

52ND MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD 18-19 FEBRUARY 2015 IN RIGA, LATVIA

List of participants

Mr Ralf GÖBEL - Chairman of the Management Board
Mr Günter SCHNITTLER (Austria - AT)
Mr Herbert VEYT (Belgium - BE)
Mr Milen PENEV (Bulgaria - BG)
Mr Gilio TOIĆ SINTIĆ (Croatia - HR)
Mr Petros ZENIOU (Cyprus - CY)
Mr Martin VONDRASEK (Czech Republic - CZ)
Mr Richard ØSTERLUND LA COUR (Denmark - DK)
Mr Rando KRUUSMA (Estonia - EE)
Mr Ilkka LAITINEN (Finland - FI)
Mr Bernard SIFFERT (France - FR)
Mr Lars GERDES (Germany - DE)
Mr Aleksandros SOUKOULIS (Greece - EL)
Mr Zsolt HALMOSI (Hungary - HU)
Mr Ólafur Helgi KJARTANSSON (Iceland - IS)
Mr Daniele MOSCONI (Italy - IT)
Mr Normunds GARBARS (Latvia - LV)
Mr Uwe LANGENBAHN (Liechtenstein - LI)
Mr Vainius BURINAS (Lithuania - LT)
Mr Thierry FEHR (Luxembourg - LU)
Mr Neville XUEREB (Malta - MT)
Mr Ronald HARMSMA (The Netherlands - NL)
Mr Jan Eirik THOMASSEN (Norway - NO)
Ms Aleksandra ŚWIĄTECKA (Poland - PL)
Mr António BEÇA PEREIRA (Portugal - PT)
Mr Liviu GALOS (Romania - RO)
Mr Ľudovít BÍRÓ (Slovak Republic - SK)
Mr Marko GAŠPERLIN (Slovenia - SI)
Mr Emilio BAOS ARRABAL (Spain - ES)
Ms Marianne PERSSON (Sweden - SE)
Mr Heribert WIDER (Switzerland - CH)
Mr John FOTHERGILL (United Kingdom - UK)

██████████ (European Commission - COM)

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Frontex Executive Director (ED), Mr Fabrice LEGGERI, participated in the meeting.

List of items debated and/or approved (agenda)

1. Approval of the Agenda
 2. Approval of the minutes of the 51st Management Board meeting
 3. Recent internal developments and procedural issues
 4. Presentation of the latest phenomena at the EU external borders including Frontex operational response and including information on the JO Triton
 5. Decision of the Management Board on prioritising Turkey for deployment of Frontex Liaison Officer
 6. Single Programming Document 2016-2019
 - 6.1. Presentation and discussion on Frontex Multi Annual Plan 2016-2019, and
 - 6.3. Presentation and discussion on the preliminary draft Programme of Work 2016 and preliminary draft budget 2016 including information from the working group on budget and accounts
 - 6.2. Presentation and discussion on Multi Annual Staff Policy Plan 2016-2018
 7. Report from the Fundamental Rights Officer
 8. Presentation of Frontex annual report to the European Parliament on the commitments of the Member States to the European Border Guard Teams 2015
 9. Presentation of the report on the Seconded Guest Officers
 10. Presentation of the Final Feasibility Study Report on the European System for Border Guards
 11. Presentation of the first progress report for Article 33 Evaluation
 12. Presentation of the preliminary budget implementation of the financial year 2014
 13. State of play on the implementation of the Programme of Work 2014
 14. Any other business
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Main results of the meeting

At its 52nd meeting, the Management Board adopted two decisions: on the prioritising of Turkey for a possible deployment of a Frontex liaison officer and on additional 20 million EUR in the draft budget 2016.

The discussion accompanying the decision on the prioritising of Turkey for a possible deployment of a Frontex liaison officer focused on preparation of the accurate description of the profile, setting an estimated timeframe, assessing the interaction and coordination with the national liaison officers already deployed in Turkey as well as on legal and financial aspects of the deployment. A pilot deployment will be proposed after feasibility and impact assessment.

The new Frontex Executive Director, Mr Fabrice Leggeri, provided feedback on his activities undertaken since taking up the post on 16 January 2015, focusing on meetings held with Frontex staff and authorities on national and EU level as well as on external communication.

Frontex presented the state of play of the Working Arrangement with Europol following the agreement reached in December 2014 on the text of the working arrangement allowing for processing of personal data. Frontex is in the process of preparing legal, technical and operational documents concerning the working arrangements in consultation with the European Data Protection Supervisor.

In the presentation of the latest phenomena at the EU external borders, Frontex concentrated mainly on presenting the different trends of illegal border crossings (including data on routes and nationalities as well as cross-border crime), the current geopolitical context and the implementation of selected ongoing joint operations and the Eurosur Fusion Services. The subsequent discussion largely focused on the situation in the Mediterranean and the Western Balkans (the current situation on the Hungarian-Serbian border) as well as respective operational responses.

The new planning document, the so-called "Single Programming Document" (SPD), based on a template common to all EU decentralised Agencies, was introduced to the MB. This document aims at gathering all strategic documents (Multi Annual Plan, Multi Annual Staff Policy Plan, and Annual Programme of Work) into one.

Its use will be compulsory as of 2017. However, in view of getting familiar, Frontex decided to apply it in 2016 as a pilot. However, the Multi Annual Staff Policy Plan (MSPP) will remain separated from the pilot SPD for the year 2016.

The MB exchanged views on the strategic direction developed by the SPD and commented on the multi-annual objective and strategic action areas. Based on those, the SPD will be reviewed and submitted for adoption at the 53rd MB meeting in March 2015. Changes will also be introduced to the MSPP in view of reflecting the discussions and the decision paving the way for a possible deployment of Frontex Liaison Officers. The MSPP will be submitted to the Commission for its favourable opinion and it will be presented to the MB for adoption in May MB meeting.

The Working Group on budget and accounts presented its priorities for 2015.

The Fundamental Rights Officer presented her report covering the period from 20 October 2014 to 15 January 2015.

The Focus Group, which was created during the 51st MB meeting for a joint work between selected members of the Consultative Forum (CF), MB and Frontex on the recommendations of the CF following its visit to Poseidon sea and land operations in July 2013, presented the outcome of the first meeting held on 13 January 2015.

Frontex presented a report concerning the number of border guards that each MS has committed to the European Border Guard Teams and the number of technical equipment committed to the Technical Equipment Pool. By means of this report, each year the Agency keeps the European Parliament informed on the matter. Frontex will amend the report to take on board comments and suggestions made by the delegations.

The European Commission presented the results of the Feasibility Study on the European System for Border Guards. It also introduced the two new Communications on security and migration where Frontex will have a role. Communications are expected to be published during this year.

The external evaluation of Frontex is currently being conducted. After receiving the findings of this evaluation. The findings and the recommendations of the evaluation shall be made public. In 2014, the Steering Committee to accompany the evaluation of the Agency was appointed. The Spokesperson of this Committee presented the results of the meeting held in February 2015 with the contractor responsible for carrying out the evaluation. The contractor presented the content of the Interim Report.

