

## **National management and control structures**

### **1. National Focal Point**

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania shall act as the National Focal Point.

Implementation of the National Focal Point's functions within the Ministry of Finance shall be performed by the International Financial Assistance Coordination Division (IFACD). The IFACD is a separate administrative unit of the Ministry of Finance directly subordinate to the Vice-minister responsible for the programming and management of the EU structural and cohesion funds and other international financial assistance, as well as for the certification of expenditure of the mentioned funds, who shall act as the head of the National Focal Point.

The roles and responsibilities of the National Focal Point are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.3 thereof.

### **2. Certifying Authority**

The National Fund Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania shall act as the Certifying Authority.

The National Fund Department (NFD) is a separate administrative unit of the Ministry of Finance directly subordinate to the same Vice-minister as IFACD. The Ministry of Finance shall ensure adequate functional separation of tasks performed by the Certifying Authority from the National Focal Point. The Director of the NFD shall be authorised to sign financial as well as other documents related to the performance of the functions of the Certifying Authority.

The roles and responsibilities of the Certifying Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.5 thereof with the following exception: obligations related to the establishment and maintenance of the bank account referred to paragraph 2 of Article 4.5 of the Regulation shall be undertaken by the State Treasury Department of the Ministry of Finance. The State Treasury department shall have no discretion with regard to the financial transfers, which shall be made strictly according to the pre-defined procedures in compliance with the Regulation and relevant national law.

### **3. Audit Authority**

The Internal Audit and Financial Control Methodology Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania shall act as the Audit Authority.

The Internal Audit and Financial Control Methodology Department is a separate administrative unit of the Ministry of Finance. Its functional independence of the National Focal Point and the Certifying Authority shall be ensured through the subordination of the Audit Authority to a different Vice-minister than the Vice-minister responsible for the supervision of the units implementing the functions of the National Focal Point and the Certifying Authority.

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 and the Certifying Authority.

The National Focal Point shall provide the NMFA with copies of any audit report that is made by the National Audit Office of the Republic of Lithuania regarding the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014.

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

The National Fund Department in the Ministry of Finance shall be responsible for the preparation and submission of irregularities reports.

The roles and responsibilities of the National Fund Department related to 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 with six months of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding. Its role is stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 4.4 thereof.

#### **6. The role of the Central Project Management Agency (CPMA)**

The National Focal Point shall assign to the CPMA certain responsibilities given to the Programme Operator under the Regulation. Such assignment shall be stipulated in the programme agreement, be identical to all relevant programmes and be detailed in the programme implementation agreement. In such cases, the CPMA shall be a party to the programme implementation agreement. The role of the CPMA shall not affect the responsibilities of the Programme Operator related to the policy, strategic and/or bilateral aspects of the implementation of the programme. The expenses incurred by the CPMA related to the implementation of the responsibilities of the Programme Operator shall be covered from the respective programme's preparation and management costs referred to in paragraph 1(e) of Article 7.9 and Article 7.10 of the Regulation in accordance with the programme agreement.

#### **7. Strategic Report and annual meetings**

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

8. Organigramme

