

March 2009
B/09/M1

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE GOVERNING BOARD, 2 MARCH 2009

Present:

Mr György (Chair), Mr Riese, Mr de Meester, Mr Engels, Mr Remaeus, Ms Schweng, Mr Cerfeda, Mr Alvarez, Mr Kempa, Ms Böhm, Mr Takala, Mr Smith, Mr Taylor, Mr Rial Gonzalez, Ms Murillo, Ms O'Brien and Mr Bejer (Secretariat).

Item 1: Adoption of the revised draft Agenda (B/09/A1)

The agenda was adopted.

Item 2: Draft minutes of the last meeting of 15-16 December 2008 (B/08/M4)

The minutes were adopted.

Item 3: Preparation for Board meeting (G/09/A1)

The Bureau worked through the agenda items.

Draft Annual Management Plan 2010

Mr Riese appreciated the standardized format for the cover notes and the effort to give a more targeted introduction to the agenda items. However, in the future it should be even clearer that substantial comments on the work programme have to be given at the March meeting.

Following a request from Mr Riese, Mr Smith clarified that the 2010 ECAP budget had been restored to the 2008 level and that the Advisory Group had not suggested changes to the current scheme. When it comes to assessing the ECAP funds, it should be taken into account that the Agency supports the focal points in a number of other ways, such as provision of materials in national languages.

Mr Takala added that it has to be kept in mind that the Agency can only support activities with a common European element and where there is clear European added value.

On a request from Ms Böhm, Mr Rial-Gonzalez replied that the ESENER data will become freely available on the web via a service offered by the University of Essex.

Mr Cerfeda recognized the statement on the economic crisis in the introduction to the management plan but considered that the current economic climate should be reflected throughout the document. As regards the pre-enlargement activities, an additional effort regarding tri-partism is needed and it is necessary to respond to the current changes in the economy in the Western Balkan countries.

Ms Schweng requested that the role of the Bureau in relation to the ESENER should be specified.

Mr Rial-Gonzalez clarified that the foresight study will focus on a sector in order to find a reasonable limitation of the project. As regards ESENER there is agreement that the Advisory Group can ask the Bureau to decide on issues they feel are beyond their competence.

On the role of EU-OSHA in legislation, Mr Taylor clarified that the activity is limited to the provision of information on Community legislation via the web-site.

Proposal regarding Advisory Groups

Ms Böhm pointed out that the documents for the meetings need to be provided earlier in order to coordinate within the interest groups.

Item 4: Any other business

Following a request from Ms Böhm, Mr Smith explained regarding the 2nd risk assessment campaign year that an activity plan had been communicated. However, it should be remembered by all parties that it is the first time a two-year campaign is being run.

Mr Alvarez informed about the postponement of the EU-US conference from 2009 to 2010.

The Chair thanked the interpreters.