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2004

Committee on Budgets

Implementation of the 2004 budget

4 February 2004

WORKING DOCUMENT

on requests made to the Commission in resolutions relating to the 2004 budget

Committee on Budgets

Rapporteur: Jan Mulder

Summary of the requests made by Parliament to the Commission in resolutions relating to the 2004 budget

In the context of improving monitoring of the budget and Parliament's control over implementation by the Commission, the rapporteur thinks it useful to present a summary of the requests made by Parliament to the Commission in resolutions relating to the 2004 budget.

The rapporteur expects the Commission to provide feedback on follow-up action before the end of the first half of 2004.

This current document will be complemented by a similar working document, which will be presented shortly, summarising all appropriations that were put in the reserve in the 2004 budgetary procedure and the conditions for their release. Thus, the rapporteur intends to closely follow the Commission's efforts to meet these conditions.

Sources:

The requests contained in the current document are based on the following resolutions:

1) 2004 budget guidelines

A5-0039/2003

adopted on 11 March 2003

P5_TA(2003)0079

2) Implementation of 2003 budget

A5-0233/2003

adopted on 3 July 2003

P5_TA(2003)0333

3) 2004 budget conciliation procedure

A5-0240/2003

adopted on 3 July 2003

P5_TA(2003)0332

4) 2004 Budget - Section III: Commission

[*Draft budget - First reading*]

A5-0349/2003

adopted on 23 October 2003

P5_TA(2003)0449

5) 2004 draft general budget, as amended by Council (all sections)

[*Draft budget - Second reading*]

A5-0473/2003

adopted on 18 December 2003

P5_TA(2003)0588

about this issue; asks the Commission to take immediate measures to find a solution, for instance a transitional mechanism, in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulation, which would allow the information outlets to continue their useful work, particularly in view of the fact that European elections will take place in 2004, and to formulate a plan for the future; has entered the appropriations on the lines 16 01 04 01, 16 01 04 04 and 16 01 02 11 in the reserve pending the presentation by the Commission of the measures that it intends to adopt in order to ensure a coherent approach on information policy;

2004 - Draft budget - First reading, paragraph 44

Endorses the solution proposed by the Commission concerning the financing of Info points and as agreed in the Declaration adopted at the conciliation meeting of 24 November 2003 (attached to this resolution) and reiterates its request to the Commission to set up transitional measures ensuring the continuation of EU funding to actions and programmes in the area of Information Policy, particularly in view of the European elections, in respect of the provisions of the Financial Regulation;

2004 - Draft budget - Second Reading, paragraph 14

Cyprus

Stresses, with regard to Cyprus, the need for the Commission to be prepared to make funding available at short notice as soon as a settlement has been reached;

2004 - Budget guidelines, paragraph 33

Has decided to create the budgetary structure (line 22 02 09) for demining activities in Cyprus with a token entry; invites the Commission, however, to take Parliament's first reading vote into account in the context of its PDAB enlargement and propose the corresponding amount;

2004 - Draft budget - Second Reading, paragraph 23

Elimination of pesticides

Notes the danger to the environment resulting from persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and, in particular, from stocks of obsolete pesticides; urges the Commission to make the extra effort needed to find sufficient funds under existing instruments for elimination or environmentally sound management of unwanted stocks of POPs and other obsolete pesticides;

2004 - Draft budget - First reading, paragraph 74

Lesser used languages

Notes the absence at present of a legal basis for Community support for lesser-used languages; urges the Commission to make full use of the opportunities provided under existing multi-annual programmes, notably SOCRATES and YOUTH, to support projects involving speakers of lesser-used languages;

2004 - Draft budget - First reading, paragraph 47