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Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

2013/2230(DEC)

9.1.2014

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX) for the financial year 2012
(2013/2230(DEC))

Rapporteur: Véronique Mathieu Houillon

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes the finding of the Court of Auditors that the annual accounts of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States (Frontex) present a true and fair view of the Agency's financial position; regrets, however, that the Court was unable to confirm the legality and regularity of the transactions underlying the accounts;
2. Notes the Court's comment that, while the agency carries out plausibility checks, it does not generally demand supporting documents, and highlights Frontex's reply to the effect that, as the beneficiaries are the national border guard authorities, their statements are reliable; calls on Frontex to remedy this state of affairs and consider applying more effective measures to deal with such financing situations, such as flat-rate billing;
3. Notes that, as in past years, the Court of Auditors described the amount of carry-overs as 'excessive' and at odds with the annuality principle;
4. Takes the view that, in general, greater attention should be paid to checking the sound financial management and internal controls of Frontex.