

National management and control structures

1. National Focal Point

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia shall act as the National Focal Point. The roles and responsibilities of the National Focal Point are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.3 thereof.

The tasks of the National Focal Point are fulfilled by three departments of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia: the Structural and Foreign Assistance Department, the State Budget Department and the EU Payments Department. These departments are accountable to the Deputy Secretary-General for State Fiscal Policy, who will act as the head of the National Focal Point.

The Structural and Foreign Assistance Department shall fulfil the tasks of the National Focal Point stipulated in the Regulation except the tasks related to strategic planning of the use of the contribution from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 and assessment of programme proposals. The Structural and Foreign Assistance Department is responsible for coordination and management of the EU structural funds and foreign assistance.

The State Budget Department shall fulfil the tasks of the National Focal Point related to strategic planning of the use of the contribution from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 and assessment of programme proposals. The State Budget Department is responsible for programming the EU structural funds and foreign assistance.

2. Certifying Authority

In accordance with Article 4.2.3 of the Regulation the National Focal Point takes on the tasks of the Certifying Authority.

The roles and responsibilities of the Certifying Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.5 thereof. In accordance with Article 4.2.3 of the Regulation the adequate functional separation of tasks related to payments from other tasks within the National Focal Point shall be ensured.

The EU Payments Department of the Ministry of Finance shall fulfil the tasks of the Certifying Authority stipulated in the Regulation. The EU Payments Department is responsible for financial management of the EU structural funds and foreign assistance.

The task of maintaining accounting records on financial transactions realised shall be assigned to the State Shared Service Centre which is administered by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia. The National Focal Point shall regularly control accounting records maintained by the State Shared Service Centre.

3. Audit Authority

The Financial Control Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia shall act as the Audit Authority. The Financial Control Department's main responsibilities are coordination and analysis of the internal control systems and organisation of internal audit in governmental agencies. The Financial Control Department carries out the functions of the Audit Authority for the EU structural funds and foreign assistance. The head of the Financial Control Department shall be the head of the Audit Authority. The Financial Control Department is accountable to the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia.

The roles and responsibilities of the Audit Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.6 thereof.

The Audit Authority shall be functionally independent of the National Focal Point.

The National Focal Point shall provide the FMC with copies of any audit report that is made by the National Audit Office of Estonia regarding the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014.

4. National public entity responsible for the preparation and submission of irregularities reports.

The Structural and Foreign Assistance Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia shall be responsible for the preparation and submission of irregularities reports. The roles and responsibilities of the entity responsible for the preparation and submission of irregularities reports are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 11.3 thereof.

5. Monitoring Committee

The Monitoring Committee shall be established within six months of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding. Its role is stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.4 thereof.

6. Strategic Report and annual meetings

In accordance with Article 2.2 of the Regulation, the National Focal Point shall annually submit to the FMC a Strategic Report on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 in the Beneficiary State. The Parties shall endeavour to hold the annual meeting in the month of May every year.

7. Organigram

