


Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	1995/2316(DEC)	Procedure completed
1991 discharge: EAGGF accounts		
Subject 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control	ELDR KJER HANSEN Eva	13/11/1995

Key events			
11/10/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	N4-0591/1995	
15/01/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/02/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
27/02/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0058/1996	
16/04/1996	Debate in Parliament		
17/04/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0174/1996	Summary
17/04/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/05/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1995/2316(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 100
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/07374

Documentation gateway				
Non-legislative basic document		N4-0591/1995	11/10/1995	CofA

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A4-0058/1996 OJ C 117 22.04.1996, p. 0003	27/02/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T4-0174/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0086-0107	17/04/1996	EP	Summary

1991 discharge: EAGGF accounts

The committee approved by a very large majority the report by Mrs Eva KJER HANSEN (ELDR, DK) on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the EAGGF clearance of accounts for the 1991 financial year. The Committee on Budgetary Control recommended discharge subject to certain reservations; the amendments presented by Mrs Edith MULLER (V, D) and adopted by the committee reinforced these reservations, which related mainly to the following: - whilst the use of flat-rate financial corrections was a legitimate means of responding to irregularities and recovering funds from the Member States, it did not reflect actual loss to the budget; - the CONT deplored the practice of treating the amount of financial corrections as negotiable between the Commission and the Member States and observed that the most extreme example of a negotiable financial correction was provided by the case of the corrections made under the 1991 procedure relating to the application of milk quotas in certain Member States, which led to a massive loss to the Community budget; - the CONT recognized that the staff available to the Commission for clearance of accounts work was insufficient and called upon it to undertake a redeployment or come forward to the budgetary authority with an appropriate proposal.?

1991 discharge: EAGGF accounts

In adopting the report by Mrs Eva KJER HANSEN (ELDR, DK), Parliament gave a discharge in respect of the EAGGF clearance of accounts for the 1991 financial year, subject to the following comments: - whilst the use of flat-rate financial corrections was a legitimate means of recovering funds from Member States, it did not reflect actual loss to the budget; - Parliament deplored the practice of treating the amount of financial corrections as negotiable between the Commission and the Member States, and considered that any such negotiation transforms a supposedly technical procedure into a political one. It observed that the most extreme example of a negotiable financial correction was provided by the case of the corrections made under the 1991 procedure relating to the application of milk quotas in certain Member States, which led to a massive loss to the Community budget. It believed that revisions of financial corrections on any other than technical grounds amounts to a budgetary decision which must therefore receive the prior assent of the budgetary authority; - Parliament recognized that the staff available to the Commission for clearance of accounts work was insufficient and called upon it to undertake a redeployment or come forward to the budgetary authority with an appropriate proposal; - it welcomed the creation of the EAGGF Conciliation Body but warned against its use as a forum for political negotiation or as a test-bed for possible recourse to the Court of Justice; - it asked the Commission to put in place methods by which a conciliation procedure could be introduced for the resolution of disputes relating to financial corrections; - finally, it pointed out that most of the defects apparent in the clearance of accounts procedure owed their existence to the nature of the Common Agricultural Policy itself and that the effective reform of this procedure depended on the radical simplification of the CAP itself.?