COUNCIL DECISION

of 5 April 1977

giving a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF) for the 1973 financial year

(77/319/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Convention of Association between the European Economic Community and the African States and Madagascar associated with the Community [1], signed at Yaoundé on 29 July 1969,

Having regard to Council Decision 70/549/EEC of 29 September 1970 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community [2],

Having regard to the Internal Agreement on the financing and administration of Community aid [3], signed at Yaoundé on 29 July 1969, and in particular Article 22 thereof,

Having regard to Financial Regulation 71/68/EEC of the European Development Fund (1969) set up under the Internal Agreement on the financing and administration of Community aid [4], and in particular Articles 7 and 8 thereof,

Having regard to the revenue and expenditure accounts, the statement and the summary of operations of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF) as at 31 December 1973 [5],

Having regard to the report of the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1973, to which report are annexed the Commission's replies to the comments made by the Audit Board,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament of 14 December 1976,

Recalling that, in accordance with the provisions applicable to the implementation of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF), only the Council, acting by a qualified majority, shall give a discharge to the Commission in respect of the financial administration of the Fund;

Whereas revenue for the 1973 financial year consisted mainly of the contributions of the Member States, amounting to 126 391 146·75 units of account, and of miscellaneous revenue of the Fund; whereas, moreover, an advance of 44 474 776·19 units of account was granted from the resources of the European Development Fund (1963) (2nd EDF);

Whereas the overall implementation by the Commission of the operations of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF) during the 1973 financial year was such as to warrant its being given a discharge in respect of the implementation of those operations,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The position of the Council on comment 140 in the report of the Audit Board for the 1973 financial year is as set out in the Annex.

Article 2

The Council closes the revenue and expenditure accounts of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF) as at 31 December 1973 as follows:

Revenue

at the sum of 171 489 793·54 units of account;

Expenditure (payments)

at the sum of 163 789 469·33 units of account.

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(1) OJ No L 282, 28. 12. 1970, p. 2.
(2) OJ No L 282, 28. 12. 1970, p. 83.
(3) OJ No L 282, 28. 12. 1970, p. 47.
(4) OJ No L 31, 8. 2. 1971, p. 1.
(5) OJ No C 148, 27. 11. 1974, p. 15.

Article 3

The Council hereby gives a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1969) (3rd EDF) for the 1973 financial year.

Done at Luxembourg, 5 April 1977.

For the Council

The President

D. OWEN

ANNEX

Position of the Council on comment 140 of the Audit Board on resident and technical supervision

THE COUNCIL calls upon the Commission to ensure the progressive absorption of EAC officials on special contracts into the established staff of the Commission.

It notes that the Commission does not intend to replace EAC employees absorbed in this way by issuing further special contracts.

On this occasion, the Council calls upon the Commission to submit to it, as soon as possible, a full report on its delegation staff policy in the framework of contractual relations with the ACP States and the Mediterranean countries.