

2017 discharge: European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)

2018/2197(DEC) - 01/03/2019 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Petri SARVAMAA (EPP, FI) on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) for the financial year 2017.

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 2017.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the annual accounts of the Agency for the financial year 2017 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

The final budget of the Agency for the financial year 2017 was EUR 17 113 000, representing an increase of 71.70 % compared to 2016. This increase related mainly to Title III (operational budget), with an increase of 295 % aimed at further chartering of means by the Agency (new European Coast Guard function).

Budget and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2017 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 98.9 %, representing a decrease of 0.7 % compared to 2016. Payment appropriations execution rate was at 73.8 %, representing a decrease of 14.7 % compared to 2016.

The cancellation of carryovers from 2016 to 2017 amounted to EUR 53 595, representing 5.22 % of the total amount carried over, and an increase of 0.5 % compared to 2016.

Members also made a series of observations regarding performance, staff policy, procurement and internal controls.

In particular, they noted that:

- the Agency implemented 93 % of its activities on time and that it implemented 90 % of its Annual Communication Strategy Plan;
- the Agency, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and the European Maritime Safety Agency adopted a tripartite working arrangement defining the cooperation between those agencies and the cooperation with national authorities carrying out coast guard functions;

- the Agency should be given sufficient resources to conduct new types of operations to disrupt people smuggling routes, as well as to use the data provided by its ship reporting systems in order to detect vessels carrying migrants;

- on 31 December 2017, the establishment plan was 96.72 % filled with 59 temporary agents appointed out of 61 authorised under the Union budget. Due to the change in the founding regulation, the Agency was granted 13 posts for the associated new tasks, out of which three were used for the redeployment pool of agencies.