

MINUTES MB MEETING

Event: 30th Management Board Meeting

Date: 13-14 December 2018

Place: Vienna

Status: **Final**

Participants:

Members/Alternates: Sirpa Rautio (FI, Chairperson), Filippo di Robilant (IT, Vice-Chairperson), Charles Banner (UK), Maria Bergström (SE, alternate), Jacqueline Biesheuvel-Vermeijden (NL), Pierre Calmes (LU), Louise Halleskov Storgaard (DK), Rainer Hofmann (CoE), Imre Juhász (HU), Krassimir Kanev (BG), Regina Valutyte (LT), Peter Kostelka (AT), Julie Lejeune (BE), Daniel Ludet (FR, alternate), Pavol Žilinčík (SK), Kertti Pilvik (EE), Lawrence Quintano (MT), Heiko Sauer (DE), Harald Scheu (CZ), Tena Šimonović Einwalter (HR, alternate), Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastanidou (EL), Verica Trstenjak (SI), Erik Wennerström (SE), Pavol Žilinčík (SK)

Director: Michael O'Flaherty

Representatives COM: Emmanuel Crabit (JUST), Barbara Nolan (JUST), Nathalie Stockwell (JUST)

Operational services: Andreas Accardo (Head of Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Joanna Goodey (Head of Research and Data Unit), Constantinos Manolopoulos (Head of Corporate Services), Ann-Charlotte Nygard (Head of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Unit), Nicole Romain (Head of Communications and Events Unit), Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos (Scientific Adviser), Friso Roscam Abbing (Adviser on Communication), Mario Oetheimer (Deputy Head of Research and Data Unit), Luca Burello (Corporate Services Unit), Francesco Saverio Liguori (Corporate Services Unit), Gabriel Toggenburg (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Barbara Jaeschke (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Elena Balzarini (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit)

Excused Members: Elise Barbé (FR), Mārtiņš Pāparinskis (LV), Nuno Piçarra (PT), David Joyce (IE), Elżbieta Karska (PL), Alejandro Saiz Arnaiz (ES), Eliza Savvidou (CY), Lora Vidović (HR)

Observers/Guest: Paivi Anttila (EFTA), Saša Gajin (RS), Anja Mihr (SC), Uranija Pirovska (FY)

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

Main Conclusions:

1.1 The Chairperson opened the 30th Management Board meeting and welcomed the new observer from the Republic of Serbia.

Two additional points were added to the agenda: intervention from the Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) and the Chair of the Annual Report Editorial Committee (AREDIT) to report on their respective committees' activities. The draft agenda was then adopted.

1.2 No new conflicts of interest were reported. The Chairperson reminded members and alternate members of the importance to submit their declarations of interest on a yearly basis and asked full members to remind their alternate members of this obligation.

At the beginning of the MB meeting, two written reports were distributed to the Management Board i.e. related to potential conflicts of interests of MB and SC members. The Management Board having assessed the reports and all information therein related to identified areas of potential risks of conflict of interest, considered there is no conflict of interest in these cases. The Head of Corporate Services also explained that the new exercise of collecting the declarations of interest for 2019 will be started in January and will need to be finalised by next Management Board meeting in May 2019. No concerns were raised.

Decision: A. The draft agenda was approved.

2 Approval of the draft minutes of the 29th MB meeting

Main Conclusions:

2.1 The draft minutes of the 29th MB meeting were approved.

Decision: B. The draft minutes of the 29th MB meeting were approved.

3 - Report from the 49th and 50th 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 49th and 50th Executive Board meetings.

3.2 The Director updated on the Agency's activities since the last MB meeting and informed about the Agency's recent outputs, cooperation with key stakeholders, and policy engagements. He also informed about the structural changes within FRA,

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including the new units, advisors and programmes. The report, and its new programmatic structure, was welcomed by the MB. Strong appreciation was expressed for the staff's hard work.

4 Update and discussion on EU-Fundamental Rights Policy developments

Main Conclusions:

- 4.1 The Commission expressed appreciation for FRA's data collection work and highlighted that it provides an essential evidence-base for the Commission's policy-making. The Commission informed about the FR Colloquium 2018 that took place in November announcing that the conclusions will be released shortly. A new coordinator on the Rights of the Child has been nominated in September 2018. The Rights of the Child Forum will be held in Brussels on 2-3 April 2019. A guidance note on the application of the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia was published on 28 November, as an output of the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. COM appreciated FRA's contributions to these efforts, and indicated that FRA should continue to facilitate the work on improving the recording of hate crime under the High Level Group. The Commission thanked FRA for its cooperation in the conference on tackling intolerance against Muslims in the EU on 3 December. The FRA database, which was launched on the day, has been well received by stakeholders. As regards antisemitism, the Commission informed that the Austrian Presidency had taken great interest in the issue, culminating in the adoption of a Council Declaration on the fight against antisemitism and the development of a common security approach to better protect Jewish communities and institutions in Europe. The Board was informed that the European Commission also became a Permanent International Partner of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), representing the EU there.

