

MINUTES 46th MB MEETING

Event:	46th Management Board Meeting
Date:	27 September 2024
Place:	virtual
Status:	Final
Participants:	
Members:	Jim Clarken (IE, Chairperson), Katharina Pabel (AT), Natalie Denies (BE), Irena Ilieva (BG), Veronika Bilkova (CZ), Astrid Kjeldgaard-Pedersen (DK), Anne Peters (DE), Paloma Krõõt Tupay (EE), Miltiadis Sarigiannidis (EL), Yolanda Gamarra (ES), Florence Merloz (FR), Snježana Bagić (HR), Marco Fasciglione (IT, alternate), Katerina Kallitsioni (CY, alternate), Dace Šulmane (LV, alternate), Lyra Jakulevičienė (LT), Balázs Gerencsér (HU), Giannino Caruana Demajo (MT), Rick Lawson (NL), Katarina Vatovec (SI, alternate), Katarína Batková (SK), Tuomas Ojanen (FI), Per Bergling (SE), Philippe Boillat (CoE)
Representatives COM:	Julien Mousnier (DG JUST); Paul Hafellner (DG JUST)
Director	Sirpa Rautio
Operational services:	Andreas Accardo (Head of Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit), Xavier Catala' (Head of Corporate Services Unit <i>ad interim</i>), Joanna Goodey (Head of Justice, Digital and Migration Unit), Siobhan McInerney-Lankford (Head of Equality, Roma & Social Rights Unit), Nicole Romain (Head of Communication and Events Unit), Adrianna Bochenek (Director's Office), Francesco Saverio Liguori (Director's Office, Planning and Programming Officer), Luisa Lopez (Legal Officer), Katarina Lughofer (Director's Office), Vittoria Gattini (Trainee in Director's Office), Elena Balzarini (MB Secretariat)
Excused:	Noémie Sadler (LU), Marek Szydło (PL), Paulo Saragoça da Matta (PT), Csaba Ferenc Asztalos (RO)
Alternates (<i>when Members are present</i>)/Observers/ Guests/:	Evis Alimehmeti (OBS AL); Kirsten Roberts Lyer (OBS SC); Carlien Scheele (OBS EIGE); Daniele-Nicola Cangemi (OBS CoE);

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1 Opening remarks and approval of the draft agenda, possible conflicts of interest

Main Conclusions:

- 1.1 The Chairperson opened the 46th MB meeting and welcomed all participants. In particular he welcomed the newly elected Chairperson of the FRA Scientific Committee, Kirsten Roberts Lyr.
- 1.2 The Chairperson asked if any conflict of interest needed to be reported pertaining to the items of the agenda. No conflict of interest was reported.
- 1.3 The Chairperson asked if there was any comment on the draft agenda of the meeting. As no comments were raised, the draft agenda of the 46th MB meeting was approved.

Decision: A. The agenda of the 46th Management Board meeting was approved.

2 Approval of the draft minutes of the 45th MB meeting

Main Conclusions:

- 2.1 The draft minutes of the 45th Management Board meeting were presented to the MB to be approved.
- 2.2 As no comments on the minutes were received, the Board approved the minutes of the 45th MB meeting.

Decision: B. The minutes of the 45th Management Board meeting were approved.

3 a) Report from the 74th Executive Board Meeting and on the Chairperson's activities

b) Report of the Director on the work of FRA in the last period

Main Conclusions:

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- 3.1 The Chairperson reported back from the 74th EB, which took place in the morning during which the members mainly prepared the 46th MB.
- 3.2 He informed that during the EB meeting, the members appointed Rick Lawson (NL) Philippe Boillat (CoE) and Ingrid Bellander Todino (COM) for a new term of two years in the Appeals Committee. Katharina Pabel (AT) was appointed as alternate member.
- 3.3 He informed that during the meeting, the EB also discussed the preparation of the mid-term review of the FRA Strategic Plan expected in 2025.
- 3.4 The Director updated on the Agency's activities since the last MB meeting. She presented key outputs and progress of work in the operational Units. She reported on her external engagements with specific references to various meeting with EU institutions, civil society organizations, and national governments.
- 3.5 The Director informed the MB about her focus on improving internal processes, including governance quality control, optimisation of workflows and cross-unit collaboration. She updated on enhancements on programming documents, both ongoing and future, as well as on efforts made in improvement of operational planning processes.
- 3.6 The Director's report was warmly welcomed, and the MB expressed appreciation for the Agency's work and achievements since the last MB meeting.

