Procedure file

Basic information

DEC - Discharge procedure	2022/2104(DEC)	Procedure completed
2021 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Subject 8.70.03.11 2021 discharge		

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control		14/07/2022
		renew europe. CSEH Katalin	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		epp SARVAMAA Petri	
		S&D MANDA Claudiu	
		EICKHOUT Bas	
		KUHS Joachim	
		ECR CZARNECKI Ryszard	
		OMARJEE Younous	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		12/09/2022
		renew europe. CANFIN Pascal	
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Budget	HAHN Johannes	

Key events

23/06/2022	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2022)0323	
13/09/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/03/2023	Vote in committee		

11/04/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0131/2023	
09/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
10/05/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/05/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0160/2023	Summary
29/09/2023	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/2104(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/09859

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(2022)0323	23/06/2022	EC	
Court of Auditors: opinion, report		N9-0002/2023 OJ C 412 27.10.2022, p. 0012	27/10/2022	CofA	
Committee draft report		PE737.546	20/01/2023	EP	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		06248/2023	13/02/2023	CSL	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE738.603	13/02/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE742.576	21/02/2023	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0131/2023	11/04/2023	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0160/2023	10/05/2023	EP	Summary

Final act

Budget 2023/1880
OJ L 242 29.09.2023, p. 0292

2021 discharge: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

The European Parliament decided to grant discharge to the Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for the financial year 2021 and to approve the closure of the accounts for that year.

Noting that the Court of Auditors had stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the Authority's annual accounts for the financial year 2021 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 578 votes to 56 with 4 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations which form an integral part of the discharge decision and which complement the general recommendations set out in the resolution on the performance, financial management and control of EU agencies.

Authoritys financial statements

The Authority's final budget for the financial year 2021 was EUR 129 179 801.95, representing an increase of 25.39 % compared to 2020.

Budgetary and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2021 resulted in a budget implementation of current year commitment appropriation rate of 99.99 %, representing a slight increase of 0.01 % compared to 2020. Payment appropriations execution rate was at 88.85 %, representing an increase of 0.44 % compared to 2020.

Other observations

Parliament also made a number of observations concerning performance, staff policy, conflicts of interest and digitalisation.

In particular, it noted that:

- the work plan of the Authority for 2021 was executed under the Strategy 2020, which the management board decided to extend for an additional year due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic;

- in 2021, the Authority finalised 704 questions through scientific opinions, technical reports and supporting publications, 81 fewer than the planned 785;

- on 31 December 2021, the establishment plan was 98.16 % implemented, with 5 officials and 368 temporary agents appointed out of 380 posts authorised under the Union budget (compared to 354 authorised posts in 2020);

- the Authority continues not to publish the CVs of its management board members online;

- the Authority is urged to ensure a high level of compliance with conflict of interest and transparency rules throughout all of its activities;

- more systematic rules on transparency, incompatibilities, conflict of interests, illegal lobbying and revolving doors should be put in place. The Authority should also strengthen its internal control mechanisms, including the setting up of an internal anticorruption mechanism;

- the Authority launched its first pan-EU digital communication campaign in 2021, aimed to explain the science behind food safety in the Union in an accessible way and to help make informed decisions about food choices;

- the Authority is urge to close gaps in the risk assessment undertaken by the Authority's Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms;

- the Authority initiated work on a major series of animal welfare mandates concerning, in particular, animal transport, which will form the foundation of new legislation being drafted in this area.