2015 discharge: Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

2016/2168(DEC) - 27/04/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Director of the Translation Centre for the Bodies (CdT) in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2015.

The vote on the decision on discharge covers the closure of the accounts (in accordance with Annex IV, Article 5 (1)(a) to Parliament's Rules of Procedure).

Noting that the Court of Auditors has stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the Centre's annual accounts for the financial year 2015 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted by 510 votes to 109 with 11 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations, which form an integral part of the decision on discharge and which add to the general recommendations set out in the resolution on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies.

These recommendations may be summarised as follows:

- **Centre's financial statements**: Parliament noted that the final budget of the Centre for the financial year 2015 was EUR 49 585 500, representing a decrease of 11.88 % compared with 2014.
- **Budget and financial management**: Parliament noted that the 2015 cash and short term deposits held by the Centre decreased from EUR 44 million at the end of 2014 to EUR 38.3 million at the end of 2015. It noted furthermore that the Centre's reserves decreased from EUR 40.4 million in 2014 to EUR 34 million in 2015, reflecting the 2015 reduction of prices.
- **Commitments and carry-overs**: Parliament noted with concern that, according to the Court's report, the Centre cancelled EUR 5.9 million (12 % of the total budget) of appropriations available at the end of 2015. These cancellations were related to the overestimation of the cost of external translators as well as to the fact that the fulfilment of the establishment plan did not reach the level foreseen in the budget. Members noted however that the Centre monitored the evolution of external translation costs more closely and based its budget forecasts for 2016 onwards on up-to-date figures.

Parliament also made a series of observations regarding internal controls, the prevention and management of conflicts of interests and performances of the Centre.

Action plan: Parliament noted that the Centre conducted its general client satisfaction survey in 2015 and approved an action plan based on the survey conclusions to be implemented over the 2016-2017 period which places a clear focus on **translation quality assurance**. The action plan raises awareness of and promotes the Centre as a language service provider.