4 Update and discussion on EU-Fundamental Rights Policy developments (COM)

Main Conclusions:

- 4.1 The Commission provided an overview of recent fundamental rights policy developments, highlighting that fundamental rights were mentioned across many mission letters for the commissioner-designates as a driver to strengthen democracy and the rule of law.
- 4.2 The COM representative reported on recent and upcoming initiatives. He thanked for FRA's input to the 2024 Charter report on enforcing, promoting and protecting fundamental rights through funding. He mentioned the increased focus on civic space and continued emphasis on rule of law, with a strong link to conditionalities for funding, under the next Commission. He then summarised ongoing work in key areas, including the rights of the child (with the follow-up to the COM recommendation on integrated child protection systems to which FRA contributed with a mapping), hate crime and hate speech (thanking FRA for hosting a workshop on this topic), as well as the review of several strategies, for which FRA's data had been key (anti-racism, LGBTIQ, antisemitism). He underlined the importance of FRA's contribution to the implementation of the AI Act, which entered into force in August 2024, and to the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

5 Financial matters

Main Conclusions:

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| 5.1 | The Board received an update on financial matters and a report on the discussions held at the 38 th Budget Committee of 25 September. |
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6 Budgetary transfer 2024_02 and Amendment of the Programming Document 2024 – 2026

Main Conclusions:

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| 6.1 | FRA Planning and Programming Officer presented the second budgetary transfer and the amendment n. 2 of the Single Programming Documents 2024-2026. |
| 6.2 | The Management Board adopted the budgetary transfer n.2 and the amendment n. 2 of the Programming Document 2024-2026. |

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| Decision: | C. The Management Board adopted the Budget transfer 2024-02 and the amendment n. 2 of the Programming Document 2024-2026. |
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7 Amending budget 2024-02

Main Conclusions:

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| 7.1 | The Head of Corporate Services <i>ad interim</i> presented the proposed amending budget n. 2 providing a detailed explanation about the funds received by the Agency. |
| 7.2 | The Management Board discussed and adopted the Amending Budget 2024-02. |

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| Decision: | D. The Management Board adopted the amending budget 2024-02. |
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8 Update on the Draft Programming Document 2025-2027

Main Conclusions:

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| 8.1 | The Board received an update on the draft Single Programming Document (SPD) 2025-2027 that will be adopted in December as well on the state of consultation conducted with the main stakeholders. |
| 8.2 | The Commission representative recalled the formal opinion on the Draft SPD issued in July. |
| 8.3 | The Director informed about the agency's efforts and intentions to address the impact of the shrinking operational budget of 2025. |

9 Any other business

Main Conclusions:

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- 9.1 The Chairperson informed that the next 47th MB meeting will take place at FRA premises on Thursday 12 and Friday 13 December 2024.
- 9.2 Lyra Jakulevičienė (LT) announced her resignation from the Board and the Chairperson thanked her for her dedication and work for the FRA MB and EB.
- 9.3 The Chairperson thanked Ms Snježana Bagić, the member from Croatia for her commitment and support during her term, ending at the beginning of December 2024.

10 In-camera session

Main Conclusions:

The Management Board discussed confidential matters.

The Board also discussed the upcoming probationary reports of the director and confirmed the names of the assessors.

Date of the next meeting: 12-13 December 2024

Approved on:	12 December 2024
By the Chair:	Jim Clarken 