Court of Auditors' special reports in the context of the 2013 Commission discharge

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The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Ingeborg GRÄßLE (EPP, DE) **on the Court of Auditors' special reports in the context of the 2013 Commission discharge**.

Members recalled that the special reports of the Court of Auditors provided information on issues of concern related to the implementation of funds, which were thus useful for Parliament in exercising its role of discharge authority. They specified that Parliament’s observations on the special reports of the Court of Auditors form an integral part of Parliament's resolution on general discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013, Section III – Commission.

Members went on to discuss each of the special reports and made certain recommendations designed to improve the use of Community funding.

To recall, these special reports relate to the following matters:

- Special Report No 11/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Getting the Gross National Income (GNI) data right: a more structured and better-focused approach would improve the effectiveness of the Commission’s verification"
- Special Report No 13/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU Development Assistance to Central Asia"
- Special Report No 15/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Has the Environment component of the LIFE programme been effective?"
- Special Report No 16/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Taking stock of 'single audit' and the Commission's reliance on the work of national audit authorities in cohesion"
- Special Report No 17/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU Climate Finance in the context of External Aid"
- Special Report No 18/2013 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The reliability of the results of the Member States' checks of the agricultural expenditure"
- Special Report No 1/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Effectiveness of EU-supported public urban transport projects"
- Special Report No 2/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Are Preferential Trade Arrangements appropriately managed?"
- Special Report No 3/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Lessons from the European Commission’s development of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II)"
- Special Report No 4/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Integration of EU water policy objectives with the CAP: a partial success"
- Special Report No 5/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "European banking supervision taking shape - EBA and its changing context"
- Special Report No 6/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Cohesion policy funds support to renewable energy generation — has it achieved good results?"
- Special Report No 7/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Has the ERDF successfully supported the development of business incubators?"
- Special Report No 8/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Has the Commission effectively managed the integration of coupled support into the single payment scheme?"

- Special Report No 9/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?"
- Special Report No 10/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of European Fisheries Fund support for aquaculture"
- Special Report No 11/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The establishment of the European External Action Service"
- Special Report No 12/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Is the ERDF effective in funding projects that directly promote biodiversity under the EU biodiversity strategy to 2020?"
- Special Report No 13/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU support for rehabilitation following the earthquake in Haiti"
- Special Report No 14/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "How do the EU institutions and bodies calculate, reduce and offset their greenhouse gas emissions?"
- Special Report No 15/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The External Borders Fund has fostered financial solidarity but requires better measurement of results and needs to provide further EU added value"
- Special Report No 16/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of blending regional investment facility grants with financial institution loans to support EU external policies"
- Special Report No 17/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Can the EU's Centres of Excellence initiative contribute effectively to mitigating chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks from outside the EU?"
- Special Report No 19/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU Pre-accession Assistance to Serbia"
- Special Report No 20/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Has ERDF support to SMEs in the area of e-commerce been effective?"
- Special Report No 21/2014 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU-funded airport infrastructures: poor value for money".

A summary of the special reports in question may be found on the Court of Auditors' website.