



Ministry of Environment
EU Funds Department

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Minutes

from the 13th Meeting of the Monitoring Committee (MC) of the Operational Programme Environment (OPE), held on 19 June 2013 in the hotel Grand Majestic Plaza, Truhlářská 16, Praha 1

Attendees: as per the attached attendance sheet

Meeting agenda:

1. Opening and approval of the agenda of the 13th Meeting of OPE MC
2. Discussion about the draft OPE Implementation Progress Report for the period from 01/10/2012 to 31/03/2013
3. Discussion and approval of the draft 2012 Annual Report of OPE
4. Discussion about proposed changes of OPE
 - Discussion about, and approval of, the OPE Programme Document and the OPE Implementation Document
5. Information on the preparation of the OPE Programming Period 2014-2020
6. Miscellaneous.
7. Conclusion

1) Opening and approval of the agenda of the 13th Meeting of OPE MC

The meeting was opened by OPE MC, Ing. Martin Frélich, the First Deputy to the Minister for the EU Funds Section, Economy and the Environmental Policy, hereinafter only *the Chairman*, who welcomed the present members and the representatives of the European Commission, and introduced the new members of OPE MC, who are:

- Ing. Vít Šumpela, Chief Director of the Economy and the Environmental Policy, MoE (the new Vice Chairman),
- Ing. Miloš Křepelka, Director of the Department of Economic and Voluntary Instruments, MoE,
- Ing. Martin Švolba, Head of the Department of Economic Instruments, Analyses and Methodological Management of the National Environmental Fund (NEF), MoE,



- Ing. Karel Vlasák, Director of the Waters Protection Department, MoE,
- Dr. Ing. Lubomír Chytka, Director of Wastes Department, MoE,
- Ing. Jaroslav Michna, Department of OPE Projects Management, MoE,
- Mgr. Martin Kubica, NEF, Deputy Director of the OPE Management Section,
- Jan Král, BBS, Director of Management and Coordination of NSRR MMR,
- Mgr. Michaela Šimová, Director of the Regional Council RS South-West,
- Zdeněk Chlád, a councillor of the Vysočina Region, a member of the Council of the Regional Council RS South-East,
- Ing. Klára Dostálová, Director of EP Centre for ROP North-East,
- Ing. Václav Jakubík, a member of the Regional Council RS North-West,
- Ing. Vladimír Novotný, the Industry and Transport Union of the Czech Republic (CR),
- Martin Tesařík, a senator of the Council for Regional Development, Public Administration and Environment of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

The Chairman further informed that the OPE shall take decisions based on the consensus and if it cannot be reached, a vote shall be taken. The council constituted a quorum since 33 members/representatives of the total of 46 were present. In the course of the meeting, the state further changed with the arrival of other members of the OPE MC.

The Chairman acquainted the attendees with the major items of the meeting agenda.
The agenda was consensually approved by the present members.

The Chairman summarised the character and specifics of the OPE, including its major current problems, (underlying the problems with drawing) and briefly outlined the steps for their alleviation. He expressed his belief that the OPE MC shall have a constructive course.

2) Progress Report on the OPE Implementation for the period from 01/10/2012 to 31/03/2013

Vít Šumpela (MoE) informed the MC members on the contents and conclusions of the Implementation Progress Report for the last monitored period and also on the current state of the OPE. He described the major problems of OPE, particularly the problems with the meeting of the N+2/N+3 rule in 2013. He paid a lot of attention to the adopted remedies (the so-called acceleration measures). He underlined that the effect of some of the mentioned measures shall be apparent only in a longer term. In addition, he stated that OPE MA (the Managing Authority) in cooperation with ZS is planning to announce a call for PP2 (including the aid for alternative transports, where the implementation of projects shall be conditioned by the approval of measures by the EC), continuous calls in PP3 and PP4 and also a call in PP6.



After the presentation, a discussion followed, in which a number of the MC members and the EC representatives came up with questions and comments that concerned primarily the planned reallocations from OPE to OPD, but also the timely submission of reference documents, a possibility of minimisation of risks or not completing the draw-down of OPE financial resources in 2013 and subsequent years, the effect of remedies, number of PP4 projects in the tank, subject of supervision activities and other topics.

