

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Budgetary Control

17.12.2007

PE398.672v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-20

Draft report

José Javier Pomés Ruiz

Transparency in financial matters
(2007/2141(INI))

(PE392.131v02-00)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment by Dan Jørgensen

Amendment 1
Paragraph 1a (new)

1a. *Is of the opinion that transparency is closely related to whether the information provided on beneficiaries is easily accessible, reliable and suitable for further research, comparison and assessment, and hence that the implementation of the words 'appropriate manner' as referred to in the Financial Regulation should take due account of these needs;*

Or. en

Amendment by Bart Staes

Amendment 2
Paragraph 2a (new)

2a. *Requests the Commission to indicate the addresses of the two websites containing information on the beneficiaries of EU funding managed directly and centrally by the Commission explicitly in all documents relating to the EU budget and/or projects and programmes under the responsibility of the Commission;*

AM\700837EN.doc

PE398.672v01-00

Amendment by Bart Staes

Amendment 3

Paragraph 6

6. Observes that the Commission's website http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/funding/index_en.htm currently includes links to the databases of the 14 Member States providing information on beneficiaries of CAP payments under shared management; ***regrets however that the information is so diverse and scattered and of such varying quality that information can hardly be found; calls on the Commission to learn from the very accessible website <http://www.farmsubsidy.org/> which works very well and is set up without public funding;***

Or. en

Amendment by Dan Jørgensen

Amendment 4

Paragraph 7a (new)

- 7a. Insists that the Commission must accept responsibility for ensuring complete and reliable data, and hence take the necessary action vis-à-vis Member States' authorities to make sure such data are delivered;***

Or. en

Amendment by Bart Staes

Amendment 5

Paragraph 11a (new)

- 11a. Calls on the Commission taken into account the remarks in this resolution and to introduce a fully operational system of information for the wider public on all beneficiaries of EU subsidies and the outstanding recoveries by the end of 2009;***

Or. en

Amendment by Dan Jørgensen

Amendment 6
Paragraph 12a (new)

12a. *Is of the opinion that all institutions should consider whether the current principles and rules are sufficient and notes the possible need to revise the rules of the European Parliament to make the public disclosure of financial interests on the internet obligatory;*

Or. en

Amendment by José Javier Pomés Ruiz

Amendment 7
Paragraph 17

17. Believes, nevertheless, that each Institution should adopt rules of professional ethics for its Members, ***(deletion)*** depending on the specific nature of each Institution ***(deletion)***;

Or. en

Amendment by Bart Staes

Amendment 8
Paragraph 17, introductory part

17. Believes, nevertheless, that each Institution should, ***by the end of 2009***, adopt rules of professional ethics for its Members dealing (depending on the specific nature of each Institution) with the following matters:

Or. en

Amendment by Alexander Stubb

Amendment 9
Paragraph 17

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 10
Paragraph 17a (new)

17a. Recommends that the rules of professional ethics of each Institution should also touch upon the overall political, financial and legal responsibility of its Members;

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 11
Paragraph 21a (new)

21a. Notes that according to the 2006 Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors (2.24) 'the information on recoveries and financial corrections presented in the 2006 Annual Activity Reports does not contain sufficient explanations'; therefore asks the Commission to provide reliable and complete information on correction of errors and evidence on what corrections it made;

Or. en

Amendment by Dan Jørgensen

Amendment 12
Paragraph 29

29. Disagrees with the general exclusion of these groups from the register and asks the Commission to examine ways of applying the same transparent approach to the membership of *these* expert committees *and hence disclose information unless legitimate compelling grounds are given individually on a case by case basis;*

Or. en

Amendment by Bart Staes

Amendment 13

Paragraph 29

29. Asks the Commission to **apply** the same transparent approach to the membership of expert committees not currently included in the register;

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 14

Paragraph 32

32. Congratulates the Commission on the publication of the annual activity reports (2004, 2005, 2006) of its **Directors-General** and other services **and the Synthesis Report of the Commission: Policy achievements in 2006 (COM(2007)0067)** on its website http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/synthesis/aar/index_en.htm;

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 15

Paragraph 32a (new)

- 32a. Notes that according to the Commission, the Synthesis Report and the Annual Activity Reports are the apex and pillars of the Commission's accountability architecture (COM(2006)0277) and because the Directors-General and the Commission as a college assume their political responsibility for management in these reports, strongly urges the Commission to take serious measures to give a full insight into how 80% of EU funds are used (shared management), as otherwise its own accountability will be deemed deficient;**

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 16
Paragraph 32b (new)

32b. Urges therefore the Commission to support the issuing of National Declarations of Assurance by the Member States which would allow the Commission to assume full political responsibility for the whole of the EU's financial management; also urges the Commission to rely more on the work of national audit offices and external audits;

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 17
Paragraph 34 a (new)

34a. Asks the European Parliament to consider creating a joint network for monitoring European and national accountability where for example bodies like the Council (made up of national governments) could go through an accountability check, too;

Or. en

Amendment by Dan Jørgensen

Amendment 18
Paragraph 36 a (new)

36a. Asks the Commission to consider how a public 'blacklist' of confirmed fraud cases and the entities behind them could be set up to name and shame as well as inform the public about the results of the Community's anti-fraud endeavours;

Or. en

Amendment by Antonio De Blasio

Amendment 19
Paragraph 37 a (new)

37a. Notes that according to the key findings of the European Court of Auditors in the

2006 Annual Report, compliance errors (e.g. the tendering procedure was missing or not valid) were the main cause of irregularities in the field of Structural policies, and because protection of the EU's financial interests is an essential goal, asks the Commission and the European Court of Auditors to report to the discharge authority on the types of irregularities or fraud most commonly occurring during tendering procedures and on the reasons behind them;

Or. en

Amendment by Inés Ayala Sender

Amendment 20
Paragraph 39a (new)

39a. Reiterates the urgent need for a code of ethics for OLAF, with a view to guaranteeing the presumption of innocence in the case of beneficiaries who have been the object of a long and prejudicial investigation procedure and are cleared by the courts but receive no compensation for the damage to their reputation or the losses incurred;

Or. es