

MINUTES MB MEETING

Event:	26 th Management Board Meeting
Date:	18-19 May 2017
Place:	Vienna
Status:	Final version
Participants:	
Members/Alternates:	Frauke Seidensticker (DE, Chairperson), Manfred Nowak (AT, Vice-Chairperson), Jacqueline Biesheuvel-Vermeijden (NL), Anete Erdmane (LV), Philip Geddes (UK), Rainer Hofmann (CoE), Hent Kalmo (EE), David Joyce (IE), Imre Juhász, (HU), Krassimir Kanev (BG), Julija Kiršienė (LT), Jarmila Lajčáková (SK), Julie Lejeune (BE), Daniel Ludet (FR, alternate), Fredrik Malmberg (SE), Sunniva McDonagh (IE, alternate), Zinaida Onoufriou (CY, alternate), Lawrence Quintano (MT), Sirpa Rautio (FI), Filippo di Robilant (IT), Alejandro Saiz Arnaiz (ES), Harald Scheu (CZ), Cecilia Sjölander (SE, alternate), Elisavet Symeonidou – Kastanidou (EL), Andreja Valič Zver (SI), Jens Vedsted-Hansen (DK), Lora Vidović (HR), Mirosław Wróblewski (PL), Irina Zlătescu (RO)
Representatives COM:	Emmanuel Crabit (JUST), Chiara Adamo (JUST), Satish Sule (JUST)
Operational services:	Michael O’Flaherty (Director) Constantinos Manolopoulos (Head of CS), Joanna Goodey (Head of FJ), Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos (Head of ECR), Friso Roscam Abbing (Head of FRPD), Andreas Accardo (DIR), Gabriel Toggenburg (DIR), Nicole Romain (FRPD), Michail Beis (ECR), Dennis van der Veur (FRPD), Sanjeev Shukla (CS)
Excused Members:	Pierre Calmes (LU), Jean-Paul Jean (FR), Nuno Piçarra (PT), Eliza Savvidou (CY)
Observers/Guest:	Han Entzinger (SC), Markus Jaeger (CoE)

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1 Opening remarks and approval of the draft agenda, possible conflicts of interest

Main Conclusions:	
1.1	The Chairperson welcomed the new representative of the Commission, Mr Emmanuel Crabit.
1.2	The Chairperson mentioned a decision regarding rules on the secondment to FRA of national experts that had been taken via written procedure.
1.3	The draft agenda was adopted.
Decision:	A. The draft agenda was approved.

2 Approval of the draft minutes of the 25th MB meeting

Main Conclusions:	
2.1	The draft minutes of the 25 th MB meeting were approved.
Decision:	B. The draft minutes of the 25 th MB meeting were approved.

3 Adoption of the Fundamental rights report 2017

Main Conclusions:	
3.1	The Fundamental Rights Report 2017 was presented to the MB. The Chair of AREDIT reminded the members of the new format of the Report (shorter, more efficient and with more FRA opinions) and of the strong interest of the public, Member States and EU institutions in the work of the Agency.
3.2	The MB adopted the Fundamental Rights Report 2017 with minor changes introduced by AREDIT and expressed its appreciation for the quality of the Report and for the work of the agency's staff in compiling its content.
3.3	There was also a preliminary discussion on the proposed focus section for the Fundamental Rights Report 2018.
Decision:	C. The Fundamental Rights Report 2017 was approved.

4 In camera session

Main Conclusions:	
4.1	The members of the Management Board discussed confidential matters.

5 - Report from the 42nd and 43rd Executive Board Meeting and on the Chairperson's activities

- Report of the Director on the work of FRA in the last period

Main Conclusions:

- 5.1 The Chairperson briefed the MB on the 42nd EB meeting held on 1 March and on the 44th EB held meeting prior to the 26th MB meeting. She also informed about an extraordinary (43rd) EB meeting held on 28 April on a confidential matter.
- 5.2 The Chairperson reported on her participation in the 10th FRA anniversary event on 28 February and informed about her upcoming presentation of the Fundamental Rights Report 2017 on 28 June in Brussels. She also informed that she would participate in a retreat on political developments organised by the Open Society institute.
- 5.3 The Director provided an overview of the Agency's activities. He gave concrete examples on how the Agency's work responds to the principle of relevance (e.g. interoperability of databases, survey data on situation of Muslims, human rights and business), timeliness (e.g. monthly data collection on migration and presence in hotspots, work on children in detention), rigour (e.g. surveys, legal opinions) and impact (e.g. EU accession to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence). Many MB members expressed strong appreciation to the staff for the activities in the reporting period.
- 5.4 The Head of the Corporate Services Department gave an update on the external evaluation, informing that the draft final report would be shared in September and the final report was expected in October.

6 - Update and discussion on EU-Fundamental Rights Policy developments

- Multiannual Framework 2018-2022: Update

Main Conclusions:

- 6.1 The Commission reported on the release of its new annual report on the application of the Charter, the Rome Declaration and its strong reference to common values, the European Pillar of Social Rights, its new Communication on children in migration, publicly available information on recent infringement proceedings and on rule of law. FRA was invited to contribute to the Commission's Forum on the rights of the child, which will be devoted to children in detention, and to the next Annual Colloquium on women's rights.
- 6.2 With regards to the Multiannual Framework 2018-2022, the Commission reported that its proposal was discussed in the Council. According to the procedure, a modified proposal would be considered by the European Parliament on 31 May. The Commission informed that it would issue a declaration regretting that police and criminal cooperation were taken out of the Multiannual Framework but would continue asking the Agency for ad hoc request.

