

## MINUTES MB MEETING

<b>Event:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> Management Board Meeting
<b>Date:</b>	13 - 14 December 2017
<b>Place:</b>	Vienna
<b>Status:</b>	Final version
<b>Participants:</b>	
<b>Members/Alternates:</b>	Sirpa Rautio (FI, Chairperson), Filippo di Robilant (IT, Vice-Chairperson), Elise Barbé (FR), Jacqueline Biesheuvel-Vermeijden (NL), Pierre Calmes (LU), Julia Duchrow (DE, alternate), Laura Guercio (IT, alternate), Rainer Hofmann (CoE), Imre Juhász, (HU), Krassimir Kanev (BG), Elżbieta Karska (PL), Peter Kostelka (AT), Julie Lejeune (BE), Mārtiņš Pāparinskis (LV), Nuno Piçarra (PT), Kertti Pilvik (EE), Lawrence Quintano (MT), Alejandro Saiz Arnaiz (ES), Harald Scheu (CZ), Tena Šimonović Einwalter (HR, alternate), Louise Halleskov Storgaard (DK), Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastanidou (EL), Verica Trstenjak (SI), Regina Valutytė (LT, alternate), Erik Wennerström (SE), Pavol Žilinčík (SK), Irina Zlătescu (RO)
<b>Director:</b>	Michael O'Flaherty
<b>Representatives COM:</b>	Chiara Adamo (JUST), Szabolcs Schmidt (JUST), Nathalie Stockwell (JUST)
<b>Operational services:</b>	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), Francesco Saverio Liguori (CS), Mario Oetheimer (FJ)
<b>Excused Members:</b>	Charles Banner (UK), David Joyce (IE), Imre Juhász (HU), Julija Kiršienė (LT), Heiko Sauer (DE), Eliza Savvidou (CY), Lora Vidović (HR)
<b>Observers/Guest:</b>	Ixhet Memeti (FY), Han Entzinger (SC), Tatiana Termacic (CoE), Henning Stirø (EFTA), Finn Denstad (EFTA)

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

### Main Conclusions:

- 1.1 No new conflicts of interest were reported.
- 1.2 The draft agenda was adopted.

**Decision:** A. The draft agenda was approved.

## 2 Approval of the draft minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> MB meeting

### Main Conclusions:

- 2.1 The draft minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> MB meeting were approved.

**Decision:** B. The draft minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> MB meeting were approved.

## 3 - Report from the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting and on the Chairperson's activities - Report of the Director on the work of FRA in the last period

### Main Conclusions:

- 3.1 The Chairperson reported from the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meetings.
- 3.2 The Director updated on the Agency's activities since the 26<sup>th</sup> MB meeting and informed about the Agency's recent outputs, cooperation with key stakeholders, and policy engagements. The Board welcomed the report.

## 4 - Update and discussion on EU-Fundamental Rights Policy developments - Multiannual Framework 2018-2022: Update

### Main Conclusions:

- 4.1 The Commission updated on recent EU-fundamental rights policy developments. It highlighted the strong reference to the EU as a community of values in the President's State of the Union speech, the proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, the implementation of the rule of law framework and ongoing infringement proceedings. It mentioned the Annual Colloquium on women's rights and the Rights of the Child Forum on detention, expressing appreciation for FRA's

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contributions to both events. In relation to FRA's work, the Commission underlined the importance of FRA's surveys for policy making, calling the 2nd EU-MIDIS a wake-up call. It stressed the unique value of FRA's Roma survey data for the evaluation of the EU Framework on Roma integration and of the future LGBT survey for its LGBTI list of actions.

### 5 In camera session

#### Main Conclusions:

- 5.1 The members of the Management Board discussed confidential matters. Moreover, the Chairperson presented the results of the selection process for the new Scientific Committee and the list of 21 most eligible candidates drawn up by the EB. This list will be submitted to the LIBE Committee for an opinion.

### 6 a) Final report of the external evaluation 2017 b) Recommendations of the MB on the follow up of the External Evaluation

#### Main Conclusions:

- 6.1 Optimity Advisors, the contractor for FRA's second external evaluation, presented the final evaluation report, with a focus on the evaluators' recommendations. The evaluation identified that "there was a very broad consensus among interviewees and survey respondents that the current activities were successfully meeting the fundamental rights needs of the EU". It concluded that FRA "is contributing importantly, and in a unique way, to the promotion and protection of fundamental rights in the EU".
- 6.2 The Management Board discussed the draft recommendations which its dedicated working group had developed. In accordance with Article 31 of the FRA Regulation, the Management Board is to "examine the conclusions of the evaluation" in order to "issue to the Commission such recommendations as may be necessary regarding changes in the Agency, its working practices and the scope of its mission". Following discussion and suggestions introduced at the meeting, the Board adopted a set of recommendations to further increase efficiency, clarity and impact of the Agency's work. This includes specific recommendations to the European Commission to update the Agency's Founding Regulation in order to bring it in line with the Treaty of Lisbon. The Commission abstained from the decision, clarifying that in line with Article 31 of the founding regulation, it will transmit the evaluation report and the MB recommendations to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions and make them public. It will then also assess the evaluation report and the recommendations.

## 7 Financial matters

### Main Conclusions:

- 7.1 The Management Board heard a report from its Budget Committee on financial matters, which covered the 2017 budgetary execution, 2017 budgetary transfers, the Agency's final budget for 2018, as well as the draft estimate of revenues and expenditures for 2019. The Budget Committee also reported about the implementation of the cooperation arrangement between the Agency and the EEA & Norway Grants, including its budgetary implications.

