

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

2008/2186(DEC)

11.2.2009

OPINION

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the European Union general
budget for the financial year 2007
(SEC(2008)2359 - C6-0415/2008 - 2008/2186(DEC))

Section III - Commission

Rapporteur: Bill Newton Dunn

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the remarks made in the Court of Auditors' report, which provides a fair assessment of internal market policy, customs policy and consumer protection policy;
2. Calls on Member States to further improve their internal control systems to prevent the placing of unauthorised goods on the Community market; calls furthermore on the Commission to follow up on any shortcomings detected in the area of consumer protection in 2007;
3. Welcomes the Court of Auditors' observation that the control systems in customs and accounts are functioning well; underlines that even if customs controls are principally the responsibility of the Member States, only reliable economic operators should be managing the customs sector so as to avoid the risk of the importing of goods into the internal market without payment of duties or customs valuation;
4. Appreciates the efforts made to reach an execution rate of 86% for budget line 12 02 01 (implementation and development of the internal market); notes that, according to the Commission, the reason for unused payments is that some study contracts were signed late in the year and that there were no payments, as planned, in 2007;
5. Points out that an execution rate of 55% for budget line 14 04 02 (customs 2007) is not sufficient and therefore requires better budget planning; notes that, according to the Commission, the major part of this budget line relates to long-term IT contracts with products and services delivered 'on demand', which makes the estimation and planning of precise financial needs difficult; acknowledges, however, the positive results for the 2008 budget, with an execution rate higher than 97% for payment appropriations;
6. Notes that the execution rate of 77% for budget line 17 02 02 (consumer protection programme) is lower than in previous years; notes further that, according to the Commission, the reasons for this are the transfer of non-dissociated credits from the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers back to the consumer protection programme, and some late commitments made during the year 2007, with the result that payments planned for 2007 were not made; calls therefore on the Commission to improve budget planning in this area.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	11.2.2009
Result of final vote	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: flex-end; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;"> + : 39 - : 0 0 : 0 </div> </div>
Members present for the final vote	Mogens Camre, Charlotte Cederschiöld, Gabriela Crețu, Janelly Fourtou, Evelyne Gebhardt, Martí Grau i Segú, Małgorzata Handzlik, Malcolm Harbour, Anna Hedh, Edit Herczog, Pierre Jonckheer, Kurt Lechner, Lasse Lehtinen, Toine Manders, Catiuscia Marini, Arlene McCarthy, Nickolay Mladenov, Catherine Neris, Bill Newton Dunn, Zita Pleštinská, Karin Riis-Jørgensen, Giovanni Rivera, Zuzana Roithová, Heide Rühle, Leopold Józef Rutowicz, Christel Schaldemose, Eva-Britt Svensson, Jacques Toubon, Bernadette Vergnaud, Barbara Weiler
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Emmanouil Angelakas, André Brie, Colm Burke, Magor Imre Csibi, Joel Hasse Ferreira, Filip Kaczmarek, Manuel Medina Ortega, José Ribeiro e Castro
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Klaus-Heiner Lehne