



Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2004/2055(DEC)	Procedure completed
2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA		
Subject 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control		22/09/2004
		PSE AYALA SENDER Inés	26/07/2004
			22/09/2004
		PSE AYALA SENDER Inés	
		Verts/ALE SCHLYTER Carl	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		25/10/2004
		ALDE DEPREZ Gérard	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2646	08/03/2005

Key events			
01/03/2004	Non-legislative basic document published	N6-0211/2004	Summary
10/01/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/03/2005	Vote in committee		
16/03/2005	Additional information		Summary
23/03/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0074/2005	
12/04/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/04/2005	Debate in Parliament		
12/04/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0109/2005	Summary
12/04/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		

27/07/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		
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Technical information

Procedure reference	2004/2055(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 100
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		N6-0211/2004	01/03/2004	OS	Summary
Court of Auditors: opinion, report		C324/2004 OJ C 324 30.12.2004, p. 0001	30/12/2004	CofA	Summary
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE353.262	07/02/2005	EP	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		06862/2005	08/03/2005	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0074/2005	23/03/2005	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0109/2005 OJ C 033 09.02.2006, p. 0029-0274 E	12/04/2005	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2005)2124	19/05/2005	EC	

Final act

[Budget 2005/547](#)
[OJ L 196 27.07.2005, p. 0120-0120](#) Summary

2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA

PURPOSE : to present the accounts and balance sheets of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction for the year 2003.

CONTENT : sources made available to the Monitoring Centre in 2003 amount to EUR 10.45 million of which 89% was subsidized by the Community.

As regards the staffing policy, 63 posts were allocated with 54 posts actually being occupied. +18 other staff (auxiliary, contracts, seconded national experts, local staff and employment agency staff) which makes a total of 72 staff assigned to operational, administrative and mixed tasks.

The objectives of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drugs Addiction, whose headquarters are based in Lisbon, aims to provide the EU with reliable information at EU level concerning drugs and drugs addiction and their consequences.

In addition, the Monitoring Centre runs a computerised network for the collection and exchange of information called the "European Information Network on Drugs and Drug Addiction (Reitox)". This network connects the national drug information networks, the specialist centres in the Member States and the information systems of international organisations working with the Monitoring Centre. It has published an annual report on the state of the drug problem in the EU, a general report of activities, bi-monthly newsletter (Drugsnet Europe) and bi-monthly briefings (Drugs in focus).

2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA

Having examined the revenue and expenditure account for the financial year 2003 and the balance sheet of revenue and expenditure at 31 December 2003 of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Monitoring Centre, the Council recommends that the European Parliament give a discharge to the Director of the Monitoring Centre in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2003.

To recall, EUR 1.4 million (88%) of the EUR 1.6 million in appropriations carried forward from the financial year 2002 to the financial year 2003 have been used. EUR 2.0 million in appropriations have been carried forward from the financial year 2003 to the financial year 2004 and whereas EUR 0.3 million has been cancelled.

Observations in the Court of Auditors' report in relation to the financial year 2003 call for certain comments by the Council, which are annexed to this Recommendation.

The Council welcomes the fact that the Court of Auditors has been able to obtain reasonable assurance that the Monitoring Centre's annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2003 are reliable and that the underlying transactions, taken as a whole, are legal and regular. However, some observations need to be made.

Concerning the implementation of the budget, the Council invites once again the Monitoring Centre to keep automatic carry-overs to a minimum, in order to improve the implementation of the budget in line with the principle of annuality.

The Council stresses the importance of enforcing correctly the Monitoring Centre's new financial regulation, in order to avoid any further mistake or delay related to budgetary operations.

As regards the physical inventory system of goods, the Council calls on the Monitoring Centre to take appropriate measures in order to remedy the persistent shortcomings of it. There is still no document that clearly defines the responsibility and procedures regarding the inventory.

2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA

EP: decision of committee responsible, 1st reading/single reading

The committee adopted the report by Inés AYALA SENDER (PES, ES) and Carl SCHLYTER (Greens/EFA, SE) giving discharge to the Director of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction for the 2003 financial year.

