



Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2009/2121(DEC)	Procedure completed
2008 discharge: European Maritime Safety Agency EMSA		
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
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		12/11/2009
		ALDE JENSEN Anne E.	
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	A7-0081/2010	
21/04/2010	Debate in Parliament		
05/05/2010	Results of vote in Parliament		
05/05/2010	Decision by Parliament	T7-0109/2010	Summary
05/05/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		
25/09/2010	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	

Procedure reference	2009/2121(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/7/01110

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		PE430.484	03/02/2010	EP	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE429.664	23/02/2010	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE439.369	03/03/2010	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A7-0081/2010	26/03/2010	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0109/2010	05/05/2010	EP	Summary

Final act

[Decision 2010/530](#)
[OJ L 252 25.09.2010, p. 0169](#) Summary

2008 discharge: European Maritime Safety Agency EMSA

PURPOSE: to present the final accounts of the European Maritime Agency for the financial year 2008.

CONTENT: this document sets out a detailed account of the implementation of the European Maritime Agency's 2008 budget. It notes that the final budget amounted to EUR 50.2 million (compared to EUR 48.2 million in 2007).

As regards the staffing policy, the Agency, whose head office is now based in Lisbon (Portugal) set out 181 posts in the establishment plan and 30 other posts (auxiliary contracts, seconded national experts, contract agents).

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

- 33 Workshops/other events
- 24 training courses (including 4 for Port State Control (PSC) officers)
- 431 national experts trained
- 75 inspections and visits
- 2 335 satellite images ordered and analysed through CleanSeaNet
- 11 anti-pollution vessels contracts
- 31 drills and 6 exercises with the anti-pollution vessels
- SafeSeaNet system fully operational.

Other major systems under development: THETIS (Information System for Port State Control (PSC)); Officers EU Long Range Identification and Tracking Data Centre.

The complete version of the final accounts may be found at the following address: <http://www.emsa.europa.eu>

2008 discharge: European Maritime Safety Agency EMSA

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Véronique MATHIEU (EPP, FR) on discharge to be granted to the European Maritime Safety Agency, calling on the European Parliament to grant the Executive Director of the Agency discharge in respect of the

implementation of the Agency's 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: Members are disappointed that the Agency failed to prepare a multiannual work programme and that its annual work programme was not related to its commitment budget. They ask, therefore, that this strategy be presented to the Parliament as soon as possible. They also call on the Agency to consider making a Gantt diagram part of the programming for each of its operational activities, with a view to indicating in concise form the amount of time spent by each staff member on a project and encourage an approach geared towards achieving results. Members call on the Agency 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 more effectively its performance from one year to the next;
- budgetary and financial management: Members note that the Agency received EUR 44.3 million in commitment appropriations and EUR 46.89 in payment appropriations from the 2008 Union budget. They consider it a matter for concern that the Court of Auditors has again noted a high number of budget transfers in 2008 (52 in total). Although most of these transfers were related to the Agency's move to its final offices, Members note that more than EUR 2 million of appropriations for personnel expenditure was transferred to administrative expenditure budget lines between June and November 2008, which made it possible to increase the amount of appropriations carried forward to 2009 and reduce the amount to be repaid to the Commission. Efforts must be continued to improve its planning and monitoring and consequently to reduce the number of budgetary modifications. Members conclude from the annual closure of accounts and the amount of interest payments that the Agency maintains enormously high cash reserves over long periods (EUR 3 610 677.41 at 31 December 2008). Members call on the Commission to examine ways of ensuring that the principle of needs-based cash management is implemented to the full and that changes in approach are needed to ensure that the Agency's cash reserves are kept as low as possible on a long-term basis;
- internal audit and human resources: Members note that the Agency should implement the recommendations from the Internal Audit Service (IAS) in particular as regards: the adoption of the Staff Regulation Implementing Rules regarding the recruitment of temporary staff; the controls in the selection procedure to ensure more transparency and equal treatment of candidates; the development of a career planning strategy; and better human resources planning.

2008 discharge: European Maritime Safety Agency EMSA

The European Parliament adopted by 559 votes to 30, with 52 abstentions, a decision on discharge to be granted to the Executive Director of the European Maritime Safety Agency in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2008.

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: Parliament is disappointed that the Agency failed to prepare a multiannual work programme and that its annual work programme was not related to its commitment budget. It asks, therefore, that this strategy be presented to the Parliament as soon as possible. It also calls on the Agency to consider making a Gantt diagram part of the programming for each of its operational activities, with a view to indicating in concise form the amount of time spent by each staff member on a project and encourage an approach geared towards achieving results. It calls on the Agency 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 more effectively its performance from one year to the next;
- budgetary and financial management: Parliament notes that the Agency received EUR 44.3 million in commitment appropriations and EUR 46.89 in payment appropriations from the 2008 Union budget. It considers it a matter for concern that the Court of Auditors has again noted a high number of budget transfers in 2008 (52 in total). Although most of these transfers were related to the Agency's move to its final offices, Parliament notes that more than EUR 2 million of appropriations for personnel expenditure was transferred to administrative expenditure budget lines between June and November 2008, which made it possible to increase the amount of appropriations carried forward to 2009 and reduce the amount to be repaid to the Commission. Efforts must be continued to improve its planning and monitoring and consequently to reduce the number of budgetary modifications. Parliament concludes from the annual closure of accounts and the amount of interest payments that the Agency maintains enormously high cash reserves over long periods (EUR 3 610 677.41 at 31 December 2008). Parliament calls on the Commission to examine ways of ensuring that the principle of needs-based cash management is implemented to the full and that changes in approach are needed to ensure that the Agency's cash reserves are kept as low as possible on a long-term basis;
- internal audit and human resources: Parliament notes that the Agency should implement the recommendations from the Internal Audit Service (IAS) in particular as regards: the adoption of the Staff Regulation Implementing Rules regarding the recruitment of temporary staff; the controls in the selection procedure to ensure more transparency and equal treatment of candidates; the development of a career planning strategy; and better human resources planning.

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 Centre'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 Maritime Safety Agency EMSA

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

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision 2010/530/EU of the European Parliament on the discharge for the implementation of the budget of the European Maritime Safety Agency for the financial year 2008.

CONTENT: with the present decision, the European Parliament grants discharge to the Executive Director of the European Maritime Safety 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.