



**MINUTES OF THE 82ND MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING,
held in Copenhagen on 19 June 2018**

Adopted by the Management Board
at its 83rd meeting of 4-5 December 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.

Annexes

Final agenda:	Annex 1
Attendance list:	Annex 2
List of decisions and guidance at the 82nd MB meeting:	Annex 3
List of items for future discussion and presentation:	Annex 4

ITEMS 1–2 FOR ADOPTION

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Management Board adopted the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/82/01) with one modification. Agenda item 11 on *EEAcademy: decision on Advisory Committee* was postponed to the 83rd Management Board meeting in December.

Item 2 Adoption 81st Management Board meeting minutes, 7 March 2018

The Management Board adopted the minutes of the 81st Management Board meeting of 7 March 2018 (Doc. EEA/MB/82/02) as drafted.

ITEMS 3–4 FOR INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK

Item 3 Draft 75th Bureau meeting minutes, 24 April 2018

The Management Board took note of the draft minutes of the 75th Bureau meeting held on 24 April 2018 (Doc. EEA/MB/82/03). No comments were formulated by the Management Board in advance or during the meeting.

Item 4 Update by the Management Board Chair, including on written procedures

The Chair provided an update on the following aspects:

- Meeting between the Chair and the EEA Staff Committee
The Chair informed on a meeting with the EEA Staff Committee on 18 June 2018 on a variety of issues; including the Contract Agents staff category, gender balance in senior management and staff concerns regarding Brexit.



- Board and Bureau decisions since the 82nd Management Board (MB) meeting of 7 March

The Chair informed on all decisions taken since the 82nd MB meeting:

- Seven Board and Bureau decisions adopted by written procedure;
- One decision taken by the Bureau at its 75th meeting of 24 April 2018; and
- Two decisions from the Chair of the Management Board.

A full overview of the decisions concerned is included in the *List of decisions and guidance at the 82nd MB meeting* (Annex 3 to this document). All Management Board and Bureau decisions are made available on the Forum website ⁽¹⁾.

- Role of the Executive Director in the International Resource Panel

The Chair welcomed the potential renewal of the Executive Director as expert member of the UN International Resource Panel. The Chair further reminded the Management Board of the process in 2014, when the Management Board endorsed the Executive Director's participation in the UN International Resource Panel, in line with the Management Board's measures concerning ex-ante scrutiny of membership of the EEA Executive Director in external boards, and of the decision taken at the 71st Management Board meeting of 19 November 2014 not being time-limited.

- Observer of non-EU Member State in the Bureau

The Chair informed on the upcoming end of the 2-year term of the observer from the non-EU Member State countries in the Bureau, and invited the Management Board members from the five countries ⁽²⁾ concerned to choose among them a new observer for a 2-year term from 2019 onwards. The Chair further reminded the Management Board of the decision in 2011 to include an observer from the non-EU Member State (MS) countries in the Bureau ⁽³⁾. The foreseen appointment of a new observer by the Management Board in December, is an appointment in a personal capacity (in analogy with the Vice-Chair).

ITEMS 5–13 FOR DECISION

ITEMS 5–7 - EEA AND EIONET

Item 5 Evaluation of EEA and Eionet: process for drafting of Board recommendations

The DG representative provided a verbal update on the process in relation to the Commission-led evaluation of the EEA and Eionet ⁽⁴⁾, following the Better Regulation guidelines, including on:

- The consultancy support study to the Commission evaluation, being close to final; and
- The foreseen publication of the Commission's Staff Working Document (SWD) on the evaluation report by September 2018.

The Chair introduced document EEA/MB/82/05, in particular the proposal of the 75th Bureau to establish a Working Group (WG) to the Management Board ⁽⁵⁾, mandated to draft a proposal for Management Board recommendations on the Commission evaluation of the EEA and Eionet, in preparation of the 83rd Management Board meeting in December 2018.

¹ 2018 decisions are available at: <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/decisions-mb-and-bu/2018-decisions>

² Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey

³ Agreed at the 61st Management Board meeting of 23 June 2011

⁴ The Commission's Roadmap for the evaluation is available at: http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2018_env_002_eea_evaluation_en.pdf.

⁵ In accordance with Article 7(8) of the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board and the Bureau of the European Environment Agency (RoP) of 26 November 2015 (Decision 016/EEA/MB(74)-GOV/2015)



Following a request for clarification from the DG ENV representative, the Chair further clarified that:

- The Management Board recommendations are foreseen to be adopted at the 83rd Management Board in December, in accordance with the normal voting rules for Board decisions ⁽⁶⁾ – although the European Commission would not participate in the Working Group, it would participate in the voting towards the adoption of the recommendations; and
- Impartial Secretariat support to the Working Group will be provided by the established EEA Management Board Secretariat ⁽⁷⁾.

The DG ENV representative further reminded that the recommendations should take into account the respective mandates of country representatives in the EEA Management Board and the Council.

Following a request for clarification regarding the input from the Eionet National Focal Points (NFPs); the Chair clarified that it was proposed to invite an NFP/Eionet coordinated (written) input to the work of the Working Group, in particular with respect to issues of relevance to the network; rather than including an Eionet representative in the Working Group.

The Management Board decided on the establishment of a Working Group to the EEA Management Board (Decision EEA/MB/2018/020), including on:

- The Working Group's mandate and composition,
- The delegation of the appointment of its members to the Chair of the EEA Management Board,
- An invitation to NFPs to provide a coordinated Eionet input to the Working Group's work, and
- An invitation to the Scientific Committee to issue its opinion on the evaluation.

The Chair invited Management Board members and alternates to put forward candidatures for the Working Group by 15 July 2018 ⁽⁸⁾.

Item 6 ETCs beyond 2018: designation of seven ETCs for 2019–2021

The Chair of the European Topic Centres (ETCs) Evaluation Committee introduced document EEA/MB/82/06, and highlighted in particular the Committee's recommendations and reflections following the evaluations of the submitted offers for the framework partnership agreements for seven ETCs for the period 2019–2021.

The Executive Director thanked all members of the ETC Evaluation Committee (involving representatives of the Management Board, Scientific Committee, Eionet, European Commission and EEA) for their commitment and support to this important task for the Agency.

The Executive Director reminded that the purpose of the call for proposals was to test the market, in light of the extension of the EEA's Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) until 2020. Where the next call for ETCs beyond 2021 (for the next MAWP/strategy period), should be preceded by a more in-depth review of the ETCs ⁽⁹⁾.

The Management Board members welcomed the work of the ETC Evaluation Committee, and recognised it as an example of an effective working method in support of MB decisions/tasks.

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

⁶ Two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 8(3) of the EEA/Eionet Regulation

⁷ In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board and the Bureau of the European Environment Agency (RoP) of 26 November 2015 (Decision 016/EEA/MB(74)-GOV/2015), in particular Article 12 on the Management Board Secretariat.

⁸ By email to the EEA Management Board Secretariat (MB-Secretariat@eea.europa.eu)

⁹ In accordance with Article 8(5) of the EEA/Eionet Regulation.