## 8 a) Budgetary transfer and amendment of the Annual Work Programme 2017 b) Amending budget 2017

### Main Conclusions:

- 8.1 The Head of the Corporate Services Department introduced a proposal for a Management Board budgetary transfer, and on this basis the Board adopted budgetary transfer 2017-03 and a related amendment of the Programming document 2017-2019.
- 8.2 The Head of the Corporate Services Department presented the proposed budgetary Amending Budget 2017-01 which was adopted by the Management Board.

### Decision:

- C. The Management Board adopted the proposed budgetary transfer 2017-03 and the related amendment of the Programming document 2017-2019
- D. The Management Board adopted the proposed amending budget 2017-01.

## 9 Election of new members of MB Working Groups

### Main Conclusions:

- 9.1 The three members of the Budget Committee and the seven members of the Annual Report Editorial Committee (AREDIT), whose mandate will start in March 2018, were elected.
- 9.2 The three current members of the Budget Committee (Pierre Calmes, Lawrence Quintano and Erik Wennerström) were re-elected for a second term starting on 26 March 2018.
- 9.3 As of 26 March 2018, the membership of AREDIT will consist of: Jacqueline Biesheuvel-Vermeijden, Krassimir Kanev, Julie Lejeune, Heiko Sauer, Harald Scheu, Louise Halleskov Storgaard and Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastanidou. A technical correction to the terms of reference of AREDIT was adopted.
- 9.4 The Commission also participates in these working groups.

### Decision:

- E. Pierre Calmes, Lawrence Quintano and Erik Wennerström were re-elected as Budget Committee members.

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	F. As of 26 March 2018, AREDIT will be composed of the following members: Jacqueline Biesheuvel-Vermeijden, Krassimir Kanev, Julie Lejeune, Heiko Sauer, Harald Scheu, Louise Halleskov Storgaard and Elisavet Symeonidou – Kastanidou were elected.
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### 10 FRA Strategy 2018 - 2022

#### Main Conclusions:

10.1 The Services introduced the draft FRA Strategy 2018-2022. The Management Board adopted the Strategy with a number of minor amendments introduced at the meeting. The new strategic priorities will be included into the Programming Document and also constitute the framework for the Director's future reporting on progress to the MB.

#### Decision:

G. The MB adopted the FRA Strategy 2018-2022.

### 11 a) Statement of revenue and expenditure 2018 b) Programming Document 2018 – 2020

#### Main Conclusions:

11.1 The Services presented the updated work programme for 2018, introducing also two oral amendments for Project A 9.5.1 "Arts & Human Rights" and Project A 9.6.1 "Promotion of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights". The Management Board adopted the statement of revenue and expenditure 2018 and the final Programming Document 2018-2020, including the amendments introduced orally. COM recalled once more the importance of sending documents early (as provided in the rules of procedure) in order for it to be able to consult in house in an appropriate manner.

#### Decision:

H. The MB adopted the statement of revenue and expenditure 2018 and the final Programming Document 2018-2020.

### 12 a) Draft estimate of revenue and expenditure 2019 b) Programming Document 2019 – 2021

#### Main Conclusions:

12.1 The Services presented the updated work programme for 2019. The Opinion of the Scientific Committee was introduced by its Chair. With the abstention of the Commission, the Management Board adopted the draft estimate of revenue and

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expenditure for 2019 and endorsed the draft Programming Document 2019-2021 (including the work programme 2019).

**Decision:**

- I. The Management Board adopted the draft estimate of revenue and expenditure for 2019 and endorsed the draft Programming Document 2019-2021.

### 13 Exchange of views with the Council of Europe and the cooperation between the Agency and the CoE

**Main Conclusions:**

- 13.1 The Board was addressed by Tatiana Termacic of the Council of Europe who reported on relevant Council of Europe activities and cooperation with the Agency. She underlined the very fruitful collaboration between the two organisations across a wide range of areas, such as migration, social rights, as well as discrimination and integration. She also mentioned the growing work on the intersectionality of human rights and multiple discrimination and the important role of education in this context. She underlined that security, including surveillance and data protection, are important areas of mutual concern of both organisations, as well as the shrinking civil society space.
- 13.2 Ms Termacic also reported on future cooperation activities, such as the so-called "European Fundamental Rights Information System" (EFRIS).

### 14 Presentation of the EEA and Norway Grants

**Main Conclusions:**

- 14.1 Henning Stirø, Director of the Financial Mechanism Office, addressed the Board, providing an overview of the priorities of the EEA & Norway Grants related to human rights, and the cooperation with the Agency.
- 14.2 The Board was informed that the Agency and the Financial Mechanism Office signed an exchange of letters agreeing on the terms and conditions for cooperation between the two institutions. FRA will provide strategic advice on programmes in Greece, the Czech Republic, and one other beneficiary state of the EEA and Norway Grants. In particular, it will support the development and implementation of Roma inclusion programmes, building on its extensive experience in this area.

### 15 Fundamental Rights Forum (FRF) 2018

**Main Conclusions:**

- 15.1 The Services presented the concept and key partners for the Fundamental Rights Forum 2018. The Forum will be held in Vienna on 25-27 September on the overarching theme of "Belonging". The Management Board was invited to participate in the Forum.

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## 16 Update on FRA related activities in the Member States

### Main Conclusions:

- 16.1 A number of MB members reported on activities they conducted on behalf of FRA at the national level.

## 17 Consideration of article 1 (3) and (4) of the Agency's Rules of procedure

### Main Conclusions:

- 17.1 This discussion was postponed with reference to a periodic revision of the Rules of Procedure to be discussed in the Executive Board in 2018.

## 18 Any other business

### Main Conclusions:

- 18.1 The MB endorsed a Director's Decision to set up a FRA presence in Greece, pending consultation with the European Commission.

Date of the next meeting: 15 – 17 May 2018

<b>Approved on:</b>	18.6.2018
<b>By the Chair:</b>	