



Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2009/2115(DEC)	Procedure completed
2008 discharge: European Environment Agency EEA		
Subject 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control		01/10/2009
		PPE MATHIEU HOUILLON Véronique	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		S&D STAVRAKAKIS Georgios	
		ALDE GERBRANDY Gerben-Jan	
		Verts/ALE STAES Bart	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		06/10/2009
		S&D HAUG Jutta	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2994	16/02/2010
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Budget	ŠEMETA Algirdas	

Key events			
23/07/2009	Non-legislative basic document published	SEC(2009)1089	Summary
07/10/2009	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/03/2010	Vote in committee		Summary
26/03/2010	Committee report tabled for plenary	A7-0092/2010	
21/04/2010	Debate in Parliament		
05/05/2010	Results of vote in Parliament		
05/05/2010	Decision by Parliament	T7-0105/2010	Summary
05/05/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		
25/09/2010	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	

Procedure reference	2009/2115(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/7/01089

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		SEC(2009)1089	23/07/2009	EC	Summary
Court of Auditors: opinion, report		N7-0012/2010 OJ C 304 15.12.2009, p. 0001	08/10/2009	CofA	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		N7-0036/2009 OJ C 269 10.11.2009, p. 0001	10/11/2009	CofA	
Document attached to the procedure		05827/2010	01/02/2010	CSL	Summary
Committee draft report		PE430.478	02/02/2010	EP	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE431.044	24/02/2010	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A7-0092/2010	26/03/2010	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0105/2010	05/05/2010	EP	Summary

Final act

[Decision 2010/522](#)
[OJ L 252 25.09.2010, p. 0151](#) Summary

2008 discharge: European Environment Agency EEA

PURPOSE: to present the final accounts of the European Environment Agency (EEA) for the financial year 2008.

CONTENT: this document sets out a detailed account of the implementation of the European Environment Agency's budget for the financial year 2008. It notes that the final budget amounts to EUR 37.1 million in 2008 (compared to EUR 35.1 million in 2007), representing a 85% Community subsidy.

As regards the staffing policy, the Agency, whose head office is in Copenhagen (Denmark), officially set out 123 posts in its establishment plan. 116 of these posts are currently occupied with 51 other posts (contract agents and seconded national experts) assigned to operational, administrative and mixed tasks.

In 2008, the Agency's main activities concentrated on the following:

Publication of reports and studies

- TERM 2007 - Climate for a transport change: indicators tracking transport and environment in the European Union.
- Report on the application of the Emissions Trading Directive by EU Member States (reporting year 2007).
- Report on air pollution by ozone across Europe during summer 2007.
- Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2006 and inventory report 2008.
- Annual European Community LRTAP Convention emission inventory report 1990-2006.
- Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2008.
- Maximising the environmental benefits of Europe's bioenergy potential.
- Energy and environment report 2008
- NEC Directive status report 2007.

Collaboration: the EEA also continued to collaborate closely with DG Environment, ESTAT and the JRC in the 'Group of Four' to streamline environmental reporting. The EEA takes the lead in the following five areas: climate change, air quality, water and marine environment, biodiversity and land use.

2008 discharge: European Environment Agency EEA

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Véronique MATHIEU (EPP, FR) on discharge to be granted to the European Environment Agency, calling on the European Parliament to grant the Executive Director of the Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2008.

Noting that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2008 are reliable, and the underlying transactions are legal and regular, MEPs approve the closure of the Agency's accounts. However, they make a number of recommendations that need to be taken into account when the discharge is granted, in addition to the general recommendations that appear in the draft resolution on financial management and control of EU agencies (see [2010/2007\(INI\)](#)):

- performance: overall satisfied with the Agency's performance as outlined in its evaluation report, Members call on the Agency to inform the discharge authority of developments in the next external evaluation, for the period 2009-2013. They also call on it to set out a comparison of operations carried out during the year for which discharge is to be granted and in the previous financial year so as to enable the discharge authority to assess its performance from one year to the next more effectively. They also urge the Agency to provide clarifications in regard to certain grant agreements it has concluded;
- lease: Members note that a tendering procedure should have been launched for the contract for refitting the premises rented by the Agency instead of paying the costs of a firm chosen by the building's owners;
- internal audit: Members call on the Agency to implement the recommendations made by the Internal Audit Service (IAS), in particular in regard to the management of grants and the implementation of the internal control standards.

2008 discharge: European Environment Agency EEA

The European Parliament adopted by 555 votes to 33, with 57 abstentions, a decision on discharge to be granted to the Executive Director of the European Environment Agency in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2008. The decision to grant discharge is also an approval of the closure of the accounts of this EU agency. Furthermore, Parliament adopted a resolution with observations which are an integral part of the decision to grant discharge.

The main points are as follows:

- performance: overall satisfied with the Agency's performance as outlined in its evaluation report, Parliament calls on the Agency to inform the discharge authority of developments in the next external evaluation, for the period 2009-2013. It also calls on it to set out a comparison of operations carried out during the year for which discharge is to be granted and in the previous financial year so as to enable the discharge authority to assess its performance from one year to the next more effectively. It also urges the Agency to provide clarifications in regard to certain grant agreements it has concluded;
- lease: Parliament notes that a tendering procedure should have been launched for the contract for refitting the premises rented by the Agency instead of paying the costs of a firm chosen by the building's owners;
- internal audit: Parliament calls on the Agency to implement the recommendations made by the Internal Audit Service (IAS), in particular in regard to the management of grants and the implementation of the internal control standards.

Noting that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2008 are reliable, and the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament approves the closure of the Agency's accounts. However, it makes a number of recommendations that need to be taken into account when the discharge is granted, in addition to the general recommendations that appear in the draft resolution on financial management and control of EU agencies (see [2010/2007\(INI\)](#) adopted in parallel).

2008 discharge: European Environment Agency EEA

PURPOSE: to grant discharge to the European Environment Agency for the financial year 2008.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision 2010/522/EU of the European Parliament on the discharge for the implementation of the budget of the European Environment Agency for the financial year 2008.

CONTENT: with the present decision, the European Parliament grants discharge to the Executive Director of the European Environment Agency for the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2008.

This decision is in line with the European Parliament's resolution adopted on 5 May 2010 and comprises a series of observations that form an integral part of the discharge decision (please refer to the summary of the opinion of 5 May 2010).

A parallel Decision, adopted on the same day, approves the closure of the accounts of this EU agency.