- Lack of competition
 - Given the EEA only received one proposals per ETC, and the proposals included a limited number of new partners; the Board explored potential reasons behind this such as the publicity around the call for proposals, the large technical scope per ETC, and the financing type (grants with a national contribution of 10%).
 - The Executive Director further clarified that as the main purpose of the call for proposals was to test the market; EEA also had been hoping for a better competition, but recognises that adaptations to several consortia (e.g. new lead organisations and inclusion of new partners).
 - The Management Board agreed that the issue would require further reflection in light of the call for proposals for the future ETCs beyond 2021.
- Potential conflict of interest of Scientific Committee members
 - The ETC Evaluation Committee reflection: 'Four proposals included existing members of EEA's Scientific Committee as key experts in the bids of consortia. The Evaluation Committee considered it important that, where relevant, any potential conflict of interests are identified and suitably mitigated e.g. in situations where recommendations for future EEA activities might be put forward by the Scientific Committee, and which would result in ETC activities for the respective member's organisation.'
 - The Management Board took note of the reflection, and recognised the role of the Executive Director regarding the management of potential conflict of interest.

The Executive Director further confirmed to follow-up on the recommendations formulated by the ETC Evaluation Committee, which will include discussions with the lead partners for each ETC.

The DG ENV representative requested to be kept informed regarding the development of the ETC Action Plans for 2019, with the aim of ensuring synergies with the EU priorities and the Commission's Work Programme.

The Management Board decided on the designation of seven new ETCs for 2019–2021:

- Air Pollution, Transport, Noise and Industrial Pollution (ETC/ATNI), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/021)
- Biological Diversity (ETC/BD), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/022);
- Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (ETC/CCA), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/023);
- Climate change Mitigation and Energy (ETC/CME), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/024);
- Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ETC/ICM) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/025);
- Urban, Land and Soil systems (ETC/ULS), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/026); and
- Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (ETC/WMGE), (Decision EEA/MB/2018/027).

The Management Board instructed the Executive Director to award to the respective consortia a framework partnership agreement for the period 2019–2021.

Item 7 Review of NRCs: decision on changes to the NRC structure

Item 7.A Changes to NRC structure and profiles

Taking background documents EEA/MB/82/07 and EEA/MB/82/07-ADD1 for read, the Executive Director introduced the review outcome of the National Reference Centres (NRC) light review, and highlighted the following aspects:

- National Reference Centres (NRC) are part of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet) established through the EEA/Eionet Regulation.



- The purpose of the NRC light review was to ensure the continued alignment of the NRCs with the Agency's MAWP, following its extension to 2020; and it is foreseen to perform a more in-depth review of the NRC structure and profiles to adapt to the requirements from 2021 onwards.
- The proposal presented by the Eionet working group on a review of the Eionet structure and the NRCs profiles is a consensus proposal from the National Focal Points, and is supported by the EEA Executive Director.
- There is no formal requirement for, or a commitment from the EEA to hold, annual Eionet workshops. The convention of covering costs for one attendee per member country (and the logistics involved for the EEA) makes it impractical to host a workshop for every NRC each year.

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

- Respective roles of Eurostat and the NRC forest, in particular in relation to natural capital and ecosystem accounting
 - The Executive Director informed on the fact that the NRC on Forest is a response to the integration of forests in a number of EU policies; such as the bio-economy policy, the role of forests in biodiversity, the Forest Information System (FISE) for Europe, integrating forest in natural capital accounting, and the EU response to the UNFCCC Paris Agreement (LULUCF/AFOLU). The EEA further suggested that Copernicus data could be useful, as being a coherent dataset across countries.
 - Eurostat informed on the process with Member States in relation to the collection of data for the forest statistics and accounts.
- INSPIRE integration across the NRCs
 - The EEA clarified that given the cross-cutting nature of Inspire, the proposal is to keep Inspire under the NRC on Environmental information systems to ensure a systematic management across all thematic areas. The EEA further clarified that for future Inspire issues related to specific thematic fields, a decision on how to address this in the NRC context will be taken on a case-by-case basis.
 - It was further raised that there is still a lot of work to be done to close the gap between Inspire and e-reporting.
- NRCs on Mitigation of air pollution and climate change
 - The United Kingdom informed on its interest to contribute to the further articulation of the functioning of the NRC on Mitigation of air pollution and climate change.
- Sustainable finance
 - Following a request for clarification; the Executive Director confirmed that the proposal does not include NRC capacity in the emerging priority of sustainable finance, recognised the need for further discussions with the European Commission regarding EEA's future role.
 - Item 19 of these minutes include information on a more in-depth Board discussion on sustainable finance.

The Management Board decided on the changes in the NRC structure and profiles, as proposed by the Eionet Working Group, and invited countries to implement the structure in the national Eionet networks as needed (Decision EEA/MB/2018/028).

Item 7.B Proposal for an Eionet-based activity on Tourism and Environment

The representative of Spain introduced the separate *Proposal for an Eionet-based activity on Tourism and environment towards 2020* (Doc. EEA/MB/82/07, Annex 1, Appendix II), prepared by the NFPs



from Italy and Spain. It was highlighted that the overall aim of the Eionet-based activity is to work towards the establishment of an NRC on Tourism and environment by the end of 2020. Italy and Spain offered to lead the Eionet-based activity, resources allowing. EEA was further invited to participate in the Eionet-based activity.

The Executive Director recognised the environmental impact of tourism; and welcomed the Eionet initiative, which reflects the bottom-up nature of the Eionet network.

The Executive Director further noted that the area of *Tourism and environment* has been established as a negative priority in the Single Programming Document 2018–2020 (incl. the Agency's Annual Work Programme for 2018), mainly in light of the lack of an overall EU environmental policy. The Executive Director proposed that the meetings could take place at the EEA premises, an EEA expert could attend the Eionet-organised meetings (in function of the specific thematic topic being addressed), but without EEA financing; while recognising that the final decision on EEA engagement in the field of *Tourism and environment* falls within the mandate of the Management Board.

The Executive Director further informed on the Commission DG leading on the tourism file is DG GROW (not DG ENV or DG CLIMA), while DG ESTAT gathers tourism statistics; and further reflected that very few Eionet countries have implemented an indicator-based approach towards reporting on tourism and environment.

The Management Board engaged in a discussion including on the EEA priority regarding Tourism and environment

- The representatives of France, The Netherlands, Greece, Germany and Iceland welcomed the Eionet-based activity, given the potential impact of tourism on the environment; whilst recognising current negative priority in relation to Tourism and environment, given the lack of a policy or legal basis in the field, and the Agency's continued resource constraints.
- Iceland, Germany and Greece further expressed interest in participating in the future work of the Eionet-based activity.

The Management Board took note of the 'Proposal for an Eionet-based activity on Tourism and Environment towards 2020'. The Management Board noted that it could reflect further on a potential NRC on Tourism and environment beyond 2020, taking into account the outcomes of the Eionet-based activity. The Management Board recognised the support offered by EEA to the expert group meetings of this Eionet-led project; in particular regarding the use of EEA facilities and the participation of relevant EEA experts, as appropriate.

ITEMS 8–12 - GOVERNANCE

**Item 8 Organisational review of Board and Bureau:
Review Committee debrief, and Board decision on new Committee member and Chair**

Item 8.A Decision on new Chair

The Chair introduced the proposal of the RoP Review Committee (¹⁰), to designate a new Chair of the RoP Review Committee.

