

2015 discharge: European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)

2016/2172(DEC) - 31/03/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Inés AYALA SENDER (S&D, ES) on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) for the financial year 2015.

The committee called on the European Parliament to grant the Executive Director of the Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2015.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the annual accounts of the Agency for the financial year 2015 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Members called on Parliament to approve the closure of the Agency'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](#):

- **Agency's financial statements:** Members noted that the final budget of the Agency for the financial year 2015 was EUR 54 611 883, representing an increase of 4.21 % compared to 2014.
- **Budget and financial management:** Members took note that the Agency restructured its budget structure in 2014 with effect on budget 2015 to better support the business needs of the Agency. They observed that the second phase of the restructuring will have an effect on the budget in 2016 and invited the Agency to inform the discharge authority on the practical impact and efficiencies gained with the new budget structure.

Members also made a series of observations regarding commitment and carry-overs, transfers, the prevention and management of conflicts of interests, procurement and recruitment procedures and internal audits and controls.

The report stated that the Agency has cooperated extensively on the operational level, in the field of maritime monitoring, surveillance and information sharing, with other Union agencies and bodies (EFCA, Frontex, EU NAVFOR, MAOC-N), **in order to capitalise on existing expertise and services in mutually beneficial ways**. Since December 2014, the Agency has been hosting the Business Continuity Facility of the Fusion for Energy Joint Undertaking (F4E) in Madrid. It has continued cooperating with European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) so that it can also use the Agency's business continuity centre.

Members acknowledged the fact that it has worked closely with European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) with a view to increasing effectiveness, efficiency and saving costs, given the geographical proximity of the agencies.

Lastly, they highlighted the **Agency's contribution to maritime safety**, the prevention of pollution from ships as well as from offshore installations for gas and oil exploitation in Europe, and the assistance provided to Member States and the Commission under international and Union law.