7 Financial matters

Main Conclusions:	
7.1	The Chair of the Budget Committee updated the Management Board on the status of the FRA budget execution and budgetary transfers in 2017. He also briefed the MB on the final accounts 2016, the Annual Activity Report 2016 and the proposed MB budget transfer.

8 Opinion of the MB on the Final Accounts 2016

Main Conclusions:	
8.1	The MB expressed a favourable opinion on the Final Accounts 2016.
Decision:	D. The MB expressed a favourable opinion on the Final Accounts 2016.

9 Adoption of the Annual Activity Report 2016

Main Conclusions:	
9.1	The Head of the Corporate Services Department presented the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2016.
Decision:	E. The MB adopted the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2016.

10 Budget transfer 2017-01

Main Conclusions:	
10.1	The Head of the Corporate Services Department presented the proposed budgetary transfer. The Management Board adopted the proposed budgetary transfer 2017-01
Decision:	F. The MB adopted the proposed budget transfer 2017-01.

11 Election of a new Chairperson and one further member of the EB (other than an *ex-officio* member)

Main Conclusions:	
11.1	The Commission chaired the election of the new Chairperson of the Management Board. After the candidates' statements on their vision for the Agency and four

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rounds of elections, the Management Board elected Ms Sirpa Rautio (FI) as new Chairperson.

11.2 The current Chairperson chaired the election of one member of the EB. After the candidates' statements and two rounds of elections, the Management Board elected Mr Filippo di Robilant (IT) as new member of the Executive Board.

11.3 Ms Rautio and Mr di Robilant will take up their duties on 13 July 2017.

Decision:

G. The MB elected Sirpa Rautio (FI) as new Chairperson of the Management Board.

H. The MB elected Filippo di Robilant (IT) as new member of the Executive Board.

12 Fundamental Rights Forum (FRF) 2018

Main Conclusions:

This discussion was deferred.

13 Programming Document 2018 – 2020

a) Update on the Annual Work Programme 2018

b) Director's note on the development of the Annual Work Programme 2019

Main Conclusions:

13.1 The Heads of Departments presented the draft Work Programme 2018 of the Agency. Welcoming the Agency's proposal, the Commission provided preliminary comments on the draft work programme. In particular, it highlighted the importance of:

- 1) delivering survey data on antisemitism, LGBT issues and anti-Muslim hatred;
- 2) communicating that rights are for all and raising public awareness (such as in relation to the new EU data protection rules);
- 3) mapping the shrinking space for civil society and NHRIs;
- 4) fundamental rights training for national ESIF managing authorities;
- 5) updating the handbook on profiling; and
- 6) continuing to give priority to the work on migration including in the hotspots and in particular in relation to children.

Finally, the Commission announced that it would make requests for the Agency to provide an expert input on guidelines for the European Investment Bank and to follow up on the Agency's opinion on human rights and business by mapping the situation at national level in relation to access to remedies.

13.2 The Director outlined the proposed priorities for 2019, as well as the new approach of presenting the Agency's work in programmatic clusters rather than by individual MAF area. He stressed that rights of the child, as well as gender, would be mainstreamed across the clusters. The preliminary discussion mainly served to clarify a number of questions on the proposed activities.

14 Cooperation with ENNHRI and Equinet

Main Conclusions:

- 14.1 The Director introduced the Chairs of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) and the European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet) and presented the state of play of the relations between both networks and the Agency. Many possibilities for cooperation have been identified, particularly regarding the use of the charter at the national level.
- 14.2 Both Chairs addressed the Board underlining the importance of further cooperation between FRA and those two networks, as well as their individual members. They expressed concern about tendencies of a shrinking space for human rights institutions and bodies in some Member States. The European Commission encouraged continuing and intensifying the cooperation. A cooperation arrangement will be developed with the networks in accordance with FRA’s Founding Regulation. The MB furthermore discussed how FRA could support the work of NHRIs and Equality bodies in different national environments and work on the shrinking space for Civil Society.

15 New Scientific Committee: nomination of MB Observers at the pre-selection panel

Main Conclusions:

- 15.1 The FRA senior legal advisor explained the procedure for the nomination of MB observers at the pre-selection panel of the new Scientific Committee.
- 15.2 Two members volunteered to become observers.

Decision: I. The MB nominated Krassimir Kanev and Harald Scheu as observers at the pre-selection panel.

16 FRA Management Board / Management Team Retreat: update

Main Conclusions:

- 16.1 The Working Group RETREAT updated the MB on the upcoming retreat scheduled for September. The MB agreed on the draft programme, which for the first time will include the Management Team as full participants. The FRA staff’s reflection paper “Fundamental rights and FRA in the years to come” was agreed to become the main resource paper for the retreat.

17 MB members' report on the impact of FRA work at national level

Main Conclusions:
This discussion was postponed until December.

18 Tour de table for MB members leaving: brief view on experiences with and visions for the Agency

Main Conclusions:
18.1 During a tour de table, the outgoing MB members took stock of their experience at FRA. They addressed the important and impressive work of the Agency in many areas. There was great praise for the high professionalism of FRA staff and unanimous appreciation of their work.

19 Any other business

Main Conclusions:
19.1 No issues were raised under this item

Date of the next meeting: 29 September 2017

Approved on:	29.9.2017
By the Chair:	S. Rautas