¹⁰ Committee established for the review of the Rules of Procedure of the EEA Management Board and Bureau (RoP), by decision EEA/MB/2017/033, of 6 December 2017



The Management Board decided in line with the proposal formulated by the RoP Review Committee, to designate Valéry Morard (MB member from France) as the new Chair of the RoP Review Committee ⁽¹¹⁾.

Item 8.B Endorsement of preliminary findings and conclusions of the review Committee

The newly established Chair of the Committee for the review of the Board and Bureau introduced background document EEA/MB/82/08 on the RoP Review Committee's activities and timelines, as well as on its preliminary findings and conclusions. The outgoing Chair of the Committee further highlighted the concrete proposal for a more systematic use of sub-groups of the Management Board to support the Board with its tasks (e.g. the WG established under item 5 being an example).

The German representative provided feedback to the preliminary findings and conclusions, in particular in relation to the role of the Chair, the use of written procedures, NFP access to Board documents, and the independence and commitment of Board members.

The Management Board endorsed the RoP Review Committee's a) preliminary conclusions on the differentiation of roles, b) and preliminary findings regarding how the roles are discharged.

Written guidance from Board members and alternates was invited on the further analysis, in particular in relation to the differentiation of roles. A template to this respect will be circulated by the Management Board (MB) Secretariat over the summer ⁽¹²⁾. The Chair of the Management Board further invited Board members and alternates to submit any further comments to the review to the MB Secretariat.

The RoP Review Committee will bring proposals forward to the 83rd Management Board in December 2018, regarding: a) RoP revisions, and b) Revisions regarding the functioning of Board and Bureau.

Item 9 Scientific Committee: designation of members

The Executive Director introduced document EEA/MB/82/09 on the proposal to renew the designations of three existing Scientific Committee (SC) members; highlighting Executive Director's:

- Review of the scientific expertise of the three Scientific Committee (SC) members against current EEA needs for scientific advice ⁽¹³⁾; and
- Recommendation in consultation with the Chair of the Scientific Committee to renew the three Scientific Committee members concerned for a second term of four years ⁽¹⁴⁾.

In line with the recommendation from the Executive Director, the Management Board decided to renew the designation of three existing Scientific Committee members:

- Prof Mikael Skou Andersen, Comparative environmental politics and economics;
- Prof Malgorzata Grodzinska, Social aspects of biodiversity conservation, environmental governance, ecosystems services; and
- Prof Per Mickwitz, Environmental Policy.

The second term of the SC members will start from 20 November 2018 until 19 November 2022. (Decision EEA/BU/2018/029)

¹¹ Amending decision EEA/MB/2017/033 of 6 December 2017 on the establishment of a review Committee for the Rules of Procedures of the EEA Management Board and Bureau.

¹² The invitation to the Management Board was sent out on 18 July 2018, with a deadline for input by 20 August 2018.

¹³ In line with the Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee, Article 2(3)

¹⁴ In line with the Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee, Article 1(3)



Item 10 Election of Vice-Chairs/members of the Bureau

The Chair introduced document EEA/MB/82/10 on the election of Vice-Chairs.

Given no nominations were received in advance of the meeting, the Chair invited Management Board members to reflect further on putting their candidacy forward by the end of the meeting, and postponed any further discussions and/or decision in relation to this agenda item until after item 24.

The Management Board elected Michal Pastvinský from the Czech Republic as a Vice-Chair / Bureau member of the EEA Management Board, for a first term in office of three years from 24 June 2018 until 23 June 2021 (Decision EEA/MB/2018/032, taken by unanimity).

The Management Board further agreed to organise a new election at the 83rd Management Board meeting in December 2018, to fill the remaining open post for a Vice-Chair / Bureau member ⁽¹⁵⁾.

Item 11 EEAcademy: decision on Advisory Committee

The agenda item on the Advisory Committee to the EEAcademy was postponed to the 83rd Management Board meeting in December.

Item 12 Approval of meeting calendar 2019

The Chair introduced document EEA/MB/82/11, inviting the Management Board to approve the meeting calendar for the Board and Bureau for 2019.

The Management Board approved the meeting calendar for 2019 as drafted ⁽¹⁶⁾. Given the ongoing review of Board and Bureau (see item 8), the final frequency and timing of Management Board and Bureau meetings could still be subject to changes.

Following an observation regarding the NFP/Eionet and Management Board meetings in June 2019 being organised back-to-back, leaving limited opportunity for NFPs to prepare for the Board meeting; the Executive Director clarified that the sequence of the meetings is related to the foreseen event for the Agency's 25th anniversary.

The Management Board took note of the change in meeting date for the 76th Bureau meeting, as decided by the Bureau following its 75th meeting ⁽¹⁷⁾.

ITEM 13 - EEA CORPORATE DOCUMENTS AND PROCESSES

Item 13 Board opinion on annual accounts 2017

The Executive Director introduced document EEA/MB/82/13 on the Agency's annual accounts for 2017.

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

- The remark of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) included in its preliminary findings of 31 March 2018, regarding the Accountant's hierarchical position and its impacts on her independence;
- The interpretation of cancellation of payments versus the commitments; and

¹⁵ The Rules of Procedure of the Board and Bureau allow for a maximum of five Vice-Chairs to be elected amongst the Board members with voting rights, and establishes the Vice-Chairs as members of the Bureau.

¹⁶ The approved 201 meeting calendar and the revised 2018 meeting calendars are included in Appendix 1 to the decision list in Annex 3 to this document, and is published on the Forum MB Interest Group https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/meeting_calendar.

¹⁷ The date for the 76th Bureau meeting was moved changed from Tuesday, 2 October to Monday, 15 October.



- The budget execution rate as a performance metric:
 - The potential negative effect of an 99.9% execution rate, as it could limit the Agency's ability to address unexpected circumstances; and
 - The importance of how the budget is spent versus the execution rate.

The Management Board decided on its opinion on the EEA final accounts 2017, as required by the EEA Financial Regulation (Decision EEA/MB/2018/030).

The final annual accounts will be published in the Official Journal by 15 November 2018, and will be accompanied by the statement of assurance given by ECA. The report on budget and financial management 2017 will be published separately on the EEA website.

The management Board noted the remark of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) included in its preliminary findings of 31 March 2018, regarding the Accountant's hierarchical position and its impacts on her independence.

The Chair asked the EEA to keep the Management Board informed on the ECA's final observations and findings, along with the EEA responses to ECA.

ITEM 14–16 UPDATES FOR FEEDBACK

Item 14 Update by the Scientific Committee Chair

The Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) presented an update, in particular in relation to:

- Activities of the Scientific Committee, including the SC opinion on the EEA draft Programming Document 2019–2021, and the review of the joint EEA-SC seminars;
- Dedication of two out of the three 2019 slots for joint EEA-SC seminars slots to SOER 2020;
- Joint EEA-SC seminars on *Environmental justice* of 16 May 2018; and
- Upcoming joint EEA-SC seminar on *Science-policy communication* on 3 October 2018.

In relation to the Joint EEA-SC seminars, it was further clarified that in general Management Board members, NFPs and relevant NRCs are invited (without reimbursement of expenses); and a member suggested to consider *Tourism and environment* as a future topic for a future joint EEA-SC seminar.

