

North South Ministerial Council  
Joint Secretariat



An Chomhairle Aireachta  
Thuaidh Theas  
An Chomhrúnaíocht

**PAPER NSMC SEU 2 (11) JC**

**NORTH SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES SECTORAL FORMAT**

**NSMC JOINT SECRETARIAT OFFICES,  
ARMAGH**

**18 JULY 2011**

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ**

1. The twelfth North South Ministerial Council meeting in Special EU Programmes sectoral format was held at the NSMC Joint Secretariat offices in Armagh on 18 July 2011.
2. The meeting was attended by Michael Noonan TD, Minister of Finance, Brendan Howlin TD, Minister for Public Sector Expenditure and Reform Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Minister for Finance and Personnel and Junior Minister Martina Anderson MLA. Minister Noonan chaired the meeting.

**STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS**

3. The Council noted SEUPB staffing arrangements and that there will be a further staffing review to be completed by the end of 2012.

**UPDATE ON PLANS**

4. The Council discussed progress on the development of the SEUPB Corporate Plan 2011-2013 and Business Plan 2011.

## **SEUPB PROGRESS REPORT**

5. The Council received a detailed progress report from the Chief Executive of the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), Mr Pat Colgan, who reported on the various activities within the Body.
6. The closure of the PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA Programmes is nearing completion. The PEACE II programme was fully committed with a total expenditure of €912 million. The total expenditure on the INTERREG IIIA Programme was €180.3 million.
7. The Council discussed progress on the implementation of the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA Programmes. They noted that at 30 April 2011, the PEACE III Programme had approved 144 projects worth €249.6 million. The INTERREG IVA Programme, at 31 May 2011, had approved 56 projects worth €163 million.
8. The total expenditure on the PEACE III Programme is €77.9 million against the target of €82.2 million for end of 2011 and the total expenditure on the INTERREG IVA Programme is €48.26 million against the target of €61.04 million for end of 2011.
9. Ministers noted that local authority-based groups have had 19 projects approved worth €24.356 million and that SEUPB will continue to work with the groups to develop further projects.
10. The Council also noted that the SEUPB continues to facilitate North South participation in the INTERREG IV transnational and interregional programmes, and that to date 51 project partners have been secured across the relevant programmes.
11. The SEUPB continues to communicate the positive impacts of the EU programmes with high profile events, many with Ministerial involvement including the launch of the PEACE Bridge on 25 June 2011. A high profile seminar is being planned for the INTERREG IVA Programme later in the year.
12. In line with its statutory remit, the SEUPB will offer advice to assist in the preparation of programmes for the new EU programme period 2014 – 2020.

## **NEXT MEETING**

13. The Council agreed to meet again in the Special EU Programmes sectoral format in October/November 2011.

**Joint Secretariat  
18 July 2011**