

MINUTES MB MEETING

Event:	34th Management Board Meeting
Date:	25 September 2020
Place:	via videoconferencing
Status:	Final
Participants:	
Members/Alternates (when Members are not present):	Elise Barbé (FR, Chairperson), Nathalie Denies (BE), Irena Ilieva (BG), Veronika Bilkova (CZ), Heiko Sauer (DE), Kertti Pilvik (EE), Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastadinou (EL), Yolanda Gamarra Chopo (ES), Snježana Bagić (HR), Oreste Pollicino (IT), Maria Lottidou Stylianou (CY), Mārtiņš Pāparinskis (LV), Lyra Jakulevicienė (LT), Verica Trstenjak (SI), Réka Varga (HU), Ines Vieira da Silva Ferreira Leiter (PT alternate), Csaba-Ferenc Asztalos (RO), Verica Trstenjak (SI), Pavol Zilincik (SK), Tuomas Ojanen (FI), Anne Ramberg (SE), Philippe Boillat (CoE)
Director:	Michael O'Flaherty
Representatives COM:	Emmanuel Crabit (JUST, for agenda items 6 to 8), Barbara Nolan (JUST)
Operational services:	Constantinos Manolopoulos (Head of Corporate Services Unit), Andreas Accardo (Head of Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos (Scientific Adviser), Joanna Goodey (Head of Research and Data Unit), Ann-Charlotte Nygard (Head of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Unit), Nicole Romain (Head of Communications and Events Unit), Friso Roscam Abbing (Adviser on Communication), Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos (Scientific Adviser), Adrianna Bochenek (Director's Office), Elena Balzarini (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Barbara Jaeschke (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Rachel Forster (Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit)
Excused Members:	Peter Kostelka (AT); Louise Halleskov Storgaard (DK); Sunniva McDonagh (IE); Elizbieta Karska (PL); Paulo Jorge Saragoça da Matta (PT)
Alternates (when Members are present)/Observers/Guests/:	Els Keytsman (BE), Gabriela Belova-Galeva (BG), Jan Lhotský (CZ), Eugenia Pastor (ES), Marco Fasciglione (IT), Leena Leikas (FI), Lawrence Early (CoE) Uranija Pirovska (OBS MK), Sasa Gajn (OBS RS) Carlien Scheele (EIGE), Tatiana Termacic (CoE), Sheena Keller (EEA & Norway Grants), Theodora Kostakopoulou (Chairperson of the FRA Scientific Committee)

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

Main Conclusions:	
1.1	The Chairperson welcomed all participants and in particular the newly appointed Management Board members. She briefly introduced herself and the Management Board.
1.2	She informed that three Member States had yet to nominate their MB members, namely Luxembourg, Malta and the Netherlands.
1.3	The Chairperson introduced the draft agenda. She reminded the members of the upcoming elections for the Executive Board and for the MB working groups, the Annual Report Editorial Committee (AREDIT) and Budget Committee (BC).
1.4	The draft agenda was approved.
1.5	No conflicts of interest were reported.
1.6	The Chair reminded the MB members of the annual declaration of interest and encouraged those who have not done so to submit it to the services.
Decision:	A. The draft agenda of the 34 th MB meeting was approved. B. No conflicts of interest were declared.

2 Brief round of introductions

Main Conclusions:	
2.1	The new and sitting Management Board members introduced themselves briefly.

3 Approval of the draft minutes of the 33rd MB meeting

Main Conclusions:	
3.1	The draft minutes of the 33 rd MB meeting were approved.
Decision:	C. The draft minutes of the 33 rd MB meeting were approved.

4 Report from the 57th Executive Board Meeting and on the Chairperson's activities Report of the Director on the work of FRA in the last period

Main Conclusions:

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- 4.1 The Chairperson reported back on the 57th EB meeting, which took place in the morning to prepare for the 34th MB meeting.
- 4.2 She also reminded the members of the adoption by written procedure of the EB decision 2020/03 on the organisation of the 34th MB meeting via videoconference.
- 4.3 The Director welcomed the first participation in the MB of EIGE's Director, Ms Carlien Scheele.
- 4.4 He informed the Board on the Agency's past activities since the last MB meeting in June. He introduced the Director's report and briefed about highlights from the five FRA programmes and internal governance issues. He drew attention to the fact that the Agency had been able to deliver on its main commitments despite the COVID-19 situation.
- 4.5 In presenting the Agency's work, he emphasised the level of impact on fundamental rights policy making, as well as increasing media coverage. He finally elaborated on measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and alerted the Board to related risks for the Agency's operational work such as for the timely implementation of survey field work. The Board also received an update on the internal working arrangements in response to the COVID-19 situation.

