Basic information

2021/2128(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	ZDECHOVSKÝ Tomáš (EPP)	28/07/2021
	Shadow rapporteur CHINNICI Caterina (S&D) CSEH Katalin (Renew) EICKHOUT Bas (Greens/EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) KUHS Joachim (ID) OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	CANFIN Pascal (Renew)	22/09/2021

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/06/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2021)0381	
14/09/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

31/03/2022	Vote in committee		
07/04/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0115/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0166/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2128(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06745

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.969	14/01/2022	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE699.225	17/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.729	02/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0115/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0166/2022	04/05/2022	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06003/2022	16/02/2022	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2021)0381	30/06/2021	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N9-0044/2022 OJ C 439 29.10.2021, p. 0003	29/10/2021	

Final act

Budget 2022/1752
OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0274

2020 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

2021/2128(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for the financial year 2019 and to approve the closure of the accounts for that year.

Noting that the Court of Auditors had stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the Authority's annual accounts for the financial year 2020 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 544 votes to 63 with 34 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations which form an integral part of the discharge decision and which complement the general recommendations set out in the resolution on the performance, financial management and control of EU agencies.

Authority's financial statements

The Authority's final budget for the financial year 2020 was EUR 103 023 255,80, representing an increase of 27.60 % compared to 2019, mainly because of an increase in operating expenditure linked to the Authority.

Budgetary and financial management

Thebudget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 100 %, representing a slight increase of 0.01 % compared to 2019. Payment appropriations execution rate was at 88.41 %, representing a decrease of 3.04 % compared to 2019.

Other observations

Parliament also made a number of observations concerning performance, staff policy, procurement, conflicts of interest and Covid-19.

In particular, it noted that:

- in 2020, the Authority finalised 697 questions through scientific outputs, technical reports and supporting publications;

- Parliament adopted two objections to extensions of approval periods of active ingredients used in pesticides which meet the cut-off criteria and should therefore not be authorised for use in the Union;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 97.46 % implemented, with five officials and 340 temporary agents appointed out of 354 posts authorised under the Union budget (compared to 320 authorised posts in 2019);

- the Authority continued its activities and was able to deliver its work programme despite the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the Authority’s budget underwent changes with a decrease of commitments and payments appropriations by EUR 5 million due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on missions, training, energy supplies, maintenance and the cancellation of physical meetings;

- the Authority was involved in the Network of Procurement Officers (NAPO), contributing significantly to the implementation of its 2020 work programme, launching and signing seven inter-agency procurement calls in 2020, resulting in an estimated saving of EUR 2.1 million to the EU budget;

- the Authority identified and managed 31 conflicts of interest at the level of annual declarations of interests pertaining to external experts.