



2017/2147(DEC)

8.11.2017

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational training for the financial year 2016 (2017/2147(DEC))

Rapporteur: Claude Rolin

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Expresses its satisfaction that the Court of Auditors has declared the transactions underlying the Centre's annual accounts for the financial year 2016 to be legal and regular and that its financial position as at 31 December 2016 is fairly represented;
2. Appreciates the Centre's continued high-quality work, providing research, analysis and technical advice to assist the development of European lifelong learning and VET policies; particularly welcomes the Centre's contributions to the New Skills Agenda for Europe and Europass;
3. Commends the high budget implementation rate in 2016 (99,99 %); notes, however, that the level of appropriations carried over to 2017 was high for Title II (27,39 %);
4. Welcomes the Centre's focus on the development of competences and skills, in particular among the low-skilled, to support the objective of labour market inclusion through VET, work-based learning and apprenticeships; appreciates the Centre's work on skills demand and supply, the Skills Panorama;
5. Notes the increase in expenditure (16 %) on building maintenance works and services attributed to unforeseen works needed to replace the glass facade of the building and the skylights of the three conference rooms;
6. Notes the ongoing external evaluation of the Centre, required by the financial regulation, which started in April 2017;
7. Notes that the overall gender balances at the Centre was 60 % female and 40 % male; notes that new rules on promotion were adopted by the Governing Board in September 2016;
8. Welcomes the Centre's follow-up measures in relation to the recommendations of the discharge authority regarding the implementation of the budget of previous years.