Basic information

2003/2046(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work **Subject** 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	BLAK Freddy (GUE/NGL)	10/09/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	JÖNS Karin (PSE)	20/03/2003

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2493	2003-03-07

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
25/09/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	N5-0007/2003	Summary
13/03/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/03/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
19/03/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0074/2003	
08/04/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0140/2003	Summary
08/04/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
08/04/2003	Debate in Parliament		
20/10/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
20/10/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0360/2003	
05/11/2003	Debate in Parliament		
06/11/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0477/2003	Summary
06/11/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		

20/12/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/2046(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 102
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/5/19620 CONT/5/19335

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0074/2003	19/03/2003	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0140/2003 OJ C 064 12.03.2004, p. 0023-0124 E	08/04/2003	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0360/2003	20/10/2003	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0477/2003 OJ C 083 02.04.2004, p. 0018-0150 E	06/11/2003	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06010/2003	07/03/2003	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Non-legislative basic document	N5-0007/2003 OJ C 326 27.12.2002, p. 0009-0016	25/09/2002	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Budget 2003/0888
OJ L 333 20.12.2003, p. 0052-0052 Summary

2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work

2003/2046(DEC) - 07/03/2003 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the Council Recommendation on the discharge to be given to the Director if the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Agency for Safety and health at Work for the financial year 2001. CONTENT : based on the observations made by the Court of Auditors on the implementation of the budget, the Council recommends that the European Parliament give a discharge to the Director of the Agency. Recalling that EUR 1.7 million (85%) of the EUR 2 million in appropriations carried forward from the financial year 2000 to the financial year 2001 have been utilised and that EUR 6.2 million in appropriations have been carried forward from the financial year 2001 to the financial year 2002 and that EUR 1 million have been cancelled, the Court considers it important to make comments on this issue. In particular, the Council welcomes the fact that the Court of Auditors has been able to record a statement of assurance in respect of the reliability of the Agency's accounts for the financial year 2001, and in respect of the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions as a whole. The Council shares the Court's view on the need to improve the quality and monitoring of the planning of the Agency's operational activities with a view to limiting the carrying over of operating appropriations. The Council calls upon the Agency to apply without delay the valuation and depreciation rules for assets and to take account of them in the financial statements. The Council notes the Agency's undertaking to follow the Court's recommendations on setting up a system for monitoring pending recovery orders and the carry-over of appropriations relating to the reimbursement of missions.

2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work

2003/2046(DEC) - 25/09/2002 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the report from the Court of Auditors on the financial statements of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work concerning the financial year 2001. CONTENT : the Court of Auditors has examined the financial statements of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work for the financial year ended 31 December 2001. This examination has allowed the Court to obtain reasonable assurance that the annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2001 are reliable and that the underlying transactions, taken as a whole, are legal and regular. The main observations made by the Court are as follows. The report states that the appropriations available for the financial year amounted to EUR 14 million, consisting of EUR 12 million for the financial year 2001 and EUR 2 million in carry-overs from the previous financial year. In addition to its budgetary allocation, the Agency received a subsidy from the Commission of EUR 624 000 for a multiannual operation to prepare the candidate countries for membership. A total of EUR 126 959 of these appropriations was committee din 2001 and payments of EUR 17 048 were made, with the balance being carried over. Of the appropriations for the financial year 2001, EUR 11.3 million was committed and payments were made for EUR 5.0 million, or 44% of the commitments entered into. The balance of the appropriations was either carried over (EUR 6.2 million) or cancelled (0.8 million). Out of the operating appropriations (Title III), which totalled EUR 7.6 million, a sum of EUR 7.3 million was committed, of which 1.5 million was paid out and EUR 5.8 million had to be carried over the following financial year. The balance was cancelled. The very large total for carryovers of operating appropriations is due to the fact the Commission entrusted the Agency with a important measure (EUR 4.5 million) during the course of the financial year 2001. The time required for its preparation meant that it could not be implemented in 2001 and all the appropriations allocated to it had to be carried over to the financial year 2002 irrespective of this fact, however, the carry-over rate for operating appropriations is still very high and the Agency should continue to improve the quality and monitoring of the programming of its activities. The appropriations carried over from the previous financial year totalled EUR 2 million, EUR 1.7 million of which related to Title III. Out of these appropriations, payments totalling EUR 1.7 million were made, EUR 1.5 million of which related to Title III, and the balance was cancelled. - Regarding the financial statements : the Agency does not depreciate its fixed assets. It should apply the valuation and depreciation rules adopted by the Commission so that the values entered in the balance sheet provide a faithful picture of the goods comprising its assets. The Agency should step up the measures already taken to minimise the risk of repayments being made twice over and must therefore reimburse mission expenses to the persons it invites to its offices on the basis of original documents, rather than copies. The S12 budgetary accounting system used by the Agency should not allow the operations for a financial year to be amended after the closure date (15 January after the following financial year), except in the cases provided for tin the rules. As regards the application of the financial provisions, on 23February, the Agency implemented the budget heading relating to the field of 'Research- Work and Safety' by signing a contract valued at EUR 225 000, even though the available appropriations amounted to just EUR 185 000. In order to cover the shortfall of EUR 40 000 between the available appropriations and the contract amount, the Agency used appropriations entered under a different budget heading relating to a programme for small and medium sized enterprises, without submitting any justification. This practice does not comply with the principle of budgetary specification. Lastly, the Court remarks that the Agency systematically carries over the entire balance of provisional commitments to the following financial year without justifying this one the basis of order forms that have already been issued. The Agency has commented on the main observations made by the Court. In particular, it states that there was a high carryover rate for operating appropriations from 2001 to the next financial year. This was due to the fact that of the EUR 5.8 million mentioned by the Court, EUR 4.5 million directly concerned the 'SME Funding scheme 2001 to 2002' which was a new activity desired by the European Parliament and entrusted to the Agency by the Commission. As for the rest, within the limits of the statutory framework in which it operates, the Agency has made every effort to limit its rate of appropriations carried over. In addition, the Agency is constantly seeking to put suitable tools in place or to improve those already in use with a view to producing a lasting improvement in the quality and monitoring of its programming of activities.

