2009 discharge: European Network and Information Security Agency ENISA

2010/2192(DEC) - 10/05/2011 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 514 votes to 83, with 38 abstentions a decision to grant discharge to the Executive Director of the European Network and Information Security Agency in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2009.

Noting that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2009 are reliable, and the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament approves the closure of the Agency's accounts. However, it makes a number of recommendations that need to be taken into account when the discharge is granted (in addition to the general recommendations that appear in the resolution on financial management and control of EU agencies - see DEC/2010/2271):

- **carry-over appropriations:** Parliament notes that the appropriations carried forward to the following year amounted to 19% of the Agency's total budget and note that 41% of operational appropriations were carried forward to 2010 mainly due to delays in two big projects. It expresses its concern that this is at odds with the budgetary principle of annuality and urges the Agency to rectify the situation;
- **procurement procedure:** Parliament calls on the Agency to strengthen its internal controls in order to make sure that contracts and procurement procedures are correctly applied. The Court of Auditors reported various instances of errors made during the contract award phase. Parliament calls for a series of measures to be taken to improve the procedures and their transparency;
- **errors on budget transfers:** Parliament calls on the Agency to avoid transfers made without obtaining the prior consent of its Governing Board, which are contrary to the budgetary principles of specification;
- **refund from the tax authorities of the host Member State:** Parliament regrets that there has been no progress since the previous year concerning the refund of EUR 45 000, which is the amount of VAT paid in advance by the Agency, to the tax authorities of the host Member State. It urges the Agency to inform the discharge authority when this refund is made by the host Member State;
- **human resources:** Parliament notes that deficiencies in staff selection procedures still remain and put at risk the transparency of these procedures. It therefore urges the Agency to redress this situation and inform the discharge authority on the actions taken.