



Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	1996/2044(DEC)	Procedure completed
1994 discharge: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ECDVT budget		
Subject 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control		13/11/1995
		PPE KELLETT-BOWMAN Edward T.	
	Former committee responsible		
	CONT Budgetary Control		13/11/1995
		PPE KELLETT-BOWMAN Edward T.	

Key events			
11/03/1996	Non-legislative basic document published	04487/1996	Summary
19/03/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
19/03/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0081/1996	
27/03/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/04/1996	Debate in Parliament		
17/04/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0181/1996	Summary
19/03/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
19/03/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0138/1997	
23/04/1997	Debate in Parliament		
24/04/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0197/1997	Summary
24/04/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/06/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/2044(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 100
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/07709

Documentation gateway					
Court of Auditors: opinion, report		N4-0564/1995	30/11/1995	CofA	
Non-legislative basic document		04487/1996	11/03/1996	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0081/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0005	19/03/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0181/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0087-0125	17/04/1996	EP	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0138/1997 OJ C 150 19.05.1997, p. 0003	19/03/1997	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0197/1997 OJ C 150 19.05.1997, p. 0013-0025	24/04/1997	EP	Summary

Final act	
Decision 1997/386 OJ L 162 19.06.1997, p. 0050	

1994 discharge: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ECDVT budget

In its recommendation, the Council asks the European Parliament to give discharge to the Management Board of the Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, in respect of the financial year 1994. It recalls that, according to the Centre's revenue and expenditure account, 87.6% (ECU 2 645 904.05) of the ECU 3 020 500.76 in appropriations carried forward from the financial year 1993 to the financial year 1994 were used and that the appropriations carried forward from the financial year 1994 to the financial year 1995 amounted to ECU 2 451 765.13. Attached to the Council recommendation are a series of comments based on the observations made by the Court of Auditors on the Centre's management. In its report, the Court of Auditors noted that, although the Centre had acted on its previous observations with regard to recruitment, it was increasingly using imprest accounts and too frequently resorting to transfers of appropriations, including what it considered to be unauthorized transfers between titles. The Court considers that the planning of expenditure might be improved and the annual work programme executed more strictly. It also considers that the Centre should make withdrawals of the Community subsidy from the Commission in tranches which more closely reflect its actual cash requirements. For its part, the Centre replied that, as a result of more rigorous management, it had been able to reduce the proportion of available appropriations cancelled at the end of the financial year or carried over to the next year, and had thus improved the rate of utilization during the year of the final appropriations for 1994. The Commission expressed readiness to support the Centre's efforts to act on the Court's observations regarding budgetary and financial management, and considered that this task would be considerably simplified with the resumption of the Centre's normal activities following its move to its new seat. The Council, for its part, asks the Centre and the Commission to make every effort to ensure that the Centre is fully operational and able to realize its full potential while demonstrating effective budgetary and financial management. It also points out that the transfers between titles to which the Court alludes are not in breach of the financial rules applicable to the Centre. ?

1994 discharge: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ECDVT budget

The rapporteur took note of the criticism levied against the CEDEFOP, especially in the audit report drafted at the specific request of the European Parliament, which stated that the CEDEFOP was still useful and still had a role to play, but should adapt to the requirements of its new environment. The conclusions of the audit include a series of recommendations along these lines. Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN (PPE, UK) therefore persuaded the Committee on Budgetary Control to propose that Parliament reserve its decision on discharge for the CEDEFOP for 1994 until it, alone or as a member of a delegation, had confirmed that it was able to meet the conditions for discharge, i.e. value for money for expenditure, efficient use of human resources, quality products which respond to the needs of its clients and a clear and coherent role within the policies of the Community on vocational training. ?

1994 discharge: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ECDVT budget

In adopting the report by Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN (PPE, RU), Parliament noted that there was no resolution as yet of the staff problems arising from CEDEFOP's relocation to Thessaloniki and, furthermore, that a consultant's report requested by the EP was highly critical of CEDEFOP's management and output, to the extent that it casts doubt on the usefulness of the body altogether. It reserved its 1994 discharge decision until such time as it could be satisfied that CEDEFOP's management strategies were such as to ensure: - value for money for the budgetary expenditure used to support it, - efficient use of human and other resources, - products of quality which respond to the needs of its clients, - a clear and coherent role within the policies of the European Community on vocational training. In addition, it asked its Committee on Budgetary Control to visit CEDEFOP to ascertain whether the conditions for discharge could be met. ?

1994 discharge: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ECDVT budget

In adopting the report by Mr Edward KELLETT-BOWMAN (PPE, UK), Parliament gave discharge to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Thessaloniki) in respect of the implementation of its budget for the 1994 and 1995 financial years. However the agreement entered into between Cedefop and the Greek State concerning the construction and purchase of buildings in Thessaloniki raised concern, in particular because of the lack of transparency implicit in the terms of the agreement. It was also concerned that Cedefop had advanced half the purchase price of its new headquarters before its construction began and would advance a further quarter at a very early stage in the work without there being any obligation of this type. It therefore asked Cedefop to report to it at six-monthly intervals, starting in June 1997, on the progress of the construction work and to provide information on the final cost of the work. It also considered that the difficulties associated with the transfer of staff from Berlin to Thessaloniki, mainly attributable to the Council, must be resolved during 1997 and stressed in passing that the difficulties involved in achieving a full staff complement for the new headquarters (and the problems of staff motivation following from the move to Thessaloniki) had severely impaired Cedefop's operations. Lastly, it stated that in general Cedefop provided products of quality and played a clear and coherent role within the policies of the Community on vocational training. ?