



**2019/2079(DEC)**

11.11.2019

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European  
Centre for Disease Prevention and Control for the financial year 2018  
(2019/2079(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Pascal Canfin

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that the budget of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (the 'Centre') for the financial year 2018 was EUR 58 030 000; stresses that 97,80 % of the Centre budget derives from the Union budget;
2. Notes that during the financial year 2018, the overall budget execution in terms of commitment appropriations reached 98,53 % (representing a decrease of 1,25 percentage point compared to 2017), while, in terms of payments, budget execution decreased by 0,5 percentage point compared to 2017, reaching 81,21 %;
3. Recalls that the Centre's mission is to identify, assess and communicate current and emerging threats to human health from communicable diseases; stresses that in 2018 the Centre responded to 31 formal scientific requests from the Commission (of which 10 were forwarded from Members), and published a total of 214 reports, including 35 rapid risk assessments addressing disease threats;
4. Notes that in 2018 the management board adopted a revised independence policy for non-staff and endorsed a corresponding internal procedure;
5. Regrets, concerning the implementation of the independence policy of the Centre, that not all the required annual declarations of interest were submitted, particularly by management board members (96 %) and advisory forum members (89 %);
6. Stresses that the Centre launched its third external evaluation, which was coordinated by a steering committee comprised of management board members, and that the result of the evaluation was expected for mid-2019;
7. Stresses that the Centre should continue promoting cooperation with other Union agencies and international organisations, and foster dialogue with stakeholders and citizens;
8. Recalls that, as a Union agency, the Centre has a budget which is denominated in euro; however, since its seat is outside the Euro-zone (in Sweden), a lot of its expenses are incurred in Swedish krona (SEK); furthermore, the Centre is exposed to exchange rate fluctuations, since not only does it have bank accounts in Swedish krona, it also carries out certain transactions in other foreign currencies;
9. Welcomes the fact that the Court of Auditors has stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the Centre's annual accounts for 2018 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular;
10. Recommends, based on the facts available, that discharge be granted to the Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in respect of the implementation of the Centre's budget for the financial year 2018.