2013 discharge: European Asylum Support Office (EASO)

2014/2126(DEC) - 30/03/2015 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Ryszard CZARNECKI (ECR, PL) on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) for the financial year 2013.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament grant the Executive Director of the Office discharge in respect of the implementation of the Office's budget for the financial year 2013.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the annual accounts of the Office for the financial year 2013 are reliable, and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Members called on the Parliament to approve the closure of the Office's accounts. They made, however, a number of recommendations that needed 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.

- **Office's financial statements**: Members noted that the final budget of the Office for the financial year 2013 was EUR 10 500 000, the entire budget deriving from the Union budget.
- **Carryovers:** Members noted that budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2013 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 87.34%, and that the payment appropriations execution rate was 87.18 %. They noted with concern that the budgetary needs were overestimated by 13 % and that committed appropriations carried over were at 24 % of the total committed appropriations, **of which 13 % were not covered by a legal commitment**. They took note of the carry-overs of committed appropriations and the measures taken by the Office in order to reduce and safeguard the level of commitment appropriations carried over.

Members also made a series of observations on the prevention and management of conflicts of interests, recruitment, procurement procedures and internal audits.

Lastly, they called on the Office to make both its conflict of interest policy and the conflict of interest forms signed by the Management Board Members and the Executive Director publically available.