Item 15 Update by the Executive Director

Taken background document EEA/MB/82/15 as read, the Executive Director presented the key highlights of the Agency's activities since the beginning of March.

In addition, the Executive Director informed on the ongoing operational reorganisation of the Agency, with the aim of ensuring: a) a stronger alignment with the EU policy priorities, as well as b) a centralised coordination with the Agency's key stakeholders; and committed to provide more details on the final outcome of the reorganisation at the occasion of the December Board meetings.

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

- Magnitude of the Copernicus non-core budget versus the core budget;
 - The Executive Director informed on the risk-based approach towards the Copernicus Programme activities, which include a strong focus on the procurement aspects;
 - The Executive Director further informed on the limited number of thematic staff contributing to the Copernicus activities, as a result of the limited staff resources allocated to EEA under the Delegation Agreement with DG GROW.
- EEA activities on sustainability;
 - DG RTD informed on the Commission reflection paper foreseen to be published on sustainability, and expressed interest in a further cooperation with EEA on the subject.



- The Executive Director further informed on the EEA's activities in relation to the key EU policies and initiatives in relation to sustainability (such as low carbon economy, bio-economy, circular economy, natural capital, etc.), which are embedded in the SDG framework.
- The Executive Director further informed on the limited scope of the EEA's contribution in relation to SDG 11 on Sustainable cities and communities.
- EEA activities in the West-Balkan countries and the Mediterranean region;
 - The Executive Director informed on the decreased financing for the Agency's activities in the West-Balkan countries, under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA); in light of the Western Balkans Strategy adopted in February 2018.
- Commission action plan to streamline reporting
 - The DG ENV representative informed on the overall aim of the Commission proposal on Alignment of environmental reporting obligations, relating to Action 1 of the action plan.
 - DG ENV further informed on the impact on EEA activities and resources in the context of the Commission action plan to streamline reporting.

The Management Board took note of the update on EEA activities provided by the Executive Director.

Item 16 Update by the European Commission

Item 16.A Draft Eurostat work programme 2019 (including conditional approval)

The representative of Eurostat introduced document EEA/MB/82/16A on the draft Eurostat work programme for 2019, and provided a presentation on the following aspects:

- Overall priority objectives of the Eurostat Work Programme for 2019: indicators, accounts and environment (and related) statistics;
- Examples of the outputs generated by Eurostat (e.g. Employment in environmental economy, Environmental taxes, EU resource productivity, Investment for environmental protection, New Commission monitoring framework for the circular economy, Sankey diagram material flows, CO2 emissions induced by final use, Climate change related statistics, Climate change related indicators - country comparator, Quality of life indicators - natural and living environment, and Energy statistics digital publication);
- Update on EU SDG indicator framework; and
- Business case studies using Big Data (2016-2018).

The Executive Director informed on the overall scope of cooperation between the EEA and Eurostat.

The Management Board took note of Eurostat's draft 2019 statistical work programme of the Commission in the field of environment, and welcomed the information presented on Eurostat outputs related to the field of environment.

In line with the proposal from the Executive Director, the Management Board decided on a conditional approval of the 2019 Eurostat work programme in the field of the environment (Decision EEA/MB/2018/031).

The Management Board instructed EEA to review the revised Eurostat Work Programme 2019, submitted to it by Director-General of Eurostat by December 2018. The approval in the decision shall be final in case the EEA assesses that no further action as per the formal requirement in the EEA/Eionet Regulation is required ('positive review outcome').

**Item 16.B European Commission update on activities and legal processes**

Taking background document EEA/MB/82/16B as read, the European Commission representatives (DG ENV, DG CLIMA and DG RTD) informed on the key aspects regarding the Commission's activities in the period March–May 2018.

ITEMS 17–20 FOR GUIDANCE (STRATEGIC ORIENTATION)**Item 17 Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union: including European Environment Agency application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country**

The Chair introduced the agenda item by clarifying that the background document EEA/MB/82/17 included information beyond the scope of the agenda item, which is limited to the staffing issue, in particular the *Agency's application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country*.

The Executive Director informed on the EEA's current understanding regarding:

- The foreseen overall approach regarding the application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country; and
- The possible use of individual derogations to the above nationality requirement, which is the prerogative of the Executive Director (as the Authority Authorised to Conclude Contracts for EEA staff).

The Executive Director further clarified that given potential derogations must be based on the interest of the service, which can only be assessed once the final outcome of the negotiations is known, i.e. the date of 'Brexit'.

The DG ENV representative highlighted that the Management Board paper under this agenda item did not receive the approval of the EU institutions.

The Management Board took note of the update of the Executive Director regarding:

- The foreseen overall approach regarding the application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country; and
- The possible use of individual derogations to the above nationality requirement, which is the prerogative of the Executive Director (as the Authority Authorised to Conclude Contracts for EEA staff).

The Management Board expressed satisfaction with the approach regarding the application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country proposed by Executive Director, in light of the information currently available. The Management Board further decided to keep the issue under review.

Item 18 Sustainable Finance: emerging EU priority and role of EEA

Taking the information on the Sustainable Finance in the Commission's written update (Doc. EEA/MB/82/16B) as read, the Principal Adviser of DG ENV delivered a presentation on the Commission's initiatives on Sustainable Finance ⁽¹⁸⁾, including the proposed role for EEA:

- Short-term until the end of 2019: support to the Technical Expert Group (monthly meetings) and the Member State Expert Group; and

¹⁸ European Commission (EC) Sustainable Finance Action Plan (adopted 8 March 2018) and EC Sustainable Finance Package (adopted 24 May 2018)



- Medium- to long-term from 2020 onwards: part of the overall governance structure, i.e. the Platform on Sustainable Finance.

The Executive Director further informed on the EEA's engagement in the HLEG⁽¹⁹⁾ work and with the Commission services; the foreseen long-term role of EEA in relation to being the link to both environment and climate policies; and the proposed additional resources for EEA (2 full time equivalents), which define the scope of the Agency's additional activities in the field of sustainable finance.

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

- The tension between sustainable finance initiatives on the one hand and subsidies impacting negatively on the environment on the other hand;
- The complementary nature of sustainable finance initiative as a tool to ensure sustainable investments, rather than it being a replacement to environmental policies, such as for example Circular Economy
- The importance of the environment and climate community to be involved in sustainable finance, next to the finance community; and the EEA and Eionet role in this respect.
- The Agency's authority/expertise in the context of the sustainable finance initiative, in light of this being mainly a finance file (DG FISMA in the lead, and at national level of primary interest to finance ministries).
- The need for a coordination of activities at EU level, in particular with DG ESTAT, which is the recognised EU body in the field vis-à-vis national ministries and companies.

The Board took note of the update by the European Commission its initiatives in relation to Sustainable Finance, including the proposed role for EEA.

Item 19 EEA's strategic direction and priority setting beyond

The Executive Director introduced the agenda item by presenting the key aspects of background document EEA/MB/82/19; and highlighting the need for EEA/Eionet to maintain its current strengths, while adapting to the changing policy world and social and environmental landscape.