2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work

2003/2046(DEC) - 08/04/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

COMMUNITY MEASURE : European Parliament Decision 2003/407/EC on the postponement of the decision concerning discharge to the Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, the Director of the European Environment Agency, the Director of the Translation Centre for the bodies of the European Union, the Director of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the Director of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia, in respect of the implementation of each Agency's budget for the financial year 2001. CONTENT : with the present Decision, the European Parliament has decided to postpone the decision concerning discharge to the Directors of : - the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work; - the European Environment Agency; - the Translation Centre for the bodies of the European Union; - the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, and - the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia; in respect of the implementation of each Agency's budget for the financial year 2001. Parliament also presents a resolution which contains the comments accompanying the decision on the postponement of the decisions (please refer to the summary of the European Parliament's opinion dated 8 April 2003).

2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work

2003/2046(DEC) - 06/11/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament gave discharge to the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2001. (Please see the document dated 20/10/03.) The rapporteur was Freddy BLAK (EUL/NGL, Denmark.) Parliament felt that appropriate consideration should be given to the Agency's position in favour of a multiannual programme for health and safety issues in SMEs, based on a decentralised approach and aimed at developing a safety culture in SMEs through partnership and developing networks. The Agency should improve the programming of its work with regard to the national focal points. An appropriate planning of their tasks and an enhanced monitoring of implementation will help achieve positive results. Parliament commended the fact that the Agency and the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions have very recently concluded a specific cooperation agreement in order to improve complementarity and remove any risk of duplication of their work. Notwithstanding these efforts, a solution should be found, in the context of the upcoming enlargement, with regard to the composition of boards which, as a general rule, are already ponderous. As a general point with regard to the agencies, Parliament expressed its concern that the Commission's Internal Audit Service does not carry out any checks on the Agencies. This implies that Articles 71 and 72 of Regulation 2343/2002/EC are not being adhered to and that, in practice, an outside control of the quality of management and control systems of the agencies is left to be carried out in the context of the Court of Auditors control. It called on the Commission to ensure that the necessary resources are made available so that the IAS is in a position to fulfill its tasks with regard to the internal control systems in the Agencies.

2001 discharge: European Agency for safety and health at work

2003/2046(DEC) - 06/11/2003 - Final act

PURPOSE : to grant discharge to the Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at work for the year 2001. LEGISLATIVE ACT : European Parliament Decision 2003/888/EC on the discharge to the Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2001. CONTENT : the European Parliament has given discharge to the Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2001. It records its comments in the accompanying resolution dated 6 November 2003 (please refer to the previous document).