



**Minutes of the Sectoral Monitoring Subcommittee Meeting  
INTERNAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT**

1.	<b>Location:</b> Bôrik Hotel, Bratislava
2.	<b>Date:</b> 28 June 2005
3.	<b>Participants:</b> Ms Kornélia Čajková, Aid Coordination Unit, Office of the Government of the SR Ms Magdaléna Srncová, Aid Coordination Unit, Office of the Government of the SR Mr Milan Petro, Aid Coordination Unit, Office of the Government of the SR Mr Martin Orth, Aid Coordination Unit, Office of the Government of the SR Ms Andrea Daubnerová, National Fund, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Silvia Rusznyáková, National Fund, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Silvia Czuczorová, Central Finance and Contracting Unit, Ministry of Finance of the SR Mr Andrej Radecký, Central Finance and Contracting Unit, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Veronika Konická, Central Finance and Contracting Unit, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Silvia Švecová, Central Finance and Contracting Unit, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Elena Benková, Statistical Office of the SR Ms Miroslava Tužinská, Ministry of Environment of the SR Mr Juraj Gavora, Ministry of Environment of the SR Ms Monika Čunderlíková, National Bank of Slovakia Mr Matej Dostál, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Diana Mistríková, Ministry of Finance of the SR Ms Michaela Špeřková, Office of Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre of the SR Ms Albína Zlochová, Ministry of Agriculture of the SR Ms Iveta Krbáčová, Ministry of Health of the SR Mr Mikuláš Turner, Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the SR Ms J. Ráčová, Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the SR
5.	<b>Minutes taken by:</b> Aid Coordination Unit
6.	<b>Minutes approved by:</b> SMSC members by written procedure

**Agenda of the Meeting**

1. Sectoral Monitoring Report
  - follow-up of the implementation of the programmes/ projects covered by the SMSC;
  - recommendations for the improvement of the implementation of the programmes/ projects covered by the SMSC;
2. Conclusions, suggestions for the Joint Monitoring Committee.

The Sectoral Monitoring Subcommittee (SMSC) meeting was chaired by Ms Kornélia Čajková, Acting Aid Coordination Unit (ACU) Director on behalf of the National Aid Coordinator (NAC).

The above-mentioned agenda was adopted.

Ms Čajková informed about the letter that the European Commission addressed to the NAC concerning the transfer of the essential activities of the Phare Transition Team in the EC Representation to DG Enlargement in Brussels by the end of June 2005. That is why all official correspondence regarding the implementation of Phare and Transition Facility (requests for project fiche modifications, reallocations, extensions, etc.) shall be directed to the DG Enlargement's address as of 15 June 2005. Furthermore, the official representation of the Commission services will be mainly limited to the Joint Monitoring Committee and no official presence will be ensured for the monthly

meetings, steering committees, SMSCs, etc. However, Ms Čajková pointed out the continuous importance of reporting and monitoring activities for proper implementation of Phare and Transition Facility projects in Slovakia.

### **Ad 1) Sectoral Component Monitoring Reports**

Ms Čajková and the relevant ACU project managers introduced the Sectoral Component Monitoring Reports (MR) issued by the ACU covering the period from 1 January to 30 April 2005.

The ACU on behalf of the NAC presented a critical assessment of Phare projects' implementation in the sector as follows:

- Long period between programming of projects and their implementation, causing changes of conditions for projects' implementation and subsequent modification of project fiches;
- Late elaboration of Terms of Reference and Technical Specifications causing late and risky contracting of FM 2003 projects;
- Contracting difficulties and delays because of a switch from EU procurement rules (PRAG/GGAPP) to national procurement legislation limiting time for project implementation and achievement of results.

### **Agriculture, Cadastre and Statistics**

#### Agriculture

Ms Zlochová informed briefly about the current situation concerning the implementation of projects managed by the Ministry of Agriculture. Launch of remaining FM 2003 tenders *Audit Assistance to the Agriculture Paying Agency and Animal Protection during Transport (TA part – Development of Software)* is scheduled for July 2005.

The Ministry of Agriculture informed about savings under FM 2003 project *Veterinary and Phytosanitary Border Inspection Posts – Phase II. (Bratislava Airport BIP)* in the amount of 101 163 EUR. The Ministry would like to utilise these funds for purchasing further equipment to support the objectives of the project. In this respect, a request for project fiche modification shall be prepared by the SPO and submitted for approval to the NAC and NAO.

Ms Krbáľová informed about the UIBF 2002 project *Strengthening the Rapid Alert System Network for Food Safety* administered by the Ministry of Health – implementation of the project was completed and results of the project achieved. All project's scheduled activities were carried out; final report is being prepared by the TWL partner.

#### Cadastre

FM 2003 project *Land Administration and Cadastre Infrastructure – Twinning part* successfully finished; contract for Software Customising and System Integration signed and project activities are under implementation; two supply contracts to be launched in July – August 2005.