The following six significant changes in context impacting the work of EEA were addressed in-depth:

- Resource constraints and EU policy developments to the end of the current Multiannual Financial Framework (2020);
- The implications for EEA/Eionet of the Commission's proposed Multiannual Financial Framework (2021–2027);
- The future role of Copernicus (non-core funding to EEA);
- The future of EEA work in the Western Balkan and European Neighbourhood policy countries (non-core funding to EEA);
- The implementation of the Action Plan on the Monitoring and Reporting Fitness Check;
- Closer alignment of knowledge and policy needs and the role of the Environment Knowledge Community partners.

DG ENV further shared the following reflections:

¹⁹ High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance (HLEG)



- The Commission opinion on the draft Single Programming Document 2019–2021, will include reflections on the subject for the period 2019–2021;
- The future EEA context will be impacted on by a) the outcome of the Commission EEA/Eionet evaluation; and b) the EEA resource allocation, in particular under the MFF 2021–2027.
- The MFF budget is based on an EU-27 scenario, and does not reflect potential contribution of the UK if it were to become a membership of the EEA.
- The future direction of the Agency's should reflect the EU priorities in the field of environment and climate, and take into account the potential future role of EEA regarding Copernicus.
- At first sight, the Commission considers a specific Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) for the next MFF period would be an important tool for the EEA, which should be developed in light of the EEA/Eionet evaluation and the Board recommendations on it.

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

- Future direction and priorities being subject to clarification of uncertainties regarding the future EEA context, such as the Agency's resource allocation under the MFF 2021–2027, the Commission report on the EEA/Eionet evaluation, the key strategic priorities in an 8th EAP (which will only be proposed after the next MFF has been agreed upon).
- The need for further reflections on negative priorities for the Agency, which should limit the EEA from fulfilling its mandate, which is to provide input to policies in the field of environment; including integrated assessments on sustainable transitions, and support to policies, where implementation is lagging behind.
- The importance of the Agency for the smaller member countries, as these countries not be able to perform the work on their own account.

The Management Board welcomed the first in-depth considerations from the Agency regarding the EEA's strategic direction and priority setting beyond 2018, and this first opportunity to discuss the subject in a full Management Board setting.

The Management Board agreed in principle to the EEA proposal to develop an EEA short strategy document to replace the current Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) as of the end of 2020, with a time horizon 2021–2027 (the period of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF); while also recognising the current uncertainties.

The Management Board agreed in principle to a future Board seminar being dedicated to providing input to such an EEA Strategy for 2021–2027.

The Management Board requested EEA to bring forward to the Management Board a timeline and process for the preparation and adoption of such a strategy document, for discussion at the Board's 83rd meeting in December 2018.

The timing of a Management Board seminar on the EEA Strategy 2021–2027, will be decided at a later stage, taking into account the level of uncertainties regarding the overall EEA context (e.g. Brexit, outcome of the EEA/Eionet evaluation, potential 8thEAP, MFF 2021–2027, 2019 elections to the new European Parliament, and appointment of a new Commission).

Item 20 Outcome discharge 2016 and follow-up actions on discharge 2015

The Executive Director introduced the agenda item (Doc. EEA/MB/82/20), and highlighted that the European Parliament granted the EEA discharge for the financial year 2016, which includes:

- Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the EEA budget,
- Decision on the closure of the EEA accounts, and



- Resolution with observations.

The EEA also informed on the draft *'Report of the Executive Director to the Discharge Authority on measures taken in the light of the Discharge Authority's recommendations of 2016 as laid down in the EEA financial regulation'*, of which the final version will be submitted together with other EU Agencies' reports during autumn 2018.

The Management Board took note of the of the EEA discharge for the year 2016, granted by the European Parliament; and of the draft *'Report of the Executive Director to the Discharge Authority on measures taken in the light of the Discharge Authority's recommendations of 2016 as laid down in the EEA financial regulation'*.

The Chair highlighted the relevance of the Executive Director's report to the European Parliament, including the responses to questions from the Discharge Authority, in light of the Board's oversight role.

FOR INFORMATION

ITEMS 21—22 STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Item 21 Priorities Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

The Austrian alternate Board member presented the priorities of the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the period 1 July 2018 – 31 December 2018.

The legislative priorities in the field of environment are: Standards for CO₂-Emissions from Cars and Vans, Standards for CO₂-Emissions from Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV), POPs Regulation/Recast, Single Use Plastic, LIFE, Drinking Water Directive Review and Environmental Reporting Alignment.

The non-legislative priorities in the field of environment are Council Conclusions (COP24 UNFCCC Climate, and COP14 Convention on Biological Diversity), Pollinators Initiative, and other activities (8th EAP, 2030 Agenda, and Global Pact for the Environment).

Item 22 SOER 2020: State of play – production and communication

The Executive Director introduced the agenda item by highlighting the key aspects of background document EEA/MB/82/22, in particular regarding progress of the SOER 2020 project, the foreseen launch of the SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment report and the further outreach in 2020–2021.

The Management Board to note progress and prospects for the SOER 2020 project, in particular regarding the foreseen launch of the SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment report and the further outreach in 2020–2021.

The Management Board agreed to an extended item on SOER 2020 at the 83rd Management Board meeting in December 2018.

The Management Board agreed to decide in due course, on a potential rescheduling of its 86th meeting in December 2019, in light of the launch date and venue of the SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment report.

ITEMS 24-26 FOR INFORMATION

Item 23 Timetable and process Single Programming Document (SPD) 2020–22 and finalisation SPD 2019–21

The Executive Director introduced the agenda item by highlighting the key aspects of background document EEA/MB/82/23, in particular:



- The consultation responses received on the draft Single Programming Document (SPD) 2019–2021, from the Forum consultation, the Agency’s Scientific Committee and the European Parliament (European Commission opinion not yet issued); and
- The process and timetable for the SPD 2019–2021 and the SPD 2020–2022.

The Management Board took note of the consultation responses received, as well as of the process and timetable for the SPD 2019–2021 and the SPD 2020–2022.

Item 24 Overview of audits

The EEA introduced the agenda item by highlighting the following key aspects of background document EEA/MB/82/23: European Court of Auditors (ECA), Internal Audit Service (IAS), External auditors (Audits on EEA’s 2017 financial accounts and 2017 Copernicus annual implementation report), and the Internal Audit Capability (IAC) work progress for 2018.

Item 25 Feedback from Management Board members

The UK representative welcomed the revised approach towards the structure of the meeting and the documents.

The meeting closed at 16.44h.