In its accompanying comments, the committee made a number of general points addressed to the Commission, the Agencies and the Court of Auditors (ECA):

- before the Commission defines the framework conditions for the use of regulatory agencies, an interinstitutional agreement should spell out common guidelines;
- the Commission should carry out a cross-cutting analysis, on a standard three-year cycle, of the coherence of agency activity with EU policy in general. It should also assess "the broader European added value" of the Agencies' work in their respective fields. Before any decision is taken to propose the creation of a new agency, the need for such an agency should be carefully evaluated, bearing in mind existing structures and the principles of subsidiarity, budgetary austerity and simplification of procedures;
- the Agencies were urged to comply fully with the budgetary principles set out in the Financial Regulation, further strengthen their internal management and control procedures and pay "special attention" to procedures for the award and management of contracts. They should also step up cooperation with each other, avoid duplication of work and develop a comprehensive strategy for making the results of their work available to the general public;
- the ECA and the Agencies were urged to strengthen their cooperation and establish a methodology "that prepares the ground for a positive budget discharge from the start of the process".

2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA

OBJECTIVE: granting of discharge for implementing the EU's general budget for 2003 ? European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision 2005/547/EC of the European Parliament concerning the discharge for implementing the general budget of the EU for the 2003 financial year ? European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction. CONTENT: With this Decision, the European Parliament grants discharge to the Director of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction for the implementation of the budget for the 2003 financial year.

This decision is in line with the European Parliament's resolution adopted on 12 April 2005 and comprises a series of observations that form an integral part of the discharge decision (please refer to the summary of the opinion of 12/04/2005).

2003 discharge: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA

The European Parliament adopted the report by Inés AYALA SENDER (PES, ES) and Carl SCHLYTER (Greens/EFA, SE) giving discharge to the Director of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction for the 2003 financial year.

Parliament notes the Centre's efforts to develop a proactive attitude as regards information provided to the general public and to third countries which express an interest in its work. It equally welcomes the measures taken to promote equal opportunity policy and encourages the Centre to follow up and evaluate such measures regularly to ensure their implementation. The Centre's communication strategy and commitment to informing the general public is also welcomed.

In its accompanying comments, the committee made a number of general points addressed to the Commission, the Agencies and the Court of Auditors (ECA):

General points addressed to the Commission and the Agencies: Parliament notes the Commission's position with regard to delegating

responsibility for the execution of tasks to bodies, including agencies, other than the Commission's core administration and it takes the view that this does not answer Parliament's call for in-depth consideration at inter-institutional level of the structure of existing agencies. It therefore invites the Commission to provide clarification on this point and on the future overall inter-institutional agreement related to the new arrangements to be set up within or in parallel with the Financial Perspective and invites the Commission to organise and perform in the medium term, e.g. on a standard three-year cycle, a cross-cutting analysis of the evaluations carried out on individual Agencies in order to:

- reach conclusions with regard to the coherence of Agency activity with EU policies in general and as regards the synergies existing or to be developed between the agencies and Commission departments and the avoidance of overlapping between them;
- make an assessment of the broader European added value of the Agencies' outputs in their respective area of activity and of the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency model in implementing or contributing to EU policies;
- determine and enhance the impact of the Agencies' actions in terms of the proximity, accessibility and visibility of the EU to its citizens.

In addition, Parliament calls on the Commission, in parallel with this exercise, to present by the end of 2005 at the latest, proposals for changes to be made in the existing Agencies' Constituent Acts with a view, inter alia, to optimising its relationship with the Agencies.

General points addressed to the Agencies: Parliament expects to receive from now on, from each of the Agencies, the report summarising information on the audits carried out by the Internal Auditor. It invites the Agencies to make further efforts to apply correctly the staff regulations and rules applicable to other civil servants with regard to their staff (recruitment procedures and relevant decisions taken, personal files, calculation of remuneration and other entitlements, promotions policy, percentage of vacant posts, quotas for respecting gender equality, etc.). Moreover, the Parliament expects the Agencies, in response to the relevant observations of the ECA, to comply fully with the budgetary principles as set out in the Financial Regulation, in particular those of unity and budgetary accuracy.

Parliament invites the Agencies to develop a comprehensive strategy of communication addressing the need to make available, in the appropriate form, the results of their work to the general public beyond the presentation of such results to the Institutions, Member States' competent services, specialists, partners or specific beneficiaries.

General points addressed to the ECA and the Agencies: Parliament welcomes the ECA's initiative to add a table to its specific reports on the Agencies presenting summary information on the competences, governance, resources available and products/output of the particular agency.