Tender documentation for FM 2004 project *Strengthening the Efficiency of Cadastre Services* is being prepared by the Office of Geodesy.

#### Statistics

FM 2002 and 2003 projects are being implemented; no major difficulties have been reported.

In case of Transition Facility 2004 project *Enhancement of the Slovak Statistical System*, the Statistical Office would like to procure the TA component and Service component (software development) through one contract. The issue will be discussed between the beneficiary and the CFCU.

## **Environment, Energy and Transport**

### Environment

Four projects are implemented under FM 2002 without major difficulties. All envisaged objectives are expected to be achieved as planned in programme and contract documents.

There are five FM 2003 projects: 1) *Institutional and Capacity Building in the Environment Sector* – twinning part is under implementation; tender documentation for supply and service contracts is being finalised. Tender launches are scheduled for July and August. 2) *Bio-safety Monitoring System* – twinning component is under implementation; contracts for equipment supply (lots 2, 3, 6 and 9) were signed, relaunch of remaining lots is scheduled for July 2005. 3) *Implementation of Council Directives on Electric and Electronic Scrap* – terms of reference were prepared and sent to an expert for giving her/his opinion; tender launch is scheduled for July 2005. 4) *UIBF Institutional Strengthening of the Management of Equipment Containing PCB* – detailed project fiche recirculated several times without any offers. Tender will be relaunched as Technical Assistance in July 2005. 5) *UIBF Capacity Building for Effective Implementation of Environmental Acquis through Environmental Investment Projects* – tender dossier under preparation and tender to be launched in July 2005.

The Ministry of Environment pointed up risky contracting of FM 2003 projects. In this respect Mr Gavora invited the ACU to reconsider the possibility of requesting extension of contracting deadlines for these projects. The ACU explained that the Accession Treaty of Slovakia to the EU (Article 33) does not provide for granting extension of the contracting period.

### Energy

The implementation of FM 2002 Nuclear Safety project concerning Decontamination A1 has been completed. The Steering Committee for the project of 11 May 2005 endorsed the final report. The Steering Committee also identified the need for further follow-up financing of preparatory works regarding Decontamination A1.

The FM 2003 project concerning establishment of Radioactive Waste Agency has not been contracted yet. The SMSC expressed its concern about a timely implementation of the project that originally envisaged two-year implementation period. The implementation of the project is heavily delayed and can even lose its relevance because of the recent privatisation of the Slovenské elektrárne, a.s. Consultations between the Nuclear Regulatory Authority and CFCU are taking place in order to finalise the tender dossier. Main difficulties are connected with the transposition of project results and objectives into the tender documents according to the Act on Public Procurement. The launch of service and supply tenders is scheduled for July 2005.

### Transport

FM 2004 *Capacity building in the area of road transport (enforcement of social legislation)* – detailed project fiche to be circulated in July 2005.

## **Internal Market**

Mr Dostál informed about the implementation of projects in the Finance and Customs sub-sectors.

### Finance

Implementation of five UIBF projects has finished. All objectives have been achieved as planned in the programme and contract documents. As regards the UIBF 2003 project *Strengthening of the Administrative Capacity for Providing Official Development Aid*, the detailed project fiche was circulated on 26 May 2005 with the deadline for submission of proposals on 19 July 2005.

### Customs

Tender dossier for FM 2003 project *Equipment supply to the Slovak Customs Laboratory* is being prepared and the tender launch is scheduled for July 2005. Similarly, tender dossier for FM 2003

project *X-ray inspection systems for protection of the future EU external border* is being prepared and the tender launch is scheduled for July 2005.

Other FM 2002 and 2003 Finance and Customs projects are being implemented. No major problems were reported. Transition Facility 2004 projects are at the stage of tender documentation preparation.

#### Banking

FM 2002 project *Strengthening Financial Sector Supervision* is being implemented without any difficulties. As regards FM 2003 project *Support to the Implementation of the Risk Based Supervision*, the TA contract was signed on 25 April 2005; inception phase is ongoing to agree the details concerning project implementation. The Terms of Reference for the second component (Software upgrade and development) are being redrafted by the National Bank of Slovakia to incorporate the comments from the CFCU.

#### **Ad 2) Conclusions, suggestions for the Joint Monitoring Committee**

Line ministries together with the CFCU have to catch up with FM 2003 contracting delayed because of the switch from EU rules (PRAG, GGAPP) to national public procurement rules. The CFCU shall prepare a reasonable contracting schedule to be followed during the remaining FM 2003 contracting period.

The ACU informed about the Commission's EDIS follow-up audit mission that will take place from 11 to 15 July 2005. On 14 July the audit will be carried out at a line ministry, too. Against this background, the Senior Programme Officers were requested to prepare necessary documentation regarding the management of Phare and Transition Facility projects within their line ministry: internal (organisational) structure, reporting lines, job description of staff assigned to the different tasks, training plans, supervision, complete project files, management plans, etc.

Ms Čajková brought the meeting to a close by thanking all those who had attended for their active participation.