MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION No 7 /2012
of 20 March 2012
on the pilot project “Frontex Operational Office”

THE MANAGEMENT BOARD,

Having regard to the Frontex Regulation\(^1\), in particular Article 16 thereof,

Having regard to Frontex Management Board Decision of 4 February 2010 (MB Decision No 1/2010), in particular Article 6 thereof,

Whereas

(1) Pursuant to Article 4 of Management Board Decision No 1/2010 Frontex Management Board established the first Frontex Operational Office (FOO) as a pilot project,

(2) Pursuant to Article 6 of Management Board Decision No 1/2010 the first pilot project FOO has been evaluated and on the basis of this evaluation Frontex Management Board may decide to pursue the pilot project,

(3) In its meetings on 30 November 2011 and 8/9 February 2012 Frontex Management Board discussed the results and conclusions of the evaluation,

(4) The Management Board discussed the future of the FOO on the basis of the opinion of the steering committee appointed on 23 March 2010 by the Management Board for the purpose of following closely the evaluation of the first pilot project FOO. Based on its discussions the Management Board concluded appropriate to continue the pilot project in order to receive more experience on the functioning of the FOO.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS

Article 1
Extension

The duration pilot project of the first Frontex Operational Office is hereby extended until 31 December 2013.

Article 2
Monitoring and evaluation

Before the end of the extended period of duration of the pilot project, set forth in the previous Article, a new assessment shall be made by the Steering Committee established by the Management Board supported by sufficient number of Frontex staff members assigned by the Executive Director.

The Steering Committee shall define relevant indicators of achievement of the objectives spelled out in the main tasks.

In addition the Steering Committee shall also perform a monitoring function with regard to the Frontex Operational Office.

Article 3
Reporting

At least once per year, the Steering Committee shall report its findings to the Management Board before its final assessment.

The Management Board has the right to ask for additional information to be provided by the Steering Committee if the need arises.

The Steering Committee shall submit the final evaluation report with a draft proposal to the Management Board in the fourth ordinary meeting of 2013 for decision making.

Article 4
Derogation

The Annex to Management Board Decision No 1/2010 is replaced by the Annex to this Decision.

Article 5
Entry into force

This Decision enters into force on the day following its adoption.

Done in Oslo, 20 March 2012

[signed]

For the Management Board
R. STRONDL
ANNEX

Tasks of a Frontex Operational Office

1. Contribution to the implementation of Joint Operations (JO) and Joint Return Operations (JRO) with focus on monitoring and supporting the tasks of the International Coordination Centres.

2. Participation at the preparation and contribution to the evaluation of JO and JRO, including the support of respective decision making.

3. Further contributing to border management related capacity building activities, including return related activities.

4. Providing information for situational awareness in the region and reporting on events related to JO.

5. Gathering and assessing information and intelligence for risk analysis purposes.

6. Networking with all relevant stakeholders involved in the core Member States for operational coordination and intelligence gathering.

7. Promoting the cooperation with EASO, Europol and other relevant EU bodies.

In addition, a Frontex Operational Office delivers baseline administrative functions (human resources and financial management) and an administrative support to the operational and intelligence components attached to them.