



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 30 March 2012

8452/12

**CMPT 13
PE 147
INST 255
FIN 242**

NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Delegations

Subject: Summary record of the meeting of the European Parliament **Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT)**, held in Brussels on 26 and 27 March 2012

1. CONT delegation to Haiti (22 to 26 February 2012)

CONT/7/07896

The Chairman, Mr Theurer (ALDE, DE), recalled that a CONT delegation had travelled to Haïti in order to check how EU public money had been spent.

Ms Grässle (EPP, DE), Head of the CONT delegation, stated that, after 2 years, the EU aid was not visible anymore and considered that the Haïtian government should change its approach (in particular as for the building project) to make EU aid more sustainable. Should this not happen, aid would need to be reduced or even discontinued. Mr Geier (S&D, DE), however, proposed not to increase the aid.

The Representative of the European Commission was optimistic about the successful issue of the mission in Haïti if aid was not reduced. She considered that a reinforcement of the Haïtian government would be helpful. Finally, she answered to Mr Liberadzki (S&D, PL) that other donors were also providing aid and mentioned USAID, Canada, France, Spain, Japan and Norway.

*****voting time *****

2. Vote on Council discharge (Item 9)

CONT voted unanimously to postpone its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge for 2010. However, the Committee supported an amendment of Ms Ayala Sender (S&D, ES), rapporteur, to explore the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Danish Presidency.

When voting on the separate resolution, the Committee nevertheless did not support Ms Ayala Sender's call for a more open approach towards the Council and voted in favour of some more critical amendments. In particular, a joint amendment tabled by Mr Sondergaard (GUE, DK) and Mr Staes (Greens, BE) reiterates that the Parliament is still waiting for a reply from the Council and asks for comprehensive answers in writing to about 30 questions, ranging from the building policy to CFSP, travel expenses, building policy and occupation rate of posts in the CGS. The resolution, as amended, was adopted by 22 votes in favour and 2 against.

3. Vote on European Environment Agency, European Food Safety Agency and European Medicines Agency discharge (Items 24,25 and 27)

CONT voted to postpone its decision on granting European Environment Agency, European Food Safety Agency and European Medicines Agency discharge for 2010:

Item 24. Discharge for 2010: European Environment Agency

CONT/7/07232

- Decision to postpone discharge on the European Environment Agency (EEA), by 16 votes in favour and 11 against together with a decision to postpone the closure of accounts, by 15 votes in favour, 11 against and 1 abstention as well as a resolution adopted by 16 votes in favour and 10 against.

Item 25. Discharge for 2010: European Food Safety Agency

CONT/7/07248

- Decision to postpone discharge on the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), by 19 votes in favour and 6 against together with a decision to postpone the closure of accounts, by 15 votes in favour and 10 against as well as a resolution adopted by 15 votes in favour, 7 against and 4 abstentions.

Item 27. Discharge 2010 : European Medicines Agency

CONT/7/07238

- Decision to postpone discharge on the European Medicines Agency (EMA), by 13 votes in favour and 11 against together with a decision to postpone the closure of accounts, by 14 votes in favour and 9 against as well as a resolution adopted by 14 votes in favour and 9 against.

At the end of the vote, Ms Macovei (EPP, RO), rapporteur, stated she was very satisfied that the issue of conflict of interests had been considered seriously and that discharge for those agencies had been postponed for such a reason.

The Representative for the Organization of Agencies took note of the postponement of discharge for abovementioned agencies and stated they are willing to work with the EP and the European Commission on that issue. He reiterated that the dialogue between the Budgetary Authority and agencies is very important in order for the latter to improve themselves. He insisted on the fact that agencies have already done efforts to improve planification, preparation of budgets and assessment and that they are willing to discuss with the EP, the European Commission and the Court of Auditors about new concepts the EP has inserted in its comments, such as the "Base 0 Budget" concept.

