Basic information

2003/2256(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2002 Discharge: Eurojust **Subject** 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	MULDER Jan (ELDR)	10/09/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	CEYHUN Ozan (PSE)	21/01/2004

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
15/10/2003	Non-legislative basic document published	N5-0031/2003	Summary
18/12/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/03/2004	Vote in committee		
18/03/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0212/2004	
20/04/2004	Debate in Parliament		
21/04/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0326/2004	Summary
21/04/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/2256(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 102
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	**Committee**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0212/2004	18/03/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0326/2004 OJ C 104 30.04.2004, p. 0421-0588 E	21/04/2004	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type		**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		06186/2004	09/03/2004	Summary
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	**Document type**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
CofA	Non-legislative basic document	N5-0031/2003 OJ C 319 30.12.2003, p. 0042-0046	15/10/2003	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Budget 2004/0713 OJ L 330 04.11.2004, p. 0040-0040	Summary

2002 Discharge: Eurojust

2003/2256(DEC) - 21/04/2004 - Final act

PURPOSE : to grant discharge to Eurojust in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2002.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Decision 2004/713/EC of the European Parliament concerning discharge to the Director of Eurojust for the financial year 2002.

CONTENT : with this present Decision, the European Parliament gives discharge to the Director of Eurojust, in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2002.

This Decision is in conformity with the European Parliament’s resolution approved on 21 April 2004 and which is accompanied by a series of which complete the discharge decision (please refer to the summary of the opinion).

2002 Discharge: Eurojust

2003/2256(DEC) - 15/10/2003 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the report from the Court of Auditors on the financial statements of Eurojust for the first financial year 2002. CONTENT : this report concerns the results of the audit performed by the Court of the financial statements of Eurojust for its first financial year, which ended on 31 December 2002. This examination has enabled the Court to obtain reasonable assurance that the annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2002 are reliable and that the underlying transactions, taken as a whole, are legal and regular. The report states that the appropriations for the financial year in question amount to EUR 2,8 million committed to the amount of EUR 1,6 million. EUR 1,2 million were paid. The total appropriations carried over amount to EUR 0,4 million and EUR 1,2 million were cancelled. The Court made no comments on the implementation of Eurojust's budget.

2002 Discharge: Eurojust

2003/2256(DEC) - 21/04/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted the report by Jan MULDER (ELDR, NL) concerning the granting of discharge to the Director of Eurojust in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2002.

The Parliament records its comments in the accompanying resolution.

Firstly, the Parliament notes Eurojust's position that it at present concentrating on setting up and that problems that might be encountered during the initial stage of its work with regard to budget implementation are expected to be overcome in the financial year 2004.

Concerning the financial Regulation, Parliament expresses its satisfaction that agreement seems imminent on Eurojust's compliance with the framework Financial Regulation; asks to be fully informed about the final agreement on this matter.

As far as Interinstitutional cooperation is concerned, Parliament welcomes Eurojust's readiness to draw on the experience, mechanisms and working methods of existing institutions; notes its remark on the difficulties that a small agency may encounter when dealing with a far bigger and complex institution such as the Commission. It also welcomes Eurojust's position that it looks forward to receiving help and guidance from the Commission's services in particular in the areas of accounting and internal audit and control.

Lastly, Eurojust is invited to endeavour to establish a good working relationship with Parliament and its competent committees as regards both the discharge procedure and issues relating to its specific role and tasks.

In parallel, the Parliament has made a series of horizontal points on all of the Agencies' discharges which can be summarised as follows:

- Internal audit and control measures : Parliament reiterates the position taken in its resolutions 2003 accompanying the discharge given to the Agencies for 2001 as regards the implementation of the new Financial Regulation and invites the Commission and the Agencies to continue their cooperation, in particular in the areas of accounting, internal audit, management and control procedures, so as to ensure that a coherent harmonised framework for the functioning of the Agencies is established. It recalls that it expressed concern in the discharge resolution for 2001 concerning the lack of controls on the agencies carried out by the internal audit service of the Commission (IAS). Parliament expresses grave concern that such controls do not seem to have been carried out this year. It stresses that it is essential that the Agencies be required to submit to the investigative powers of OLAF under the same conditions as the other institutions.

- Financial Management : Parliament invites the Agencies to indicate in particular which of their activities of a multi-annual nature might be financed by such appropriations. The Commission is invited to present its position on such a solution.

- Review of the agencies : the Parliament states that that, prior to any decision to set up an agency, the Commission must make a rigorous analysis of the need for and added value of the functions that the agency will perform. Like last year, the Commission is called upon to make a general study of activities currently carried out by various Community bodies that might overlap or serve the same goals, and to propose appropriate solutions, including the possible mergers of agencies. Parliament is concerned by the fact that there is an imbalance between administrative and operational expenditure in many Agencies, with administrative expenditure exceeding expenditure for operational purposes. The Commission and the Agencies are called upon to set targets and a timetable to reduce the level of administrative expenditure as a proportion of total expenditure. The Agencies are encouraged to improve cooperation between themselves in order to meet their needs in specific areas (for example, software development) and reduce costs. A close working relationship with the competent parliamentary committees is also required.

- New sources of financing : Parliament calls on the Commission and the Agencies to come forward with constructive proposals with regard to further development of new sources of additional financing, which would increase the level of self-financing. It welcomes the financial contributions of some Member States and regions to the agencies located on their area and considers it important for Council and the Commission to demand such contributions, especially when new agencies are set up.

- Harmonised operating framework : Parliament recalls its that the multitude of different forms in the existing agencies' structures was thought to be "neither transparent nor comprehensible. Therefore, it has invited the Commission to present appropriate proposals, aimed at creating such a harmonised framework for the agencies, prior to or at least in parallel with the presentation of the legislative proposals for the new agencies. It insists that an interinstitutional agreement spelling out common guidelines is a pre-condition for creating the harmonised framework.

- Staff policy : the Parliament considers that the staff policy of the Agencies should comply with the Financial Regulation, the Staff Regulations and the best practice generally followed by the Institutions. The Parliament recalls the principle that the Agencies should as far as possible employ staff on temporary contracts, in order to maintain flexibility and efficiency. In this respect, it is concerned about the serious anomalies detected in connection with the selection procedures of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and that selection procedures organised by the Agencies should meet the same standards as those organised by the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) and that they should not be perceived as a backdoor for easy entry into the European civil service.

2002 Discharge: Eurojust

2003/2256(DEC) - 09/03/2004 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the Council recommendation on the discharge to be given to the administrative Director of Eurojust in respect of the implementation of the budget of Eurojust for the financial year 2002. CONTENT : based on the comments contained in the Court of Auditors' report on the financial year 2002, the Council recommends the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Administrative Director of Eurojust in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2002. To recall, EUR 0,4 million in appropriations has been forwarded from the financial year 2002 to the financial year 2003 and EUR 1,2 million have been cancelled. The Council is of the opinion that the observations in the Court of Auditors' report in relation to the financial year 2002 do not call for any specific comments by the Council. Lastly, the Council does however welcome the fact that the Court of Auditors has been able to obtain reasonable assurance that Eurojust's annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2002 are reliable and that the underlying transactions, taken as a whole, are legal and regular.