Basic information

2022/2104(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2021 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) **Subject** 8.70.03.11 2021 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	CSEH Katalin (Renew)	14/07/2022
	Shadow rapporteur SARVAMAA Petri (EPP) MANDA Claudiu (S&D) 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)	12/09/2022

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/06/2022	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2022)0323	
13/09/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/03/2023	Vote in committee		

11/04/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0131/2023	
09/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
10/05/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0160/2023	Summary
10/05/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
29/09/2023	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/2104(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/09859

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE737.546	20/01/2023	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE738.603	13/02/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE742.576	21/02/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0131/2023	11/04/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0160/2023	10/05/2023	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06248/2023	13/02/2023	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2022)0323	23/06/2022	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N9-0002/2023 OJ C 412 27.10.2022, p. 0012	27/10/2022	

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

Final act
Budget 2023/1880 OJ L 242 29.09.2023, p. 0292

2021 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

2022/2104(DEC) - 10/05/2023 - 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 2021 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 2021 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 578 votes to 56 with 4 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 2021 was EUR 129 179 801.95, representing an increase of 25.39 % compared to 2020.

Budgetary and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2021 resulted in a budget implementation of current year commitment appropriation rate of 99.99 %, representing a slight increase of 0.01 % compared to 2020. Payment appropriations execution rate was at 88.85 %, representing an increase of 0.44 % compared to 2020.

Other observations

Parliament also made a number of observations concerning performance, staff policy, conflicts of interest and digitalisation.

In particular, it noted that:

- the work plan of the Authority for 2021 was executed under the Strategy 2020, which the management board decided to extend for an additional year due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic;

- in 2021, the Authority finalised 704 questions through scientific opinions, technical reports and supporting publications, 81 fewer than the planned 785;

- on 31 December 2021, the establishment plan was 98.16 % implemented, with 5 officials and 368 temporary agents appointed out of 380 posts authorised under the Union budget (compared to 354 authorised posts in 2020);

- the Authority continues not to publish the CVs of its management board members online;

- the Authority is urged to ensure a high level of compliance with conflict of interest and transparency rules throughout all of its activities;

- more systematic rules on transparency, incompatibilities, conflict of interests, illegal lobbying and revolving doors should be put in place. The Authority should also strengthen its internal control mechanisms, including the setting up of an internal anticorruption mechanism;

- the Authority launched its first pan-EU digital communication campaign in 2021, aimed to explain the science behind food safety in the Union in an accessible way and to help make informed decisions about food choices;

- the Authority is urge to close gaps in the risk assessment undertaken by the Authority's Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms;

- the Authority initiated work on a major series of animal welfare mandates concerning, in particular, animal transport, which will form the foundation of new legislation being drafted in this area.