

2011 discharge: European Banking Authority (EBA)

2012/2207(DEC) - 25/03/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Gerben-Jan GERBRANDY (ADLE, NL) on discharge to be granted to the Director of the European Banking Authority (EBA) in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the annual accounts of the Authority for the financial year 2011 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Members approve the closure of the Authority's accounts. However, they make 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 [draft resolution on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies](#):

- **Financing, budget and financial management:** Members recall that 60% of the 2011 budget was financed by contributions from the Member States and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, and 40 % was financed by the Union budget. They also recall that the annual accounts that the Authority's overall budget for 2011 amounted to EUR 12 865 000. The report notes that the two rented offices, with a total area of 1 089 m², incurred expenditure of EUR 1 016 512.64 and calls on the Authority to ensure that office rentals and expenditure do not exceed normal local market prices (London). Given that the Authority is an integral part of the European System of Financial Supervisors and works in close cooperation with its sister authorities, the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority and the European Securities and Markets Authority, within a Joint Committee, and with the European Systemic Risks Board, Members call on the Commission to evaluate the possibility of coming up with a proposal ensuring that the **budgets of the three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) are fully funded by the Union budget**.
- **Implementation rate of appropriations:** the report observes that the Authority registered a budget execution ratio of 71% for commitments and of 59% for payments at the end of 2011. Members call on the Authority to inform the discharge authority of the measures taken to improve these rates, as the low execution rates shows difficulties in budget planning and implementation.

Lastly, Members made a series of observations as regards the accounting system, procurement and recruitment procedures of this Agency.