4. Other votes

CONT adopted the following reports, as amended:

Item 4. 2010 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission

CONT/7/06929

Decision to grant discharge to the Commission, by 19 votes in favour and 6 against; Moreover, the following decisions concerning Executive Agencies were adopted:

- Decision to grant discharge to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, by 23 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention;
- Decision to grant discharge to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation, by 23 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention;
- Decision to grant discharge to the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers, by 24 votes in favour and 2 against;
- Decision to grant discharge to the European Research Council Executive Agency, by 25 votes in favour and 2 against;
- Decision to grant discharge to the Research Executive Agency, by 23 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention;
- Decision to grant discharge to the Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency, by 24 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

A decision on the closure of accounts concerning the abovementioned Executive Agencies was adopted by 22 votes in favour and 2 against together with a resolution adopted by 25 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 5. ECA special reports in the context of the 2010 Commission discharge

CONT/7/07186

- Resolution on the Court of Auditors' special reports in the context of the 2010 Commission discharge, by 26 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

Item 6. Discharge for 2010: 8th, 9th and 10th European Development Funds

CONT/7/07173

- Decision to grant discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the 8th, 9th and 10th European Development Funds for the financial year 2010, by 24 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 24 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 26 votes in favour and 3 against.

Item 7. Discharge 2010: EU general budget, European Parliament

CONT/7/06988

- Decision to grant discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2010, Section I - European Parliament, by 23 votes in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention together with a resolution adopted by 25 votes in favour and 3 against.

Item 8. Protection of the European Union's financial interests - Fight against fraud - Annual Report 2010

CONT/7/06487

- Resolution on the protection of the European Union's financial interests -Fight against fraud - Annual Report 2010, by 24 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

Item 10. Discharge 2010 : EU general budget Court of Justice

CONT/7/07028

- Decision to grant discharge to the Court of Justice, by 23 votes in favour and 3 against, together with a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 3 against.

Item 11. Discharge 2010 : EU general budget, Court of Auditors

CONT/7/07047

- Decision to grant discharge to the Court of Auditors, by 20 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention, together with a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 12. Discharge 2010 : EU general budget, Economic and Social Committee

CONT/7/07067

- Decision to grant discharge to the Economic and Social Committee, by 13 votes in favour, 10 against and 1 abstention, together with a resolution adopted by 22 votes in favour, 4 against and 1 abstention.

Item 13. Discharge 2010 : EU general budget, Committee of the Regions

CONT/7/07087

- Decision to grant discharge to the Committee of the Regions, by 23 votes in favour and 3 against, together with a resolution adopted by 23 votes in favour and 3 against.

Item 14. Discharge 2010 : EU general budget , European Ombudsman

CONT/7/07107

- Decision to grant discharge to the European Ombudsman, by 24 votes in favour and 1 against, together with a resolution adopted by 24 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 15. Discharge for 2010: EU general budget, European Data Protection Supervisor

CONT/7/07127

- Decision to grant discharge to the European Data Protection Supervisor, by 25 votes in favour and 2 against, together with a resolution adopted by 23 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 16. Discharge for 2010: performance, financial management and control of EU agencies

CONT/7/07206

- Resolution on the discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union Agencies for the financial year 2010: performance, financial management and control of European Union Agencies, by 15 votes in favour and 12 against.

Item 17. Discharge 2010 : Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union

CONT/7/07237

- Decision to grant discharge on Translation Centre for the bodies of the European Union (CDT), by 25 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 27 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 28 votes in favour.

Item 18. Discharge for 2010: Cedefop, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

CONT/7/07181

- Decision to grant discharge on European Centre for the development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), by 25 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 26 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 26 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Item 19. Discharge for 2010: European Police College (CEPOL)

CONT/7/07256

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Police College (CEPOL), by 25 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 26 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention as well as a resolution adopted by 26 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Item 20. Discharge for 2010 : Community Fisheries Control Agency

CONT/7/07263

- Decision to grant discharge on the Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA), by 26 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 27 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 27 votes in favour.

Item 21. Discharge for 2010: European Aviation Safety Agency

CONT/7/07246

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), by 27 votes in favour together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 26 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 27 votes in favour.

Item 22. Discharge for 2010: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

CONT/7/07250

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), by 26 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 27 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 26 votes in favour.