**Annex 1 Agenda of 82nd Management Board meeting,
Tuesday, 19 June 2018, 9.00-17.00, EEA premises**

AGENDA AND FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

FOR ADOPTION

1. Adoption draft agenda
2. Adoption 81st Management Board meeting minutes, 7 March 2018

FOR INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK

3. Draft 75th Bureau meeting minutes, 24 April 2018
4. Update by the Management Board Chair, including on written procedures

FOR DECISION

EEA AND EIONET

5. Evaluation of EEA and Eionet: process for drafting of Board recommendations
6. ETCs beyond 2018: designation of seven ETCs for 2019–2021
7. Review of NRCs: decision on changes to the NRC structure

GOVERNANCE

8. Organisational review of Board and Bureau:
Review Committee debrief, and Board decision on new Committee member and Chair
9. Scientific Committee: designation of members
10. Election of Vice-Chairs/members of the Bureau
11. EEAcademy: decision on Advisory Committee
(*Postponed to the 83rd Management Board meeting in December*)
12. Approval of meeting calendar 2019

EEA CORPORATE DOCUMENTS AND PROCESSES

13. Board opinion on annual accounts 2017

UPDATES FOR FEEDBACK

14. Update by the Scientific Committee Chair
15. Update by the Executive Director
16. Update by the European Commission
 - A) Draft Eurostat work programme 2019 (including conditional approval)
 - B) European Commission update on activities and legal processes

FOR GUIDANCE

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

17. Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union:
EEA application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country
18. Sustainable Finance: emerging EU priority and role of EEA
19. EEA's strategic direction and priority setting beyond 2018
20. Outcome discharge 2016 and follow-up actions on discharge 2015

FOR INFORMATION

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

21. Priorities Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union
22. SOER 2020: State of play – production and communication

OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

23. Timetable and process Programming Document (PD) 2020–22 and finalisation PD 2019–21
24. Overview of audits
25. Feedback from Management Board members

Annex 2 **Attendance list – 82nd Management Board meeting**
Tuesday, 19 June 2018, 9.00-17.00, EEA premises

COUNTRY/AFFILIATION	ROLE	NAME	ORGANISATION
CHAIR	Chair:	Laura BURKE	Chair of the EEA Management Board
AUSTRIA	Member:	Sabine McCALLUM	Environment Agency Austria
	Alternate:	Florian EYWO	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management
BELGIUM	Member:	Véronique VERBEKE	Brussels Institute for the Management for the Environment, Site de Tour et Taxis
CROATIA	Member:	Ivana GUDELJ	Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature
CYPRUS	Expert:	Joana CONSTANTINO	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment
CZECH REPUBLIC	Member:	Michal PASTVINSKÝ	Ministry of the Environment
DENMARK	Alternate:	Thomas Nicolai PEDERSEN	Danish Ministry of the Environment
ESTONIA	Member:	Margit MARTINSON	Estonian Ministry of the Environment
FINLAND	Member:	Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of the Environment
FRANCE	Member:	Valéry MORARD	Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs
GERMANY	Member:	Julia WERNER	European Union - Strategic and Legal Aspects
GREECE	Member:	Maria PEPPA	Ministry of Environment and Energy
HUNGARY	Alternate:	Mariann NEMES	Eionet National Focal Point
ICELAND	Member:	Herdís Helga SCHOPKA	Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Land and Natural Heritage
IRELAND	Member:	Laura BURKE	Director General Irish Environment Agency (Chair of the EEA Management Board)
ITALY	Alternate:	Alessandro BRATTI	ISPRA
	Expert:	Luca DEMICHELI	President's Staff, Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research - ISPRA
LATVIA	Member:	Alda OZOLA	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
LITHUANIA	Member:	Aldona MARGERIENĖ	Environmental Protection Agency
LUXEMBOURG	Member:	André WEIDENHAUPT	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures
	Alternate:	Pierre PRUM	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures (Invited in the capacity of Chair of the European Topic Centres (ETCs) Evaluation Committee)
NETHERLANDS	Member:	Jetske VERKERK	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
NORWAY	Member:	Bjørn BJØRNSTAD	Norwegian Environment Agency
	Alternate:	Ingunn LIMSTRAND	Norwegian Environment Agency

COUNTRY/AFFILIATION	ROLE	NAME	ORGANISATION
POLAND	Member:	Marek HALINIAK	Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection
	Alternate:	Anna Katarzyna WIECH	Department of Environmental Assessment and Outlook
PORTUGAL	Expert:	Sofia RODRIGUES	NFP
ROMANIA	Member:	Robert Eugen SZEP	National Environment Guard
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Member:	Matej OVČIARKA	Slovak Environment Agency
SPAIN	Alternate:	Emilio CANDA MORENO	Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente
SWEDEN	Member:	Björn RISINGER	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
	Expert:	Anna OTMALM	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
SWITZERLAND	Alternate:	Christine HOFMANN	Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
	Expert:	Nicolas PERRITAZ	Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
TURKEY	Expert:	Fatma Nur CEBECİOĞLU	NFP
UNITED KINGDOM	Member:	Robert BRADBURN	Defra
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Member:	Gilles GANTELET	DG ENV - Director - Policy, Coordination and Resources
	Observer: (Alternate):	Hans BERGMAN	DG CLIMA - Head of Unit - Climate Strategy, Governance and Emissions from non-trading sectors
	Guest:	Jacques DELSALLE	DG ENV - EEA Correspondent of parent DG
	Guest:	Thomas VERHEY	DG ENV - Principal Adviser
	Guest:	Mireille DELPRAT	DG RTD - Adviser - Links with other Community policies
	Guest:	Constantin CIUPAGEA	DG JRC - Head of Unit - Land Resources
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	Member:	Arturo DE LA FUENTE	DG ESTAT - Deputy Head of Unit - Environmental Statistics and Accounts; Sustainable Development
	Member:	Lena NEIJ	Professor, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Sweden
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	Guest:	Per MICKWITZ	Chair of EEA Scientific Committee



Annex 3

List of decisions and guidance

82nd Management Board meeting, 19 June 2018

Decision EEA/MB/2018/019

LIST OF DECISIONS AND GUIDANCE
82ND MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING, 19 JUNE 2018

Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
1 Adoption of the agenda	The Management Board (MB) adopted the agenda with one modification.	Agenda 'Item 11: EEAcademy: decision on Advisory Committee' was postponed to the 83rd Board meeting in December.
2 Adoption 81st Management Board meeting minutes, 7 March 2018	The Management Board adopted the minutes as drafted.	The minutes will be published on the EEA website and on the Forum MB Interest Group ⁽²⁰⁾ .
3 Draft 75th Bureau meeting minutes, 24 April 2018	The Management Board took note of the minutes.	No comments were formulated by the Management Board in advance or during the meeting.
4 Update by the Management Board Chair, including on written procedures	<p>The Chair informed on a meeting with the EEA Staff Committee on 18 June 2018 on a variety of issues; including the Contract Agents staff category, gender balance in senior management and staff concerns regarding Brexit.</p> <p>The Chair informed on the decisions adopted by written procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Board decisions of 24 April 2018:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing Rules to the Staff Regulations (IR) - Guide to missions and authorised travel - IR - Framework for Learning and Development - IR - Temporary occupation of management posts - IR - Guidelines on whistleblowing - IR - requesting a derogation from the EC IR governing the conditions of employment for Contract Agents - <u>Board decision of 1 June 2018</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IR – Amendment to IR for Contract Agents of 25 May 2010 - <u>Bureau decision of 8 June 2018</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the EEA Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) for 2017, including the assessment and analysis by the Board 	<p>Decision numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decision EEA/MB/2018/008 - Decision EEA/MB/2018/009 - Decision EEA/MB/2018/010 • - Decision EEA/MB/2018/011 - Decision EEA/MB/2018/012 - Decision EEA/MB/2018/017 - Decision EEA/BU/2018/018

