

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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*Committee on Transport and Tourism*

**2007/2037(DEC)**

27.2.2008

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the European Union general budget for the financial year 2006  
(SEC(2007)1056 - C6-0390/2007 - 2007/2037(DEC))  
(SEC(2007)1055 - C6-0362/2007 - 2007/2037(DEC))

Section III - Commission

Draftsman: Georg Jarzembowski

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that in the 2006 budget, as finally adopted and amended in the course of the year, a total of EUR 963,8 million was included for transport policies in commitment appropriations and EUR 891,4 million was available in payment appropriations; notes further that of these amounts:
  - EUR 699,8 million was available in commitment appropriations and EUR 684 million in payment appropriations for Trans-European Networks for Transport (TEN-T) projects,
  - EUR 18,1 million was available in commitments and EUR 19,1 million in payments for transport safety,
  - EUR 36 million was available in commitments and EUR 11,7 million in payments for the Marco Polo programme,
  - EUR 5,5 million was available in commitments and payments for the pilot project on road freight transport safety, and the payment appropriations have been reduced to EUR 0,15 million via the global transfer;
2. Welcomes the continuing high rates of utilisation of both commitment and payment appropriations for Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) projects, both reaching almost 100 %, and calls on Member States to ensure that adequate funding is made available from national budgets to match this Community commitment;
3. Notes with concern the low rate of utilisation of commitment appropriations for transport safety (34 %), for which via a carry-over a large part of the sum initially available in 2006 was committed in 2007, and the low rate of utilisation of payment appropriations for the Marco Polo Programme (44,8 %), and is particularly concerned by the very low rate of utilisation of payment appropriations for the pilot project on safety in the TEN-T road sector (29,6 %), in part due to the late signature of contracts and consequent late start of the pilot project; therefore calls on the Commission in future to launch the call for proposals and tenders as early as possible to make full use of commitment and payment appropriations;
4. Calls on the Commission and the budgetary authority to ensure that when the budget for pilot projects is adopted, the right balance between the amounts available for commitment and payment appropriations is found, and that that balance reflects the fact that the time needed to bring projects to payment stage is usually longer than one budget year;
5. Notes with satisfaction that the Court of Auditors' analysis of the implementation of internal control standards on the regularity and legality of underlying financial transactions shows that those carried out by the Directorate General for Energy and

Transport comply with requirements in the areas of risk analysis and management, management information, reporting improprieties and supervision; nevertheless calls on the Directorate General for Energy and Transport to use analysis of types and rates of errors to develop a risk-based control strategy in its ex-ante review of cost statements received from funding beneficiaries;

6. Proposes that, in relation to the sectors for which the Committee on Transport and Tourism is responsible, Parliament grant the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the European Union budget for the financial year 2006.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	26.2.2008
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 33 -: 2 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Gabriele Albertini, Inés Ayala Sender, Paolo Costa, Michael Cramer, Luis de Grandes Pascual, Christine De Veyrac, Saïd El Khadraoui, Robert Evans, Emanuel Jardim Fernandes, Brigitte Fouré, Georg Jarzembowski, Stanisław Jałowiecki, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Sepp Kusstatscher, Bogusław Liberadzki, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Seán Ó Neachtain, Willi Piecyk, Reinhard Rack, Luca Romagnoli, Brian Simpson, Renate Sommer, Dirk Sterckx, Georgios Toussas, Yannick Vaugrenard, Lars Wohlin, Roberts Zīle
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Zsolt László Becsey, Philip Bradbourn, Anne E. Jensen, Helmuth Markov, Vladimír Remek, Leopold Józef Rutowicz, Ari Vatanen, Corien Wortmann-Kool