KPIs included a minor editorial modification.
15 Establishment of a Committee on the appraisal of the Executive Director	The Board appointed the reporting officers and the appeal assessor for the annual appraisal of the Executive Director of the EEA for the reporting period January–December 2017 (Decision EEA/MB/2017/027)	The Board is invited to provide comments to the proposal on implementing rules, and in particular on the concept of carryover by 20 December 2017.



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
	<p>The Management Board decided to delegate the decision on the implementing rules with regard to the 'appraisal, and probationary and trial period of the EEA Executive Director' to the Bureau (Decision EEA/MB/2017/028)</p>	<p>The final adoption of the implementing rules will be subject to a Commission decision on the agreement with the draft implementing rules.</p>
<p>16 ETCs beyond 2018: ETC/ACM topic review, ETC light reviews and ETC designation process</p>	<p><i>16A ETC/ACM topic review</i></p> <p>The Board decided to establish two new ETCs in the topic areas of Air Pollution, Transport, Noise and Industry (ETC/ATNI) and of Climate Change Mitigation and Energy (ETC/CME), for the period 2019–2021 and to adopt the terms of reference for the associated open call for proposals. (ETC/ATNI: Decision EEA/MB/2017/029) (ETC/CME: Decision EEA/MB/2017/030) <i>(Note: the decisions will be made public once the respective calls for proposals would have been launched)</i></p> <p><i>16B 'Light' ETC review</i></p> <p>The Board agreed to launch Calls for Proposals for five new ETCs, which have been subject to the light review process, and to adopt the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the calls.</p>	<p><i>16A ETC/ACM topic review</i></p> <p>Detailed review of the topic area addressed by the present European Topic Centre on Air Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation (ETC/ACM). Process with Board oversight through participation in the ETC/ACM Review Committee. The Board decision is in line with the recommendation from the ETC/ACM Review Committee.</p> <hr/> <p><i>16B 'Light' review</i></p> <p>Internal EEA process with the aim of making the ETC ToRs fit-for-purpose for the testing of the market within the existing financial framework of the MAWP 2014–2020.</p> <p>The ETCs concerned are related to the topic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biological Diversity (BD) - Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ICM) - Urban, Land and Soil Systems (ULS) - Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (WMGE) - Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCA)
<p>17 Adoption PD 2018–2020, including draft AWP 2018</p>	<p>The Board adopted the EEA Programming Document 2018-2020, including the Annual Work Programme (AWP) for 2018. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/031).</p> <p>The Management Board adopted the financing decision concerning the European Topic Centres in 2018. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/032).</p>	<p>The financing decision allows the EEA to enter into a contractual agreement with the ETCs on the financing of the action plans for the European Topic Centres for 2018.</p>



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
18 Adoption EEA budget 2018	The Board adopted the EEA budget for the financial year 2018. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/025)	The budget includes core funding as well as non-core funding in relation to the Delegation Agreement on Copernicus Services between DG GROW and EEA.
19 Draft PD 2019–2021, incl. draft AWP 2019	The Board decided to delegate the adoption of the Draft EEA Programming Document 2019–2021 to the Bureau. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/034)	The Board reviewed the PD 2019–2021 and provided guidance for its finalisation.
20 Approval draft Eurostat work programme 2018	The Board adopted the Eurostat Annual Work Programme 2018 in the field of the environment. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/024)	
21 Audits: Annual audit plan 2018 and Internal Audit Charter	The Board approved the IAC work plan for 2018. The Board adopted the Internal Audit Charter for the IAC. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/020)	
22 Internal control: Adoption of Anti-fraud Strategy and new Internal Control Framework	The Board adopted the revised Anti-fraud Strategy. (Decision EEA/MB/2017/022) The Board adopted the new Internal Control Framework (Decision EEA/MB/2017/021)	
23 Budget 2017: second amendment	The 2nd amendment to the 2017 budget was adopted (Decision EEA/MB/2017/023)	Amendment concerns core funds related to direct contributions from non-EU member countries
24 Meeting calendar 2018 revision	The revised meeting calendar for 2018 was approved as drafted.	The following was decided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 81st MB meeting on 7 March (instead of 6 March), and - 82nd MB meeting on 19 June (instead of 5 June)
26 Overview of audits	The Board took note of the overview of audits presented by EEA's Internal Audit Capability (IAC)	

Approved by the Chair of the Management Board on 6 December 2017

Signed

Laura Burke



Annex 4 **List of items for future discussion and presentation**
80th Management Board meeting, 6 December 2017

Action list EEA/MB/2017/001

Agenda item	Follow-up	Follow-up MB/BU mtg
7 Update by the Commission	<i>Sustainable Finance</i> Commission informing on evaluation of potential EEA contributions to sustainable finance in light of the final report of the Commission High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance (HLEG), which is foreseen by January 2018.	Board, 7 March 2018
	<i>Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) beyond 2020</i> Commission informing on the Commission proposal for a new MFF expected by May 2018, and the potential impact on EEA resource allocations beyond 2020.	Board, 19 June 2018
8 Evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation	Commission clarifications to the Board with regard to all aspects of relevance for the Board to fulfil its governance function in relation to the ongoing EEA/Eionet evaluation.	Bureau, 30 January 2018 Board, 7 March 2018
	Board discussion on the scope of the upcoming Staff Working Document (SWD) on the EEA/Eionet evaluation	Board, 7 March 2018
	EEA/Eionet evaluation as a standard item at the EEA Management Board meetings for the foreseeable future.	All MB/BU meetings in 2018
9 Commission report on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting	EEA informing on Reportnet 2.0/3.0 and the link to streamlining of environmental reporting, including programming of resources and activities.	Board, 7 March 2018
11 Organisational review of the Board and Bureau	Suggestions from Board members with regard to the organisational review of the Board and Bureau (to be sent to the MB Secretariat).	Bureau, 30 January 2018
17 Adoption Programming Document 2018–2020, incl. AWP 2018	Bilateral discussion between EEA and the Commission to come to a common understanding on the PD requirements in terms of resource programming.	Bureau, 30 January 2018
19 Draft Programming Document 2019–2021, incl. draft AWP 2019	<i>Budget allocation for non-EU Member States from 2019 onwards</i> Commission clarification with regard to the calculation of the non-EU Member States' contributions as of 2019 onwards ⁽²²⁾ .	Board, 7 March 2018
	<i>Priority setting</i> Board discussion on EEA strategic direction and priority setting beyond 2018.	Board, 19 June 2018
26 Overview of audits	Inclusion of information on ECA special reports and review-based publications in the field of environment in the ICA update on audits	Board, 7 March 2018

²² Relevant for the following non-EU Member States participating in EEA : Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland