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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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1 April 1982

DOCUMENT 1-32/82

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgetary Control  
on the discharge to be granted to the Management Board of  
the European Centre for the Development of Vocational  
Training in respect of the implementation of its appropriations  
for the 1980 financial year and the comments  
accompanying this decision

Rapporteur : Mr Edward KELLETT-BOWMAN



At its meeting on 28/29 January 1982, the Committee on Budgetary Control confirmed the mandate of Mr. KELLETT-BOWMAN as rapporteur for the discharge to be granted to the management board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training in respect of the 1980 financial year.

At its meeting on 15/17 March 1982, the Committee on Budgetary Control considered the draft report and adopted the proposed decision and the motion for a resolution unanimously.

Took part in the vote: Mrs Boserup, acting chairman; Mr Price, vice-chairman; Mr Kellett-Bowman, rapporteur; Mr Alber (deputising for Mr Notenboom); Mr Ansquer (deputising for Mr Cousté); Mr Arndt (deputising for Mr Lalumiere); Mr Boyes (deputising for Mr Orlandi); Mr Georgiadis (deputising for Mr Gabert); Mr Irmer, Mr Key, Mr Nielsen, Mr Papaefstratiou (deputising for Mr Gontikas); Mr Patterson, Mr Ryan, Mr Saby, Mr Konrad Schön, Mrs Van Hemeldonck.

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The Committee on Budgetary Control hereby submits to the European Parliament the following proposed decision :

PROPOSED DECISION

on the discharge to be granted to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training in respect of the implementation of its appropriations for the 1980 financial year

The European Parliament

- having regard to the Treaty establishing the EEC and in particular Article 206b thereof,
- having regard to the revenue and expenditure accounts of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training for the 1980 financial year,
- having regard to the report of the Court of Auditors on the 1980 accounts (Doc. 1-933/81)
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgetary Control (Doc. 1-32/82);

1. Notes the following figures for the accounts of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training for the 1980 financial year:

	Financial year 1980 EUA
A. Receipts (Total)	2,790,808.11
1. Subsidy from the Commission of the E.C.	2,767,589.88
2. Bank interest	10,231.80
3. Other	12,986.43
B. Expenditure	
1. Final budget appropriations	3,515,000.00
2. Commitments	2,790,808.11
3. Appropriations unused (1-2)	724,191.89
4. Payments	2,395,142.25
5. Appropriations brought forward	734,072.23
6. Payments from appropriations brought forward	623,861.24
7. Appropriations brought forward and cancelled (5-6)	110,210.99
8. Appropriations carried forward	395,665.86
9. Appropriations cancelled (1-4-8)	724,191.89

2. Grants a discharge to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, on the basis of the report of the Court of Auditors, in respect of the accounts for the 1980 financial year;
3. Draws attention to its resolution embodying the comments accompanying this decision granting a discharge and asks the Commission of the European Communities to report to it on the measures taken following those comments;
4. Instructs its President to communicate this decision and the attached comments to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, to the Council and the Commission and to the Court of Auditors and to arrange for their publication in the Official Journal (L series).

The Committee on Budgetary Control hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the comments accompanying the Decision granting a Discharge to the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training in respect of its revenue and expenditure accounts for the 1980 financial year

The European Parliament

1. Asks the Commission, the Council and the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to take the necessary measures to comply with the following comments and calls on the Commission to submit a written report by 1 November 1982 on the follow-up to these comments;

Grant of discharge

2. Notes that the Commission has, at last, submitted proposals for the amendment of the financial provisions that apply to the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training designed to bring them into line with the principle reflected in Article 206b of the EEC Treaty as amended by the Treaty of 22 July 1975 and urges the Council to ensure that the steps for completing these changes are carried into effect rapidly;

Social welfare provisions

3. Welcomes the modification of the social security system applicable to the staff of the Centre and expects that this may pave the way for other measures leading to the opening up of opportunities for staff mobility between the Centre and the Institutions;

Development of links with potential users of the Centre's findings

4. Approves of the recent moves by the Centre to have its work better known and reiterates its call to the Council and the Commission to avail of the specialised services of the Centre to the fullest extent so that its expertise, contacts and findings may be of maximum benefit to the Community;

Economy in the use of energy

5. Observes that the Centre continues to effect noteworthy savings in the sphere of energy and asks the various EC institutions to follow this good example.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTIntroduction

1. In two previous reports, the Committee on Budgetary Control set out fully the background to the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, its role, its management system, accounting procedures and other matters of general relevance to budgetary control. It is not, therefore, necessary for the Committee on Budgetary Control to go over this ground again in the present text since all the necessary details can be found in the reports<sup>1</sup> referred to.

Social welfare provisions

2. The European Parliament earlier called on the Council to expedite its work on the modification of the social security system applicable to the staff of the Centre<sup>2</sup>. It is, therefore, with great satisfaction that the Committee on Budgetary Control notes that, on 22 February 1982, Council adopted a regulation with a view to affiliating staff of the Centre to sickness and accident insurance arrangements under the same conditions as officials and temporary staff of the Community institutions and to grant such staff the same pension rights as are available under the Rules for temporary staff of the institutions as is referred to in Article 2 (c), (d) of the conditions of employment of other employees.

Grant of Discharge

3. In the reports referred to in paragraph 1 above, Parliament urged that the financial provisions that might apply to the Centre should be modified so that the arrangements for the grant of discharge should be brought into line with the provisions set out at Article 85 of the Financial Regulation applying to the general budget of the EC. There has been a regrettable delay in responding to this comment of Parliament. However, the Committee on Budgetary Control is pleased to note that, on 15 January 1982, the Commission submitted to the Council a draft regulation amending the Council regulation (EEC) no. 1416/76 of 1 June 1976 and the financial provisions applying to the Centre.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 1-344/80 and Doc 1-350/81

<sup>2</sup> OJ no. L342, 28.11.81, p.3

<sup>3</sup> OJ no. C31, 8.2.82

Implementation of the Centre's budget in 1980

4. The implementation of the budget of the Centre for 1980 was marked by the effect of the operation of the provisional twelfths rule on the expenditure of this satellite up to July of 1980. As a result of this, the level of payment appropriations brought forward and the appropriations cancelled was far higher than normal. In the exceptional conditions prevailing, the Committee on Budgetary Control finds the explanation furnished by the Centre to be reasonable.

5. As the following table shows, there was a significant improvement in both respects in 1981:

	1980	1981
Appropriations brought forward <sup>1</sup>	734,072.23	395,665.86
Appropriations cancelled	724,191.89	343,072.47

Savings on energy

6. The Centre has been acutely conscious of the need for economy in the use of energy as the following table shows:

Expenditure under Article 212 (water, gas, electricity, heating)

1978	EUA 48.631
1979	EUA 52.104
1980	EUA 41.071
1981	ECU 39.693

These economies were achieved notwithstanding increases in the cost of heating oil and are the result of a series of technical and administrative improvements introduced by the Centre.

Electricity and heating oil consumption has been as follows:

	<u>Electricity (kWh)</u>	<u>heating oil (litres)</u>
1978	336.467	94.175
1979	189.826	118.339
1980	129.020	82.846
1981	84.180	67.390

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from the previous year

### Links with the educational sphere

7. The Committee on Budgetary Control stresses the importance of keeping national educational systems in touch with the work of this particular satellite, which, now more than ever, has an essential role to fulfil. However, if its work is not well-known and availed of, its potential impact will be wasted. Therefore, as well as keeping in touch with the specialised committees of Parliament - particularly with the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment and the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport - the Centre must keep in touch also with national authorities in the sphere of professional training. The Committee continues to express its wish that the Council and the relevant departments of the Commission should keep themselves informed of the work done by the Centre. In this context, the Committee welcomes the moves made recently by the Centre to have its activities made more widely known.

### 1980 Discharge

8. Having considered the report of the ECA on the 1980 accounts of the European Centre for Development of Vocational Training, having read the Centre's replies and having heard the oral explanations furnished by the responsible officials of the Centre, the Committee on Budgetary Control recommends that discharge be granted in respect of the 1980 accounts.

### General comment

9. The Committee on Budgetary Control confines its work to those aspects of the Centre which fall within its purview - legality and regularity of expenditure, effective management of funds, and the follow-up to the work of the ECA. It is for other Committees to keep abreast of policy issues and the specialised findings of the Centre - and the Committee on Budgetary Control is pleased to observe the evidence that, increasingly of late, the other Committees are actively pursuing these aspects.

### Conclusion

10. In view of (1) the improvements brought about following the two previous reports of this Committee and (2) the move to amend the financial provisions relating to the Centre, the Committee considers that, next year, the discharge decision in relation to the Centre may be incorporated in the main discharge decision.