²⁰ <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/>



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
4 <i>[Item 4 - continued]</i>	<p>The Chair informed on the Bureau decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the designation of a member and the chair of the review Committee for the Rules of Procedures of the EEA Management Board and Bureau 	<p>Decision number:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EEA/BU/2018/014
	<p>The Chair informed on the decisions by the Chair of the Board ⁽²¹⁾:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ETC Evaluation Pre-screening Committee – appointment of members - ETC Evaluation Committee – appointment of members 	<p>Context: Evaluation of the proposals for the new ETCs for 2019–21.</p> <p>Decision numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EEA/MB_Chair/2018/015 - EEA/MB_Chair/2018/016
	<p>The Chair welcomed the potential renewal of the Executive Director as expert member of the UN International Resource Panel.</p>	<p>Context: In line with the Management Board's measures concerning ex-ante scrutiny of membership of the EEA Executive Director in external boards; the Management Board endorsed in 2014 the Executive Director's participation in the International Resource Panel. The decision taken at the 71st MB meeting of 19 November 2014, was not time-limited.</p>
	<p>The Chair further informed on the upcoming end of the 2-year term of the observer from non-EU Member State countries in the Bureau, and invited the Management Board (MB) members from the countries concerned to choose among them a new observer from 2019 onwards.</p>	<p>Context: Since 2011; the Bureau includes an observer from the non-EU Member State (MS) countries. The MB members of the five non-EU MS ⁽²²⁾ choose a representative among themselves for a 2-year term. The observer is appointed in a personal capacity (in analogy with the Vice-Chair).</p>
5 Evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board (MB) took note of the update from the European Commission, and in particular regarding the foreseen publication of the Commission's evaluation report by the end of summer 2018. - The Management Board decided on the establishment of a Working Group to the EEA Management Board, and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delegated the appointment of its members to the Management Board Chair, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: Commission-led evaluation of the EEA and Eionet ⁽²³⁾, following the Better Regulation guidelines. - The mandate of the Working Group consists of drafting a proposal for MB recommendations on the Commission evaluation report, in light of the foreseen adoption of final MB recommendations at the 83rd MB in December 2018. - The Chair invited Management Board members to put forward candidatures for the Working Group by 15 July 2018 ⁽²⁴⁾.

²¹ In accordance with Decision EEA/MB/2018/006 on Establishment of an opening committee and an evaluation committee for the call for proposals for the award of framework partnership agreements concerning seven European Topic Centres for the period 2019-2021 (concerning ETC/ATNI, ETC/BD, ETC/CCA, ETC/CME, ETC/ICM, ETC/ULS)

²² Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey)

²³ The Commission's Roadmap for the evaluation is available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2018_env_002_eea_evaluation_en.pdf.

²⁴ Email to the EEA Management Board Secretariat (MB-Secretariat@eea.europa.eu)



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
5 <i>[Item 5 – continued]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invited NFPs to provide a coordinated Eionet input to the work of the Working Group; and - Invited the EEA Scientific Committee to issue its opinion on the Commission evaluation. - (Decision EEA/MB/2018/020) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was clarified that the final recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are foreseen to be adopted in accordance with the normal voting rules for Board decisions ⁽²⁵⁾; and - Should take into account the respective mandates of country representatives in the EEA Management Board and the Council.
6 ETCs beyond 2018: designation process and timelines	<p>The Management Board decided on the designation of 7 new ETCs for 2019–2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air Pollution, Transport, Noise and Industrial Pollution (ETC/ATNI) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/021) - Biological Diversity (ETC/BD) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/022); - Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (ETC/CCA) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/023); - Climate change Mitigation and Energy (ETC/CME) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/024); - Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ETC/ICM) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/025); - Urban, Land and Soil systems (ETC/ULS) (Decision EEA/MB/2018/026); and - Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (ETC/WMGE). (Decision EEA/MB/2018/027) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: Designation of seven European Topic Centres (ETCs) for 2019–2021. - The Management Board instructed the Executive Director to award to the respective consortia a framework partnership agreement for the period 2019–2021. - The Management Board took note of the recommendations from the ETC Evaluation Committee, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of the Executive Director regarding the management of potential conflict of interest, with regard to the ETCs 2019–2021; - The lack of competition, as an issue requiring further reflection in light of the call for proposals for the future ETCs beyond 2021.
7 Review of NRCs: decision on changes to the NRC structure	<p><i>NRC review</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board took note of the note from the Eionet Working Group on the review of the Eionet National Reference Centres (NRC). - The Management Board decided on the changes in the NRC structure and profiles, as proposed by the Eionet Working Group. (Decision EEA/MB/2018/028) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: National Reference Centres (NRC) are part of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet) established through the EEA/Eionet Regulation. - It was further clarified that there is no formal requirement for, or a commitment from the EEA to hold, annual Eionet workshops. The convention of covering costs for one attendee per member country (and the logistics involved for the EEA) makes it impractical to host a workshop for every NRC each year.

²⁵

Two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 8(3) of the EEA/Eionet Regulation



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
7 [Item 7 – continued]	<p><i>Tourism and environment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board took note of the 'Proposal for an Eionet-based activity on Tourism and Environment towards 2020'. - The Management Board noted that it could reflect further on a potential NRC on Tourism and environment beyond 2020, taking into account the outcomes of the Eionet-based activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board recognised the support offered by EEA to the expert group meetings of this Eionet-led project; in particular regarding the use of EEA facilities and the participation of relevant EEA experts, as appropriate.
8 Organisational review of the Board and Bureau meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board took note of the update on the RoP Review Committee's activities and timelines. - The Management Board endorsed the Review Committee's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary conclusions on the differentiation of roles, and - Preliminary findings regarding how the roles are discharged. - The Management Board decided to amend Decision EEA/MB/2017/033 of 6 December 2017, in line with the proposal formulated by the RoP Review Committee, by designating a new Chair of the RoP Review Committee, Valéry Morard (MB member from France). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: Review of the Rules of Procedure of the EEA Management Board and Bureau (RoP) and the functioning of the Board and Bureau supported by the RoP Review Committee. - The Review Committee will bring proposals forward to the 83rd MB in December 2018, regarding: a) RoP revisions, and b) Revisions regarding the functioning of Board and Bureau. - Written guidance from MB members was invited on the further analysis, in particular in relation to the differentiation of roles - over the summer (by 15 August 2018).
9 Scientific Committee: designation of members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board decided to renew the designation of three existing Scientific Committee members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof Mikael Skou Andersen, Comparative environmental politics and economics; - Prof Malgorzata Grodzinska, Social aspects of biodiversity conservation, environmental governance, ecosystems services; and - Prof Per Mickwitz, Environmental Policy. <p>(Decision EEA/BU/2018/029)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: In accordance with the EEA/Eionet Regulation, Scientific Committee (SC) members are designated by the Management Board, and in line with the SC Rules of Procedure, the Management Board may renew their designation for another term of four years. - The second term of the SC members will start from 20 November 2018 until 19 November 2022.
10 Decision on Vice-Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board elected Michal Pastvinský from Czech Republic as a Vice-Chair / Bureau member of the EEA Management Board, for a first term in office of three years from 24 June 2018 until 23 June 2021. <p>(Decision EEA/MB/2018/032)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context: The Rules of Procedure of the Board and Bureau allow for a maximum of five Vice-Chairs to be elected amongst the Board members with voting rights, and establishes the Vice-Chairs as members of the Bureau.



