



Summary of the minutes from the 1st Annual Meeting EEA Financial Mechanism and Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009 – 2014, Slovakia

Date: 30th November 2011

General

The first High-Level meeting on the EEA Financial Mechanism and Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009 – 2014 was held with participation of representatives of Norwegian Ministry of Foreign affairs (Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, Berit Helene Pettersen), Norwegian Embassy in Slovakia (Her Excellency Trine Skymoene, ambassador), Financial Mechanism Office in Brussels, Ministry of Finance of Slovak Republic and representatives of Governmental Office of Slovak Republic.

Summary

Short introduction speech was presented by Mrs. Szabóová, who welcomed all participants from relevant institutions. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the progress of the preparation of the Programme proposals which should be finalised and sent to the FMO by the end of February or early March 2012. Participants were also informed that the Scholarship Programme will not be prepared on this time due to the need for public procurement. During the meeting, further issues relating to current status of implementation of EEA and NFM 09-14 and plan for the coming period were discussed.

The co-chair of the meeting was Mrs. Vibeke-Rysst Jensen who introduced new members of the team. Further she said that this meeting can help to clarify the problems which occurred during the preparation process of the Programmes. Then she emphasized that partnership and cooperation with the donors is very important in order to achieve the results.

Within the first block of the meeting the following topics were presented:

1. General information about implementation
2. Introduction of new organization chart and structure of NFP

Subsequently

1. Certifying Authority introduced some of methodical documents prepared by CA
2. Audit Authority presented a brief description of Compliance Audit that was carried out.

The current status of preparation of Programme Proposals within those Programmes where the FP is also the Programme Operator was introduced later on.

Within the last block of the meeting the status of the preparation of the Fund for Bilateral Relations – Bilateral Fund at National Level was presented. Mrs. Rysst – Jensen acknowledged that the cooperation between Norwegian Embassy and NFP is good and expressed her hope and expectation that such good cooperation will continue. At the end of this block NFP briefly presented some information about publicity measures which were carried out, information about submitted Communication Strategy to the FMO and introduced some planned steps for the coming period.

Conclusion:

Mrs. Szabóová thanked all participants of the meeting. Also, Mrs. Rysst-Jensen thanked to everybody and appreciated good cooperation between Slovakia and Norway.