2011 discharge: Euratom Supply Agency (ESA)

2012/2204(DEC) - 01/02/2013

Having examined the revenue and expenditure account for the financial year 2011 and the balance sheet at 31 December 2011 of the Euratom Supply Agency, as well as the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Agency for the financial year 2011, accompanied by the Agency's replies to the Court's observations, the Council recommends the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Director General of the Agency in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2011.

The observations in the Court of Auditors' report in relation to the financial year 2011 call for some comments by the Council, which may be summarised as follows:

- the Council welcomes the Court's opinion that, in all material respects, the Agency's annual accounts present fairly its financial position as at 31 December 2011 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the Agency's Financial Regulation and the accounting rules adopted by the Commission's accounting officer, and that the underlying transactions for that financial year are legal and regular;
- nevertheless, as last year, the Council notes the Court's observation that **no specific budget has been established for the Agency since 2008**, whereas it should have financial autonomy according to the Treaty Establishing the European Atomic Energy Community. It also notes the Court's request to the Commission and the Agency to take the appropriate measures to **remedy this situation** and the subsequent action taken by the Commission.