



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Budgetary Control*

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**2009/2002(BUD)**

10.9.2009

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 23**

**Draft opinion**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**  
(PE427.260v01-00)

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2010,  
Section III - Commission  
(2009/2002(BUD))

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PE428.157v01-00

**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**1. Calls on the Commission to create a specific budget heading in the EU budget showing per year the amounts paid in error by the European Union to the Member States;**

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2. Calls on the Commission to *create in the budget, in accordance with the principle of activity-based budgeting (ABB), a budget heading showing* the cost of control systems per expenditure field;**

**2. Calls on the Commission to *calculate* the cost of control systems per expenditure field;**

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Esther de Lange**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3. Proposes that Parliament should give the Commission the resources needed to conduct a study based on the annual**

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summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds;

summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses ***together with the added value*** of each Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds, ***together with possible savings achieved through a reduction in checks in situ resulting from the introduction of national management declarations***;

Or. nl

**Amendment 4**  
**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Proposes that ***Parliament should give*** the Commission the resources needed to conduct a study based on the annual summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds;

*Amendment*

3. Proposes that the Commission ***allocate*** the resources needed to conduct a study based on ***all relevant information sources, including*** the annual summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Proposes that Parliament should give the Commission the resources needed to conduct a study based on the annual summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds;

*Amendment*

3. Proposes that Parliament should give the Commission the resources needed to conduct a study based on **all** the annual summaries received; the study should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each **and every** Member State's national system for administering and controlling Community funds and produce as its outcome an estimated figure for the cost of the national systems controlling Community funds;

Or. es

**Amendment 6**

**Jean-Pierre Audy, Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. ***Proposes that*** the Commission ***should be granted the funds needed to conduct a study on the feasibility of harmonising and simplifying rules for beneficiaries in the European research sector and on the appropriateness of repayment rules based on flat-rate payment procedures;***

*Amendment*

4. ***Calls on*** the Commission ***to take all measures necessary to implement the 7th Framework Programme in a swift and user-focused way;***

Or. en

**Amendment 7**

**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Proposes that the Commission ***should be***

*Amendment*

4. Proposes that the Commission conduct a

***granted the funds needed to*** conduct a study on the feasibility of harmonising and simplifying rules for beneficiaries in the European research sector and on the appropriateness of repayment rules based on flat-rate payment procedures;

study on the feasibility of harmonising and simplifying rules for beneficiaries in the European research sector and on the appropriateness of repayment rules based on flat-rate payment procedures ***in accordance with the relevant regulations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Amendment**

*Draft opinion*

5. Reiterates, as a requirement for legal certainty, its request that the Commission refrain from re-calculating the financial statements for projects under the 6th Framework Programme, which it has already approved and settled, by applying new interpretations to the eligibility criteria for costs established in the General Conditions (Annex II) of the FP6 model contract;

*Amendment*

5. Reiterates, as a requirement for legal certainty, its request that the Commission refrain from re-calculating the financial statements for projects under the 6th Framework Programme, which it has already approved and settled, by applying new interpretations to the eligibility criteria for costs established in the General Conditions (Annex II) of the FP6 model contract, ***except in those cases where the need to do so is adequately justified;***

Or. es

**Amendment 9**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. Calls on the Commission to carry out the ***three-yearly*** review of the Financial Regulation early in 2010 and to incorporate simplification measures for beneficiaries, ***particularly those in research;*** calls,

*Amendment*

6. Calls on the Commission to carry out the review of the Financial Regulation early in 2010 and to incorporate simplification measures for ***all*** beneficiaries; calls, furthermore, for the European Union to be

furthermore, for the European Union to be better prepared for external policy challenges and for it to be possible, under that policy, for the Commission to manage multi-donor trust funds;

better prepared for external policy challenges and for it to be possible, under that policy, for the Commission to manage multi-donor trust funds;

Or. es

**Amendment 10**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Draft opinion*

7. Expects the Commission to continue its annual staff review and to ***draw conclusions from the fact that a large number of its staff work in administration***; calls for the number of staff supervising the implementation of EU law in Member States to be increased and expects to find all the information required by Parliament in the next report on this matter;

*Amendment*

7. Expects the Commission to continue its annual staff review and to ***propose the necessary measures to provide optimum service for citizens***; calls for the number of staff supervising the implementation of EU law in Member States to be increased and expects to find all the information required by Parliament in the next report on this matter;

Or. es

**Amendment 11**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Draft opinion*

8. Calls for an external assessment of the language system and its productivity per language in order to meet the increasing demand for translation in Member States' national parliaments and to develop various standard payment models for translations for these institutions;

*Amendment*

8. Calls for an external assessment of the language system and its productivity per language in order to meet the increasing demand for translation in Member States' national parliaments and to develop various standard payment models for translations for these institutions; ***consider that all this must be achieved without prejudice to***

*ensuring that all EU documents are made as accessible as possible to the public in each and every EU official language;*

Or. es

**Amendment 12**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***9a. Calls on the Commission to organise as soon as possible a conference with all EU and external stakeholders, particularly those countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy, with a view to pooling the mechanisms necessary to make the management and control of the EU's external funds and programmes more efficient;***

Or. es

**Amendment 13**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 10**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

10. Is disappointed by the lack of anti-fraud measures and the lack of action by the Commission to continue the reform of Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 May 1999 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) ; calls on the Commission to strengthen OLAF so that it may carry out its role within the European Union and

