2007 discharge: Community Fisheries Control Agency CFCA

2008/2274(DEC) - 16/03/2009

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report drawn up by Christofer FJELLNER (EPP-ED, SE) on discharge to be granted to the Community Fisheries Control Agency, calling on the European Parliament to grant the Executive Director of the Community Fisheries Control Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2007.

Noting that the Agency’s annual accounts for the financial year 2007 are reliable, and the underlying transactions are legal and regular, MEPs approve the closure of the Agency’s accounts.

However, they make a number of recommendations as part of the decision on discharge. In addition to the general recommendations appearing in the draft resolution on financial management and control of EU agencies (see 2008/2207(INI)), MEPs make the following observations:

- the Agency received a fully positive statement of assurance from the European Court of Auditors (ECA);
- the Agency's budget was EUR 5 million for 2007, more than half of which was managed by the Commission as the Agency only acquired financial independence shortly before the year-end;
- the ECA's observation that the Agency had not established appropriate procedures in order to determine the funds to be carried over (leading to the result that at least EUR 125 000 was carried over without legal commitments);
- the Agency has not yet sufficiently documented its internal control procedures;
- the description of the accounting system has yet to be validated.