2012 discharge: European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)

2013/2236(DEC) - 05/02/2014

Having examined the revenue and expenditure accounts for the financial year 2012 and the balance sheet at 31 December 2012 of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), and the report by the Court of Auditors on the annual accounts of the Institute for the financial year 2012, accompanied by the Institute's replies to the Court's observations, the Council recommends the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Director of the Institute in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2012.

The observations in the Court of Auditors' report in relation to the financial year 2012 call for some comments by the Council, which may be summarised as follows:

- in general, the Council welcomes the Court's opinion that, in all material respects, the Institute's annual accounts present fairly its financial position as at 31 December 2012 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the Institute'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.
- **Procurement**: the Council urges the Institute to continue improving its financial management, notably by setting up a system for procurement scheduling and monitoring linked to the Institute's planned activities, and by launching procurement procedures in good time before the end of the budgetary year, in order to limit carry-overs of appropriations to the following year to the minimum necessary, in line with the budgetary principle of annuality.
- **Recruitment**: moreover, the Council invites the Institute to enhance the transparency of its recruitment procedures by ensuring full respect of staff selection criteria.