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
12 Approval of meeting calendar 2019	<i>Meeting calendar 2019</i> The Management Board approved the meeting calendar for 2019 as drafted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The approved calendar for 2019 is included in Appendix 1 to this decision list, and will be published on the Forum MB Interest Group ⁽²⁶⁾. - Given the ongoing review of Board and Bureau (see above), the final frequency and timing of Board and Bureau meetings could be subject to changes.
	<i>Meeting calendar 2018</i> The Management Board took note of the change in meeting date for the 76th Bureau meeting, as decided by the Bureau following its 75th meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The revised calendar for 2018 is included in Appendix 1 to this decision list, and will be published on the Forum MB Interest Group ⁽²⁷⁾. - The date for the 76th Bureau meeting was moved changed from Tuesday, 2 October to Monday, 15 October.
13 Board opinion on annual accounts 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board decided on its opinion on the EEA final accounts 2017, as required by the EEA Financial Regulation. (Decision EEA/MB/2018/030) - The management Board noted the remark of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) included in its preliminary findings of 31 March 2018, regarding the Accountant's hierarchical position and its impacts on her independence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The final annual accounts will be published in the Official Journal by 15 November 2018, and will be accompanied by the statement of assurance given by ECA. - The report on budget and financial management 2017 will be published separately on the EEA website. - The Chair asked the EEA to keep the Management Board informed on ECA's final observations and findings, including the EEA responses to ECA.
16 Update by the European Commission: A) Draft Eurostat work programme 2019 (including conditional approval)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board took note of Eurostat's draft 2019 statistical work programme of the Commission in the field of environment. - In line with the proposal from the Executive Director, the Management Board decided on a conditional approval of the 2019 Eurostat work programme in the field of the environment. (Decision EEA/MB/2018/031) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board instructed EEA to review the revised Eurostat Work Programme 2019, submitted to it by Director-General of Eurostat by December 2018. - The approval in the decision shall be final in case the EEA assesses that no further action as per the formal requirement in the EEA/Eionet Regulation is required ('positive review outcome').
17 Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union: EEA application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country	<p>The Management Board took note of the update of the Executive Director regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The foreseen overall approach regarding the application of the statutory condition to be a national of an EEA member country; and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Executive Director further clarified that given potential derogations must be based on the interest of the service, which can only be assessed once the final outcome of the negotiations is known, i.e. the date of 'Brexit'.

²⁶ <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/>

²⁷ <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/>



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The possible use of individual derogations to the above nationality requirement, which is the prerogative of the Executive Director (as the Authority Authorised to Conclude Contracts for EEA staff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board recognised the uncertainties related to the ongoing Brexit negotiations; and decided to keep the issue under review.
18 Sustainable Finance: emerging EU priority and role of EEA	The Board to take note of the update by the European Commission its initiatives in relation to Sustainable Finance, including the proposed role for EEA.	<p>Context: European Commission (EC) Sustainable Finance Action Plan (adopted 8 March 2018) and EC Sustainable Finance Package (adopted 24 May 2018), including proposed role for EEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short-term until the end of 2019: support to the Technical Expert Group (monthly meetings) and the Member State Expert Group; and - Medium- to long-term from 2020 onwards: part of the overall governance structure, i.e. the Platform on Sustainable Finance.
19 EEA's strategic direction and priority setting beyond 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Board agreed in principle to the EEA proposal to develop an EEA strategy to replace the Multiannual Work Programme as of the end of 2020, with a time horizon 2021–2027 (the period of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)). - The Management Board agreed in principle to a future Board seminar being dedicated to providing input to such an EEA Strategy for 2021–2027. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EEA will bring a timeline and process for the preparation and adoption of such a strategy document to the Management Board for discussion at its meeting in December 2018. - The timing of a Board seminar on the EEA Strategy 2021–2027, will be decided at a later stage, taking into account the level of uncertainties regarding the overall EEA context (e.g. Brexit, EEA/Eionet evaluation, 8thEAP, MFF 2021–2027, 2019 elections to the new European Parliament, and appointment of a new Commission).
20 Outcome discharge 2016 and follow-up actions on discharge 2015	The Management Board took note of the of the EEA discharge for the year 2016, granted by the European Parliament.	The Chair noted/highlighted the relevance of the ' <i>Report of the Executive Director to the Discharge Authority on measures taken in the light of the Discharge Authority's recommendations of 2016</i> ', in light of the Board's oversight role.

Approved by the EEA Management Board at its 82nd meeting
in Copenhagen, 19 June 2018

[Signed]

Laura Burke
Chair, EEA Management Board



Appendix 1: Approved meeting calendar 2019 and revised meeting calendar 2018

The meeting calendars include meeting dates for the Management Board, Bureau, Scientific Committee and NFP/Eionet.

Approved meeting calendar 2019

Meeting	Dates
77th Bureau	Wednesday, 23 January
NFP/Eionet meeting	Wednesday–Thursday, 6–7 February
72nd Scientific Committee and seminar	Tuesday–Wednesday, 19–20 February
84th Management Board	Wednesday, 6 March
78th Bureau	Wednesday, 8 May
73rd Scientific Committee and seminar	Wednesday–Thursday, 22–23 May 2019
NFP/Eionet meeting	Monday–Tuesday, 17–18 June
Potential event for EEA's 25th Anniversary	Wednesday, 19 June
85th Management Board	Thursday, 20 June
79th Bureau	Wednesday, 9 October
NFP/Eionet meeting	Wednesday–Thursday, 23–24 October
74th Scientific Committee and seminar	<i>[Wednesday–Thursday, 20–21 November 2019]</i> <i>[Tentative – date to be confirmed during summer]</i>
86th Management Board and seminar	Wednesday–Thursday, 4–5 December

Revised meeting calendar 2018

Meeting	Date
74th Bureau	Tuesday, 30 January
NFP/Eionet meeting	Wednesday–Thursday, 7–8 February
69th Scientific Committee and joint EEA-SC seminar	Wednesday–Thursday, 21–22 February
81st Management Board	Wednesday, 7 March
75th Bureau	Tuesday, 24 April
70th Scientific Committee and joint EEA-SC seminar	Wednesday–Thursday, 16–17 May
NFP/Eionet meeting	Wednesday–Thursday, 23–24 May
82nd Management Board	Tuesday, 19 June
76th Bureau	Monday, 15 October (Changed from 2 October)
71st Scientific Committee and joint EEA-SC seminar	Wednesday–Thursday, 3–4 October
NFP/Eionet meeting	Wednesday–Thursday, 10–11 October
83rd Management Board and seminar	Tuesday–Wednesday, 4–5 December



Annex 4 **List of items for future discussion and presentation**
82nd Management Board meeting, 19 June 2018

Action list EEA/MB/2018/004

Agenda item	Follow-up	Follow-up MB/BU mtg
22 SOER 2020: State of play – production and communication	<i>Extended SOER 2020 item at the 83rd Board meeting</i> The Management Board agreed to an extended item on SOER 2020 at the 83rd Management Board meeting in December 2018	83rd Board meeting (December 2018)
	<i>Alignment of 86th Board meeting with SOER launch</i> The Management Board agreed to decide in due course, on a potential rescheduling of its 86th meeting in December 2019, in light of the launch date and venue of the SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment report.	83rd or 84th Board meeting (December 2018 or March 2019)