10. Is disappointed by the lack of anti-fraud measures and the lack of action by the Commission to continue the reform of Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 May 1999 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) ; calls on the Commission to ***provide*** OLAF ***with the requisite ethical framework and all the necessary***

meet needs which arise outside the European Union;

*instruments to enable it to* carry out its role within the European Union *with all the necessary guarantees* and meet needs which arise outside the European Union;

Or. es

**Amendment 14**  
**Jorgo Chatzimarkakis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 10 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***10a. Calls on the Commission and Member States, in dispersing Community funds, to ensure that the result has been achieved or the measure taken for which the Community funds were intended and that the result achieved or measure taken are suitably documented;***

Or. de

**Amendment 15**  
**Jorgo Chatzimarkakis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 10 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***10b. Calls on the Commission and Member States to ensure that Community funds are used in the Member States not only properly but also efficiently and in particular to make the payment of Community funds subject to a cost-benefit analysis;***

Or. de

**Amendment 16**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Draft opinion*

11. Proposes that consideration should be given to establishing a Community pension fund *in order to externalise* these financial commitments vis-à-vis staff; calls for the claims against Member States in respect of staff pensions, estimated at EUR 33.5 billion at 31 December 2007, to be both entered in the accounts as an asset and included in the 2010 budget and for the accounts and the budget to be corrected, following negotiations with the Member States, to take account of these claims;

*Amendment*

11. Proposes that consideration should be given to establishing a Community pension fund *which guarantees* these financial commitments vis-à-vis staff; calls for the claims against Member States in respect of staff pensions, estimated at EUR 33.5 billion at 31 December 2007, to be both entered in the accounts as an asset and included in the 2010 budget and for the accounts and the budget to be corrected, following negotiations with the Member States, to take account of these claims;

Or. es

**Amendment 17**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Draft opinion*

12. Calls for examination of the possibility of including provisions in the budget for major maintenance and refurbishment work on the European Communities' buildings stock, given the lack of a buildings depreciation schedule broken down by specific component and setting out the main tangible fixed assets to be replaced at regular intervals; takes the view that such provisions for major maintenance or refurbishment works should be backed by multiannual upkeep programmes designed to keep buildings in a good state of repair *without extending their life*;

*Amendment*

12. Calls for examination of the possibility of including provisions in the budget for major maintenance and refurbishment work on the European Communities' buildings stock, given the lack of a buildings depreciation schedule broken down by specific component and setting out the main tangible fixed assets to be replaced at regular intervals; takes the view that such provisions for major maintenance or refurbishment works should be backed by multiannual upkeep programmes designed to keep buildings in a good state of repair;

**Amendment 18**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 13**

*Draft opinion*

13. Calls, pursuant to Article 248(3) of the EC Treaty, as regards shared-management controls, for cooperation to be stepped up between national audit bodies and the European Court of Auditors; proposes examining the possibility that said institutions, in their capacity as independent external auditors, and with due regard for international audit standards, might issue national audit certificates for the management of Community funds, which would be submitted to Member State governments with a view to being produced during the discharge process in accordance with an appropriate interinstitutional procedure to be introduced;

*Amendment*

13. Calls, pursuant to Article 248(3) of the EC Treaty, as regards shared-management controls, for cooperation to be stepped up between national audit bodies and the European Court of Auditors; proposes examining the possibility that said institutions, in their capacity as independent external auditors, and with due regard for international audit standards, might issue national audit certificates for the management of Community funds **and programmes**, which would be submitted to Member State governments with a view to being produced during the discharge process in accordance with an appropriate interinstitutional procedure to be introduced;

Or. es

**Amendment 19**  
**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 14**

*Draft opinion*

***14. Calls on the Commission, having regard to the seriousness of the discharge situation, to quickly organise an interinstitutional conference involving all stakeholders in Community fund management and control (representatives***

*Amendment*

*deleted*

*of the Member States in the Council at the highest level, of the Commission, of the European Court of Auditors, of national audit bodies, of national parliaments with responsibility for oversight over Member State governments, of the European Parliament and all other relevant actors in the discharge process) so as to embark on a comprehensive debate on the current discharge procedure system, on which the DAS has been negative for 14 years, and to give thought to the reforms needed in order to obtain a positive DAS as soon as possible;*

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy, Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 14 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*14a. Expresses its concern about the 7th Framework Programme rules, which deviate from the common nationally and internationally acknowledged and certified accounting and calculation methods, thus being incompatible with general business practices, and asks the Commission to remedy this state of affairs by adopting practices that allow for calculation and charging of average hourly rates per cost centre;*

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy, Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 14 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***14b. Urges the Commission to establish and to apply the necessary comprehensive and comprehensible criteria for approving certificates using a methodology which calculates both personnel and indirect costs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy, Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 14 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***14c. Calls on the Commission to refrain, for the sake of legal certainty, from recalculating the financial statements of projects under the 6th Framework Programme that it has already approved and settled, thus observing the rule of law;***

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Georgios Stavrakakis, Jens Geier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***15. Takes the view that said interinstitutional conference should culminate in specific proposals with regard to improving the management and control of Community spending and even, for some aspects, a degree of***

***deleted***

*harmonisation, and proposes that, during the forthcoming budgetary procedure, the Parliament should give the Commission the resources needed to conduct the study and arrange the conference;*

Or. en