2010 discharge: European Medicines Agency (EMA)

2011/2220(DEC) - 08/02/2012

Having examined the revenue and expenditure accounts for the financial year 2010 and the balance sheet at 31 December 2010 of the European Medicines Agency, as well as the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Agency for the financial year 2010, accompanied by the Agency's replies to the Court's observations, the Council recommends the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Executive Director of the Agency in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2010.

However, the Council considers that observations made in the Court of Auditor's report call for a certain number of remarks:

- the Council welcomes the Court's opinion that, in all material respects, the Agency's annual accounts fairly present the financial position as at 31 December 2010 and the results of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the Agency's Financial Regulation, and that the underlying transactions for that financial year are legal and regular;
- the Council is concerned about the high amount of appropriations carried over to the next financial year. It calls upon the Agency to **improve programming and monitoring of its activities with the aim to further reduce the amounts carried over to the next financial year**, in line with the budgetary principle of annuality;
- it takes note that the Agency has taken action in order to remedy the weaknesses identified in its system for validating creditor claims.
- it welcomes the efforts made by the Agency to correct the weaknesses identified in its staff selection procedures, stressing the importance of **ensuring transparency in the recruitment process**;
- as regards the Court's observation on the lack of a remuneration system for services provided by Member State authorities, the Council urges the Agency to ensure that measures are taken in the recommended direction.