2016 discharge: SESAR Joint Undertaking

2017/2181(DEC) - 09/02/2018 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

Having examined the revenue and expenditure accounts for the financial year 2016 and the balance sheet as at 31 December 2016 of the SESAR Joint Undertaking, as well as the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Joint Undertaking for the financial year 2016, accompanied by the Joint Undertaking's replies to the Court's observations, the Council recommended the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Executive Director of the Joint Undertaking in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2016.

The Council welcomed the Court's opinion that, in all material respects, the Joint Undertaking's annual accounts present fairly its financial position as at 31 December 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Undertaking's Financial Rules, and that the underlying transactions for 2016 are legal and regular in all material respects.

Nevertheless, the following observations were made:

- **in-kind contributions**: the Council encouraged the Joint Undertaking to develop without delay the Terms of Reference and a model certificate to validate the members' in-kind contributions to the projects;
- **internal controls**: the Council invited the Joint Undertaking to establish a systematic internal procedure for reassessing weak financial viability of grant process coordinators, including measures for mitigating and compensating increased financial risk;
- **procurement**: lastly, the Council called on the Joint Undertaking to ensure cost-effectiveness in the procedures for the procurement of services based on a reasonable market price reference system.