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

Main Conclusions:

- 5.1 The Director presented some highlights of the cooperation with the Council of Europe. He informed that the Commissioner for Human Rights Dunja Mijatovic will visit the Agency soon. The CoE's independent member of the Management Board, Rainer Hofmann, read out the speech of the CoE Director General of Human Rights and the Rule of Law, Christos Giakoumopoulos. The speech underlined the very fruitful collaboration between the two organisations across a wide range of areas.

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6 Financial matters

Main Conclusions:

- 6.1 The Management Board heard a report from the Chair of the Budget Committee on financial matters.

7 a) Budgetary transfer 2018_01 and amendment of the Programming Document 2018-2020 b) Amending budget 2018_03

Main Conclusions:

- 7.1 The Head of the Corporate Services introduced the budgetary transfer 2018_01 and the respective second amendment of the Programming Document 2018-2020, which were adopted by the Management Board.
- 7.2 The Head of the Corporate Services presented the proposed Amending Budget 2018_03, which was adopted by the Management Board.

Decision:

- C. The Management Board adopted budgetary transfer nr 2018_01 and amendment 2 of the Programming Document 2018-2020.
- D. The Management Board adopted the proposed amending budget 2018_03.

8 Anti-Fraud Strategy

Main Conclusions:

- 8.1 The Head of Corporate service informed about the need to adopt an updated version of the Anti-Fraud strategy which was adopted in 2014. The Anti-Fraud strategy was submitted to the MB in its updated version. He also informed about the nomination of the Ethics Officer. COM underlined importance that the possible register for whistleblowers takes due account of the protection of the whistleblowers incl. anonymity.

The Management Board adopted the Anti-Fraud Strategy.

Decision:

- E. The Management Board adopted the Anti-Fraud Strategy.

9 a) Programming Document 2019 – 2021 b) Statement of revenue and expenditure 2019

Main Conclusions:

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- 9.1 The Management Board discussed and adopted the final Programming Document 2019-2021. Following the comments received by the Commission, changes suggested by the services in fiche A 1.2, A1.4, and A 6.1 were made.
- 9.2 The Management Board adopted the statement of revenue and expenditure for 2019.

Decision:	F. The Management Board adopted the final Programming Document 2019-2021.
	G. The Management Board adopted the statement of revenue and expenditure for 2019.

10 a) Draft Estimate of revenue and expenditure 2020

b) Programming document 2020-2022

Main Conclusions:

- 10.1 The Management Board discussed and adopted the draft estimate of revenue and expenditure 2020 and endorsed the draft Programming Document 2020-2022 (with the abstention of the Commission).

Decision:	H. The Management Board adopted the draft estimate of revenue and expenditure 2020 and endorsed the draft Programming Document 2020-2022.
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11 Fourth revision of the Agency's Rules of procedure

Main Conclusions:

- 11.1 The Management Board adopted the 4th revision of the Agency's Rules of Procedure.

Decision:	I. The Management Board adopted the 4 th revision of the Agency's Rules of Procedure.
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12 In camera session

Main Conclusions:

- 12.1 The members of the Management Board discussed confidential matters.

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13 Fundamental Rights Forum (FRF) 2018: review

Main Conclusions:

- 13.1 The MB members received an update regarding highlights of the FRF and its results. The Management Board will be provided with the outcome of the FRF 2018 external evaluation during its next meeting in May 2019. The members of the Board expressed appreciation for the successful implementation of the Forum.

14 Brexit

Main Conclusions:

- 14.1 The Management Board was informed about the current state of knowledge regarding the impact of the withdrawal of the UK on the Agency. The Board thanked the UK member for his contribution as the UK – following the expected withdrawal from the EU – would no longer participate in the activities of the Agency after 29 March 2019.
- 14.2 The Head of Corporate Services presented the process for granting exceptions based on nationality for the UK staff members.

15 Any other business

Main Conclusions:

- 15.1 The Chair of the new Scientific Committee (SC), Anja Mihr, reported on the activities of the SC since its first meeting in September. The SC will provide its opinion on the annual work programme 2020 in the first quarter of 2019.
- 15.2 The Chair of the Annual Report Editorial Committee (AREDIT), Julie Lejeune, informed that the working group discussed twice the focus chapter of the Fundamental Rights Report 2019. She also informed that the draft Fundamental Rights Report 2019 will be shared with all the MB members on 18 February and the MB members will have till 15 March to submit their comments. The AREDIT Chair also informed the plenary about the AREDIT discussion and the steps forward regarding the potential changes of the format and the structure of the future Fundamental Rights Report.

Date of the next meeting: 16 and 17 May 2019

Approved on:	17 MAY 2019
By the Chair:	S. Rankin