Elena Grech (EC) expressed her opinion that in addition to the root cause analysis of the problems of the programme implementation, efforts should be put on the minimisation of such problems. However, she expressed doubts whether the proposed relocation outside the OPE shall really lead to the resolution of the issue, whose justification she considers as insufficient. This reallocation shall not lower in any respect the risk of a loss of considerable financial resources in this year. Anyway, the reallocation from the programme is the last solution, when the problems may not be resolved within the programme – by means of an adjustment of activities, or reallocation between the priority axes. The emphasis should be put primarily on the accelerated submission of applications for payment and other processes on the part of beneficiaries. The EC representatives deplored the fact that the Managing Authority failed to present any quantifiable effects of the “acceleration measures” in relation of the volume of the issued Decisions on the Provision of a Grant and the total volume of the OPE draw-down.

After the discussion, the submitted Progress Report on the OPE Implementation for the period from 01/10/2012 to 31/03/2013 was acknowledged by the OPE MC members.

The following resolution and the task arose from the discussion about Item 2) of the MC agenda:

In connection to the adopted acceleration measures within the individual PPs, the MC assigns to MA to announce the planned calls so as to make sure that a bank of projects would be created for the individual areas and the OPE resources would be continuously drawn down until the end of the programming period.

The resolution was adopted by the ratio of votes of 34:0:0 (against: for: abstained).

3) Discussion and approval of the draft 2012 Annual Report of OPE

Within the presentation of the 2012 Annual Report for 2012, *Radek Lintymer (MoE)* mentioned primarily the main problems in the programme implementation in 2012, the programme progress as of 31/12/2012, including the comparison with the previous year, he informed on the progress in large projects and projects of 25-50 MEUR and informed the attendees of the inspections and audits completed at all implementation levels.

A discussion and questions of the individual members followed.



At the request of the European Commission representative, Marek Teplanský, the assignment for the adjustment of the OPE Annual Report for 2012 arose:

In the OPE Annual Report for 2012, the target values of indicators as per the EC's request shall be adjusted to the values stated in the OPE Programme Document approved on 20/02/2012 except for target values of indicators, whose value has been changed at the EC's request.

The OPE MC consensually approved the OPE Annual Report for 2012, including the adjustments arising from the assignment above.

4) Discussion about proposed changes of OPE

- **Discussion about, and approval of, the OPE Programme Document and the OPE Implementation Document**

In the first part of his presentation, *Jaroslav Michna (MŽP)* acquainted the attendees with the methodology of the calculation of the actual disposable allocation (incl. the methodology of the calculation of savings that arise during the implementation of the programme) and presented the calculation of the available disposable allocation within the OPE. In the second part, he presented the future OPE strategy including the proposed changes in the OPE Programme and Implementation Document, i.e.:

- Reallocation of CZK 3.7bn from OPE to OPD arising from the Resolution of the Government No. 387/2013 of 22/05/2013, whereby the Government of the Czech Republic decided on the reallocation of 3.7 bn (EUR 147,175,815) from OPE to OPD, the reallocated resources shall come from PP4 and PP8.
- Other reallocations within OPE, if any, shall be proposed by the OPE MA only after the verification of the impacts of floods and other factors on the implementation considering that measures with expected short-term implementation term shall be definitely preferred.
- Change of the audit system
 - Reflection of the PAS centralisation for the Audit Authority (under Resolution of the Government No. 324/2012) in the relevant chapters of the OPE PD and ID.

The Chairman opened a discussion about the given item.

Within the discussion also the European Commission representatives came up, who expressed their doubts regarding the justification of the reallocation from OPE to OPD being prepared. They do not consider the reference to the Government Resolution as sufficient justification, they require the evaluation of the implementation of the individual axes.



Júlia Sokolovičová (RVNOO) raised a counterproposal to withdraw the proposal for reallocation from OPE to OPD in the amount of CYK 3.7bn until the supplementation of the documents. *The Chairman* had a vote to be taken on this counterproposal.

The OPE MC did not adopt this resolution by the ratio of votes of 2 : 22 : 6 (for : against : abstained).

The Chairman had also a vote to be taken on the submitted proposal of changes in the PD and ID, which primarily reflect the reallocation from OPE to OPD in the amount of CYK 3.7bn under Resolution of the Government No. 387/2013 of 22/05/2013.

