

## **Practical arrangements for the questioning of Commissioners in the 2019 discharge procedure**

### **1. Timetable**

As attached

### **2. Questions**

In general, before the hearing, written questions followed by written answers are not expected. However, there may be written questions on matters, which are technical or very specific, so as to allow preparation of replies by the Commissioner.

Written questions will be submitted to the Commission 7 working days before the hearing. The Commission will provide written answers to the committee 2 working days before the meeting at the latest. In the event that the hearing falls on a Monday afternoon, the replies will be received already on the preceding Thursday at noon. Both questions and answers will be in English as much as possible.

### **3. Duration of the hearing**

Approximately 90 minutes per Commissioner.

### **4. Seating arrangements**

The Commissioner and his or her services and cabinet (max. 10) may sit in the designated part of the meeting room.

### **5. Procedure during the hearing**

Introduction by the European Court of Auditors, which submits its findings according to its annual and special reports. (max. 7 minutes)

The Commissioner may make a brief presentation of the Commission's replies to these findings (5 minutes max.) (No general statement).

The EP Rapporteur puts question and Commissioner / Court replies.

The rapporteur seeks the Commissioner's view but Commissioner's staff can reply to certain questions, if needed.

Other EP Members question the Commissioner or the Court.

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This first round of questions could be followed by a second round of questions by the rapporteur and then other EP Members, if time allows.

Possibly winding up comments at the end by EP Rapporteur, Court, Commissioner or Chair.

### **6. After the hearing**

Supplementary documents and/or answers asked for during the hearing, should be provided to the Rapporteur within five working days, when possible.