Basic information

1997/2122(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
1996 discharge: 6th and 7th EDF. Communication included **Subject** 6.30.03 European Development Fund (EDF) 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	WYNN Terence (PSE)	28/10/1997

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	TELKÄMPER Wilfried (V)	26/11/1997

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
27/05/1997	Non-legislative basic document published	SEC(1997)0938	Summary
13/06/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/03/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
17/03/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0091/1998	
31/03/1998	Debate in Parliament		
31/03/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
16/05/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/2122(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 102
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/08986

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0091/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0004	17/03/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0180/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0019-0048	31/03/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0181/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0019-0050	31/03/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0182/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0019-0051	31/03/1998	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	05881/1998	10/02/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	05896/1998 OJ L 082 19.03.1998, p. 0042	09/03/1998	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	05897/1998 OJ L 082 19.03.1998, p. 0043	09/03/1998	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	SEC(1997)0938	27/05/1997	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 1998/0329
OJ L 146 16.05.1998, p. 0026-0028

1996 discharge: 6th and 7th EDF. Communication included

1997/2122(DEC) - 31/03/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Terence WYNN (PSE, UK) on the discharge to be granted for the management of the sixth and seventh EDF, Parliament noted with great disappointment that the new Amsterdam Treaty made no progress towards the budgetization of the EDFs and that, therefore, democratic control of this instrument was subverted by its legal framework. It observed that the discharge procedure was seriously devalued by the absence of the corresponding budgetary powers but stressed that it intended to maintain whatever democratic control was possible under the circumstances. While granting the discharge to the Commission in respect of the management of the sixth and seventh EDF it was concerned that measures under the fourth Lomé Convention had been financed under the EDF without any legal basis. It called on the Commission to ensure that the regulations covering EDF tendering procedures were consistently and transparently applied and asked the Court of Auditors to examine this question once again to verify the improvements which the Commission claimed had been made. It also called on the Commission to check the quality of tender proposals and the ability of tenderers to fulfil their contractual obligations. It also asked the Commission to review contracting practices under the EDFs whereby fixed exchange rates could give rise to windfall profits for contractors (depreciation of ACP currencies in relation to foreign currencies). Lastly, it called on the Court of Auditors and the Commission to seek to resolve the problems giving rise to the high level of 'non-opinions' in the statement of assurance provided by the Court.

1996 discharge: 6th and 7th EDF. Communication included

1997/2122(DEC) - 09/03/1998 - Document attached to the procedure

In its recommendation of 9 March 1998 relating to the implementation of the 6th (1984) and 7th (1989) EDFs for the 1996 financial year, the Council recommended that the European Parliament grant a discharge to the Commission for the implementation of European Development Fund operations for the 1996 financial year.

1996 discharge: 6th and 7th EDF. Communication included

1997/2122(DEC) - 27/05/1997 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: this communication presents the balance sheets and accounts of the 6th and 7th European Development Funds (EDF) for the financial year 1996. It also proposes amounts to be used in giving discharge to the Commission for the 1996 financial year in respect of these two funds. SUBSTANCE: - Technical notes: in its document, the Commission recalls that the Community and its Member States are the main source of official development aid worldwide. In 1996, there were few developing countries which had not established ties with the Community and were not receiving some form of Community aid. The EDF is the main financing instrument of this North-South cooperation. EDF resources are divided into: . programmable aid: an overall amount made available to an ACP or overseas country or territory for a five-year period, entered in a financial protocol on the basis of national indicative programmes (this aid is for the priority needs of the country or territory in the fields of training, food self-sufficiency, infrastructure and industrial investment), and .non-programmable aid: aid falling outside the terms of the financial protocols: Stabex, Sysmin, emergency aid and aid to refugees. At present, 70 ACP countries and 20 overseas countries or territories receive funding from the EDF, whose resources are managed by the Commission (with the exception of risk capital and interest-rate subsidies, which are handled by the European Investment Bank). At present the Commission is managing the 6th and 7th EDFs, which correspond to the funds allocated under Lomé III and the first five years of Lomé IV respectively. Initially the 6th EDF had a budget of ECU 7.5 billion, to which ECU 1.12 billion of EIB own resources was added. The 7th EDF had a budget of ECU 10.94 billion, to which ECU 1.225 billion of EIB own resources was added. The Agreement amending Lomé IV, which was signed in Mauritius in 1995 and is currently being ratified in the Member States, provides for the setting-up of the 8th EDF, which will have a budget of ECU 13.132 billion and ECU 1.693 billion from the EIB. The Commission points out that the EDF differs from other Community financial instruments in that its resources do not come from the budget but are paid by the Member States, and that a Financial Regulation is adopted for each EDF. As a result, the usual rules governing budget appropriations do not apply to the EDFs, which instead operate on a multi-annual basis, compelling the Commission to manage several of them simultaneously until their definitive closure. Balance sheet and accounts for 1996: With commitments totalling ECU 17.236 billion and aggregate payments of ECU 12.140 billion at the end of the 1996 financial year, the operations of the 6th and 7th EDFs are well advanced. Counting the planned transfers from the 6th to the 8th EDF (ECU 39 m), the figures for execution of the 6th EDF are: commitment rate 95.3%, payment rate 83.8%. Counting the planned transfers from the 7th to the 8th EDF (ECU 253 m) and certain advances to the 8th EDF decided by the Council (use of funds from the 7th EDF pending the entry into force of the 8th EDF), the figures for execution of the 7th EDF are: commitment rate 83.6%, payment rate 47.4%. In conclusion, the mean rate of execution of the 6th and 7th EDFs combined is 88.4% (commitment rate) and 62.2% (payment rate). (The annexes contain details of the rates of execution per instrument and ACP country or overseas country or territory). -As regards the amounts to be used in giving discharge to the Commission for the 1996 financial year in respect of the EDFs, the balance-sheet total at 31 December 1996 was: .for the 6th EDF: ECU 7 919 680 000, .for the 7th EDF: ECU 5 536 137 000. These are the two amounts to be used in giving discharge for 1996.