The OPE MC adopted this resolution by the ratio of votes of 20 : 5 : 7 (for : against : abstained).

The Chairman had a vote to be taken on the resolution, i.e.:

The OPE MC assigns to OPE MA to continuously analyse disposable resources and prepare proposals for further reallocations among the individual OPE PPs.

The OPE MC adopted this resolution by the ratio of votes of 32 : 0 : 2 (for : against : abstained).

5) Information on the preparation of the OPE Programming Period 2014-2020

Světlana Svitáková (MoE) presented the update of the preparation of the programming period 2014-2020 OPE and presented the first draft OPE 2014-2020, which proposes 6 priority axes of the programme, namely:

- PP1: Improvement of water quality and limiting flood risks
- PP2: Improvement of air quality in human settlements
- PP3: Wastes and material flows, ecological burdens and risks
- PP4: Nature and landscape protection and care
- PP5: Energy savings
- PP6: Technical aid

At the end, Mrs Svitáková summarised further progress of work the preparation of the next programming period.

The Chairman opened a discussion about the given item, questions were answered.

6) Miscellaneous

Miloš Blaškovan (NAVIGA 4) acquainted the attendees with the results of the project “Analysis of the Administrative Intensity” (process and personnel audit), which was



completed from February to April 2013 in cooperation with ČSOB Advisory. The aim of the audit was the analysis of the implementation structure in terms of suitability and optimality, identifying weaknesses in terms of capacity and administrative intensity and proposing recommendations for successful completion of the programming period.

The Chairman added that relevant steps have already been taken at the MA and ZS based on this process and personal audit.

Subsequently in the Miscellaneous Item, *Martin Popelka (MoE)* summarised that in the period since the 12th meeting of OPE MC, changes of the OPE ID, the Communication Plan for 2013, the Financial Plan for Drawing Down Technical Aid for 2013, and HK for PP1, PP2, PP3, PP4, PP7 and changes in the statutes of the OPE MC have been approved in the “per rollam” form. He also informed the attendees on the methods of the accomplishment of the individual assignments from the 12th meeting of the OPE MC and stated that all assignments have been accomplished.

In conclusion, *Elena Grech (EC)* thanked for helpful discussion and for the whole meeting.

7) Conclusion

The Chairman thanked the members for their participation in the 13th meeting and closed the OPE MC.

The expected date of the next ordinary MC meeting:	November/December 2013
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OPERAČNÍ PROGRAM
ŽIVOTNÍ PROSTŘEDÍ



EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Fond soudržnosti
Evropský fond pro regionální rozvoj

Pro vodu,
vzduch a přírodu

Annex No. 1: Summary of assignments/recommendations from the 13th Meeting of the Monitoring Committee (MC) of the Operational Programme Environment (OPE)

Recorded by: Ing. Mgr. Denisa Ammerová, OFEU MoE executive

Verified by: Mgr. Radek Lintymer, OFEU MoE Director

Verified by: Ing. Vít Šumpela, Chief Director of the Section of EU Funds, Economy and Environmental Policy, authorised to manage the Department of OPE Projects Management

Approved by: Ing. Martin Frélich, the First Deputy to the Minister for the EU Funds Section, Economy and the Environmental Policy



Annex No. 1

Summary of assignments / recommendations
from the 13th Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme
Environment,
held on 19 June 2013 in the hotel Grand Majestic Plaza, Truhlářská 16, Praha 1

ASSIGNMENTS			
No.	Assignment	To be solved by	Due date
1	In connection to the adopted acceleration measures within the individual PPs, the MC assigns to MA to announce the planned calls so as to make sure that a bank of projects would be created for the individual areas and the OPE resources would be continuously drawn down until the end of the programming period.	MA	Continuously
2	Adjust the target values of indicators in the OPE Annual Report as per the EC's requirements to the values shown in the OPE Programme Document approved on 20/02/2012, except for the target values of the indicators, whose target value was changed at the EC's request.	MA	The AR submitted to the EC as of 27/06/2013 (the AR is attached at the date storage)
3	The MC assigns to the MA to continuously analyse disposable resources and prepare proposals for further reallocations among the individual OPE PPs.	MA	Continuously