5 Update and discussion on EU-Fundamental Rights Policy developments

Main Conclusions:

- 5.1 The Chair gave the floor to the member of the Commission (COM) for an update on on-going Commission policy work.
- 5.2 COM drew attention to the President of the Commission's State of the Union speech having a significant focus on upholding fundamental rights, common values, equality including equal treatment for LGBTI persons, and combating antisemitism.
- 5.3 COM highlighted that this is reflected in new actions, including an anti-racism action plan, the pact on migration and asylum, the forthcoming adoption of the first annual rule of law report (scheduled on 30 September), a new Charter strategy (to be adopted at the end of 2020), a new EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation (October 2020) and a new LGBTI+ equality strategy to be adopted next year. COM underlined that FRA's evidence and assistance to support Member States feature prominently in all these strategies and action plans.
- 5.4 The Board was informed about the upcoming rights of the child forum, which is meant to provide input for a new rights of the child strategy.
- 5.5 COM thanked FRA for its contribution to the recent German Presidency conference on antisemitism.
- 5.6 The MB was informed that the Commission is working towards presenting a proposal for the Digital Services Act by end of 2020 and a legislative proposal on AI in the first quarter of 2021.
- 5.7 COM updated the MB on the proposed review of the FRA Founding Regulation.

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6 In camera session I

In camera session II

Main Conclusions:	
6.1 In camera session I: the Management Board discussed confidential matters.	
6.2 In camera session II: the Management Board discussed confidential matters.	
6.3 The Chairperson announced to the plenary that during the in camera session II, the Management Board decided to extend the Director's mandate for a period of 3 years starting on 16 December 2020 and to appoint him to a higher grade.	
6.4 The Chairperson requested this decision to be recorded in the minutes of the 34 th MB proceedings.	
Decision:	D. The Management Board, during its in camera session II, decided to extend the Director's mandate for a period of 3 years starting on 16 December 2020 and to appoint him to a higher grade.

7 Election of one Executive Board member

Main Conclusions:	
7.1 The Chairperson chaired the election of one member of the Executive Board.	
7.2 She informed the MB that she has received the candidacy of Oreste Pollicino, the Italian member.	
7.3 Oreste Pollicino presented his candidacy and qualifications.	
7.4 The Chairperson opened the election of one member of the Executive Board. In the absence of any other candidate, and in the absence of a request for a vote, the Italian member Oreste Pollicino was elected member of the Executive Board.	
Decision:	E. Oreste Pollicino (IT) was elected member of the Executive Board for a mandate of 2.5 years

8 Election of three Budget Committee (BC) members and seven Annual Report Editorial Committee (AREDIT) members

Main Conclusions:

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- 8.1 Budget Committee: the Chairperson announced having received the candidacy of Sunniva McDonagh (IE).
- 8.2 In the candidate's absence, the Head of Corporate Services summarised Sunniva McDonagh's qualifications on her behalf.
- 8.3 Sunniva McDonagh was elected to the Budget Committee for a mandate of 2.5 years
- 8.4 AREDIT: The Chairperson announced having received six candidacies: Irena Ilieva (BG); Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastadinou (EL); Réka Varga (HU); Oreste Pollicino (IT); Lyra Jakuleviciénė (LT) and Philippe Boillat (CoE).
- 8.5 The candidates took the floor to present their candidacies and qualifications.
- 8.6 Irena Ilieva (BG); Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastadinou (EL); Réka Varga (HU); Oreste Pollicino (IT); Lyra Jakuleviciénė (LT) and Philippe Boillat (CoE) were elected to AREDIT for a mandate of 2.5 years.

Decision:	F. Sunniva McDonagh (IE) was elected member of the Budget Committee for a mandate of 2.5 years. G. Irena Ilieva (BG); Elisavet Symeonidou-Kastadinou (EL); Réka Varga (HU); Oreste Pollicino (IT); Lyra Jakuleviciénė (LT) and Philippe Boillat (CoE) were elected members of AREDIT for a mandate of 2.5 years.
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9 Budgetary Transfer no. 2 and Amendment no. 2 of the Programming Document (PD) 2020

Main Conclusions:	
9.1	The Head of Corporate Services presented the MB budgetary processes as relevant to Budgetary Transfer no. 2 and Amendment no. 2 of the PD 2020. He provided detailed information on the proposal of reallocating funds originally planned for activities that were no longer possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
9.2	He presented the Board with Amendment no. 2 of the PD 2020 reflecting the revision of the projects and their updated budgets, as well as updates in performance indicators and targets, evaluations and risks.
Decision:	H. The Management Board adopted Budgetary Transfer no. 2 and Amendment no. 2 of the PD 2020.

10 Financial Matters

Main Conclusions:

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10.1 The Management Board received an overview and update of the budget execution and budgetary transfers that took place since the last Management Board meeting.

11 Any other Business

Main Conclusions:

- 11.1 The Chairperson announced the next Management Board meeting on 10-11 December 2020.
- 11.2 The Chairperson called for one more application for AREDIT and another two for the Budget Committee. Elections for these open vacancies will be held at the December meeting.

Date of the next meeting: 10-11 December 2020

Approved on:	10 December 2020
By the Chair:	

