

## 53<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD 25-26 March 2015 IN WARSAW, POLAND

### List of participants

Mr Ralf GÖBEL - Chairman of the Management Board  
Mr Robert STRONDL (Austria - AT)  
Mr Christiaan MARTENS (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 KRUIUSMA (Estonia - EE)  
Mr Pasi KOSTAMOVAARA (Finland - FI)  
Mr Benoît BROCARD (France - FR)  
Mr Lars GERDES (Germany - DE)  
Mr Ioannis KARAGEORGOPOULOS (Greece - EL)  
Mr Zsolt HALMOSI (Hungary - HU)  
Mr Ólafur Helgi KJARTANSSON (Iceland - IS)  
Mr Giovanni PINTO (Italy - IT)  
Mr Vladimirs ZAGUZOVS (Latvia - LV)  
Mr Vygintas KAZIUKONIS (Lithuania - LT)  
Mr Thierry FEHR (Luxembourg - LU)  
Mr Neville XUEREB (Malta - MT)  
Mr Hans LEJTENS (The Netherlands - NL)  
Ms Ellen AHNFELT (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) and ██████████  
██████████ (European Commission - COM)

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 52<sup>nd</sup> 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, main findings from ARA 2015, Frontex' role regarding the issue of the foreign fighters, and migratory pressure from Kosovo
5. Fundamental Rights issues:
  - 5.1. Presentation of the Consultative Forum draft Annual Report 2014
  - 5.2. Presentation of the Consultative Forum draft Work Programme 2015
  - 5.3. Report from the Fundamental Rights Officer
  - 5.4. Presentation of the Fundamental Rights Officer Work Plan 2015
6. Single Programming Document 2016-2019
  - 6.1. Decision of the Management Board adopting Frontex Multi Annual Plan 2016-2019
  - 6.2. Decision of the Management Board adopting the preliminary Programme of Work 2016
  - 6.3. Decision of the Management Board adopting the draft revenue and expenditures for 2016
7. Decision of the Management Board adopting Frontex General Report 2014
8. Decision of the Management Board on the rules relating to technical equipment (OMNTE) to be deployed in Frontex coordinated activities in 2016
9. Presentation of the report on the Seconded Guest Officers
10. Decision of the Management Board on the new unit costs
11. Presentation of the state of play of the Headquarters Agreement
12. Presentation of the preliminary budget implementation of the financial year 2014 and state of play of the implementation of budget 2015
13. Any other business

## Main results of the meeting

The second annual report 2014 and Work Programme for 2015 of the Consultative Forum (CF) were respectively presented by the CF Co-Chair, Mr Stefan KESSLER, and the CF Chair, Ms Marta BALLESTERO. In the past years, both documents had been posted on Frontex website. The presentation was followed by a discussion with the members of the MB.

The Single Programming Document (SPD), including the Multi Annual Plan for 2016-2019, the preliminary Programme of Work for 2016 and the draft revenue and expenditures for 2016, was approved by the MB taking into account the comments made during the discussion. Firstly, remarks focused on the format of the document. Secondly and most importantly, the members of the MB commented on the substance mainly touching upon the strategic directions of the Agency, the decrease of budget earmarked to the area of Joint Return Operations, the priority levels of certain areas and the relevance of certain priority actions (notably Frontex support to the development of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum). Based on the comments, a revised version of the SPD will be submitted to the MB for decision at the end of year 2015.

It is worth reminding that the use of the SPD format stems from a recommendation of the European Commission. The SPD will become compulsory as of 2017. The MB agreed to use the new format as of 2016 as a “testing phase”.

The MB approved the General Report 2014 which is available on Frontex website.

The MB adopted the rules related to the technical equipment (Overall Minimum Number of Technical Equipment) to be deployed in Frontex coordinated operations in 2016. The Decision is available on Frontex website. The assets-months agreed by the MB represent the total of the estimated required technical equipment for 2016 operations. The purpose of the assets-months approach is to gain in flexibility to adapt resources to the operational needs which will be further defined during this year based on well-grounded planning and risk analysis.

In the presentation of the latest phenomena at the EU external borders, Frontex provided information on the main findings of the Annual Risk Analysis (ARA) 2015, with recommendations for the year in the areas of security, identification of migrants, knowledge management, third-country collaboration and integrated training. Moreover, the Agency provided an update of the situation at the external borders since the previous Management Board meeting (February 2015), drawing the attention of the Board to the record high figure of irregular border crossings in winter. After presenting the wider geopolitical context, Frontex focused on the implementation of selected ongoing joint operation and the Eurosur Frontex Fusion Services. Lastly, the Agency presented its role regarding the issue of foreign fighters and migratory pressure from Kosovo. The subsequent interventions focused on the findings of the ARA 2015, the phenomenon of cargo ships, irregular migration flows from the Western Balkans, pooling and sharing resources, counter-terrorism measures, foreign fighters, return flights, economic migrants, cooperation with the sub-Saharan countries, cooperation with Europol, effectiveness of Eurosur, availability of vessels to facilitators and different ways of combatting organised criminal groups.

The presentation of the report on the Seconded Guest Officers was postponed due to time constraints.

The decision of the MB on the new unit costs was postponed to the next MB meeting. Unit costs are one of the financial instruments for EU institutions to reimburse EU Member States (MS). They aim at contributing to a sound financial management and at ensuring equal treatment between the beneficiaries (i.e. MS) for the same category of actions. The discussion showed that certain costs were not mature enough to be agreed by the delegations.

The presentation of the state of play of the Headquarters Agreement between Poland and Frontex was postponed due to time constraints.

The presentation of the preliminary budget implementation of the financial year 2014 and the state of play of the implementation of budget 2015 was postponed due to time constraints.