

3405/22.09.2006



DECISION OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2006

**AUTHORISING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO
NEGOTIATE A WORKING ARRANGEMENT FOR THE AGENCY WITH
CROATIA**

THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Having regard to the Regulation (EC) No. 2007/2004 of the Council of 26 October 2004 establishing a European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union, hereinafter referred to as "the FRONTEX Regulation", and in particular to Art. 14 thereof,

Having regard to the decision of the Management Board laying down the procedures for negotiating and concluding working arrangements with third countries and international organisations, and in particular Article 2 point 1 thereof,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Single Article

The Executive Director is hereby authorised to negotiate a working arrangement with the competent authorities of Croatia in accordance with the guidelines and financial implication annexed to this decision.

Done at Warsaw, 21 September 2006

For the Management Board


M. A. BEUVING
Chairperson



ANNEX:

GUIDELINES

The working arrangement, to establish FRONTEX' operational cooperation with the competent authorities of Croatia and to facilitate Member States' operational cooperation with Croatia, may cover the following issues:

- Involved authorities; FRONTEX and the Croatian authorities competent in matters covered by Council Regulation 2007/2004;
- Basic principles of establishing the operational cooperation;
- Objectives of the operational cooperation;
- Contents of the operational cooperation:
 - Exchange of information, in particular related to FRONTEX Risk Analyses and the participation in the FRONTEX Risk Analyses Network (FRAN) as observer;
 - Exchange of experiences;
 - Cooperation on training, according to article 5 of the Council Regulation 2007/2004;
 - Technical cooperation in the field of research and development, according to article 6 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 2007/2004;
 - Participation in FRONTEX coordinated Joint operations as observer on case by case basis as well as the participation in FRONTEX coordinated joint operations at borders between EU Member States/Schengen associated countries and Croatia without any restrictions;
 - Secondment of Border Guard Officers to Focal Point Offices located at External Borders, on proposal by FRONTEX and upon the agreement of the hosting Member State;
 - Participation in FRONTEX coordinated joint return operations on case by case basis and upon agreement of the responsible Member State;
 - Participation in pilot projects on case by case basis.



- **Organisation of the cooperation:**
 - Dialogue between the Executive Director and the Head of the Border Police Directorate of the Ministry of Interior of Croatia;
 - Other contacts between FRONTEX and the respective authority. (e.g. the establishment of a Croatian NFPOC);
 - Possibility of establishing of common working groups;
- Alternations and additions
- Legal status
- Entry into force and validity of the working arrangement

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

For the preparatory and signing phase administrative costs for the negotiation process will be made. Approximately two missions of the Executive Director in cooperation with the Chairperson of Management Board, including staff, will take place. The Croatian competent authorities will be invited for an induction visit to FRONTEX premises in Warsaw.

Travel costs for missions of FRONTEX staff, with the aim to strengthen the partnership and to elaborate common activities will be made. Financial means will be covered by the administrative budget.

Future joint operations in the framework of a working arrangement will take place according to FRONTEX risk analyses output. Co-financing of joint operations with competent Croatian authorities will be determined within the limits of FRONTEX budget reserved for operational purposes.

Activities in regard to training and research and development will take place within the limits of the allocated budget for the respective purposes.