Item 23. Discharge for 2010 : European Chemicals Agency

CONT/7/07265

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), by 25 votes in favour together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 25 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 25 votes in favour.

Item 26. Discharge 2010 : European Institute for Gender Equality

CONT/7/07441

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), by 22 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 22 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 23 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 28. Discharge for 2010: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

CONT/7/07230

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), by 20 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 29. Discharge for 2010: European Maritime Safety Agency

CONT/7/07244

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), by 21 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 30. Discharge for 2010: European Network and Information Security Agency

CONT/7/07252

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Network Information Security Agency (ENISA), by 20 votes in favour and 2 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 20 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 31. Discharge for 2010: European Railway Agency

CONT/7/07254

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Railway Agency (ERA), by 21 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 32. Discharge 2010 : European Training Foundation

CONT/7/07242

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Training Foundation Training (ETF), by 21 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 22 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 33. Discharge 2010 : European Agency for Health and Safety at Work

CONT/7/07235

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), by 20 votes in favour and 2 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 34. Discharge for 2010 : Euratom Supply Agency

CONT/7/07267

- Decision to grant discharge on the Euratom Supply Agency (EURATOM), by 21 votes in favour and 2 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 35. Discharge for 2010: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

CONT/7/07226

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND), by 21 votes in favour and 2 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 2 against.

Item 36. Discharge 2010 : Eurojust

CONT/7/07240

- Decision to grant discharge on EUROJUST, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 22 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 22 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 37. Discharge 2010: Europol

CONT/7/07351

- Decision to grant discharge on EUROPOL, by 22 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 22 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 38. Discharge for 2010: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

CONT/7/07228

- Decision to grant discharge on the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), by 21 votes in favour and 2 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour and 2 against as well as a resolution adopted by 22 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 39. Discharge for 2010 : European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX)

CONT/7/07258

- Decision to grant discharge on FRONTEX, by 21 votes in favour and 1 against together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention as well as a resolution adopted by 22 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 40. Discharge for 2010: European GNSS Agency

CONT/7/07260

- Decision to grant discharge on the European GNSS Supervisory Authority (GSA), by 22 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 23 votes in favour and 1 against as well as a resolution adopted by 23 votes in favour and 1 against.

Item 41. Discharge for 2010 : ARTEMIS - Embedded Computing Systems

CONT/7/07277

- Decision to grant discharge on ARTEMIS - Embedded Computing Systems, by 17 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour.

Item 42. Discharge for 2010: CLEAN SKY - Aeronautics + Environment

CONT/7/07275

- Decision to grant discharge on CLEAN SKY - Aeronautics + Environment, by 20 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour.

Item 43. Discharge 2010 : ENIAC Joint Undertaking

CONT/7/07442

- Decision to grant discharge on ENIAC Joint Undertakings, by 20 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour.

Item 44. Discharge for 2010 : Fuel Cells & Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FCH)

CONT/7/07281

- Decision to grant discharge on Fuel Cells & Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FCH), by 21 votes in favour together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 20 votes in favour.

Item 45. Discharge for 2010 : Initiative on Innovative Medicines (IMI)

CONT/7/07279

- Decision to grant discharge on Initiative on Innovative Medicines (IMI), by 20 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 21 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 21 votes in favour.

Item 46. Discharge for 2010 : Joint Undertaking for ITER and the development of fusion energy

CONT/7/07269

- Decision to grant discharge on Joint Undertaking for ITER and the development of fusion energy, by 17 votes in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 17 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention as well as a resolution adopted by 19 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Item 47. Discharge for 2010 : SESAR Joint Undertaking

CONT/7/07271

- Decision to grant discharge on SESAR Joint Undertaking, by 20 votes in favour and 1 abstention together with a decision on the closure of accounts, by 20 votes in favour as well as a resolution adopted by 20 votes in favour.

***** End of vote *****

The adoption in plenary is scheduled for the session on 9-10 May in Brussels.

* * *

5. Next meeting

- 23 and 24 April 2012 (Brussels)
