Thursday 24 October 2013

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Draft amending budget No 6/2013

European Parliament resolution of 24 October 2013 on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 6/2013 of the European Union for the financial year 2013, Section III — Commission (14870/2013 — C7-0378/2013 — 2013/2151(BUD))

(2016/C 208/28)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to Article 314 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 106a of the Euratom Treaty,

— having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 ([1]) ('Financial Regulation'),

— having regard to the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013, as definitively adopted on 12 December 2012 ([2]),

— having regard to Council Decision 2007/436/EC, Euratom of 7 June 2007 on the system of the European Communities' own resources ([3]),

— having regard to Draft amending budget No 6/2013, which the Commission submitted on 10 July 2013 (COM(2013) 0518) and amended on 18 September 2013 by amending letter (COM(2013)0655),

— having regard to the position on Draft amending budget No 6/2013 which the Council adopted on 21 October 2013 and forwarded to Parliament on the same day (14870/2013 — C7-0378/2013),

— having regard to Rule 75b and 75e of its Rules of Procedure,

— having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A7-0347/2013),

A. whereas Draft amending budget No 6/2013, as amended on 18 September 2013 by the Commission by amending letter, concerns a revision of the forecast of Traditional Own Resources (TOR, i.e. customs duties and sugar sector levies), VAT and GNI bases, the budgeting of the relevant UK corrections, and a revision of the forecast of other revenue arising from fines, thereby resulting in a change in the level and distribution between Member States of their own resources contributions to the Union budget;

B. whereas DAB No 6/2013 also covers the creation of the necessary budgetary structure to accommodate the creation of the Union trust funds foreseen in Article 187 of the Financial Regulation;

C. whereas Council's position on DAB No 6/2013 does not modify the Commission's proposal, as amended by amending letter;

D. whereas this DAB is crucial to avoid cash shortages that could lead to an implementation deficit in 2013, on the basis of the level of payment appropriations authorised in the Budget 2013 including Amending Budgets 1 to 5/2013 only;

1. Takes note of DAB No 6/2013, presented by the Commission on 10 July 2013, as amended by the amending letter of 18 September 2013, which provides for a revision of the forecast of Traditional Own Resources (TOR, i.e. customs duties and sugar sector levies), on the basis of Commission's best estimates and certain other developments, as well as the further revision of the forecast of other revenue, arising from a series of fines that have become definitive and can therefore be budgeted;

([1]) OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.
([2]) OJ L 66, 8.3.2013.
([3]) OJ L 163, 23.6.2007, p. 17.

2. Notes that the drop in TOR forecast, by some EUR 3 955 million, and in the VAT based own resource, by EUR 384 million, is compensated by the above-mentioned fines for a cumulated amount of EUR 1 229 million;

3. Notes that this mechanically results in an increase in the complementary GNI based contributions from Member States, by an amount of EUR 3 110 million, i.e. a net increase in 'national contributions' (including VAT) by EUR 2 736 million;

4. While acknowledging the significant burden that this will represent for national budgets, underlines that this technical adjustment on the revenue side should not come at the expense of fully covering justified payment needs, that have already been identified by the Commission in Draft amending budgets 8 and 9/2013; recalls the Council of its position based on artificial under-budgeting of previous years and stresses, in this respect, that the accumulation of annual budgets for the period 2007-2013 reaches a level that is by EUR 60 billion inferior to the agreed MFF overall payment ceiling for period 2007-2013, while a cumulated surplus of EUR 12 billion for the period 2007-2013 has de facto been returned to Members States by reducing their cumulated GNI contributions by this amount;

5. Requests the Commission to provide the European Parliament with all information it has on when and how these increased national contributions will be transferred from Member States' treasuries to the Union budget; requests the Commission to provide the Parliament with the net impact that these increased GNI contribution will have, if any, on the balance of Member States' budgets in 2013 or 2014;

6. Approves the Council position on Draft amending budget No 6/2013;

7. Underlines that the adoption of Draft amending budget 6/2013 does not address the lack of payment appropriations authorised in the 2013 budget which are necessary to pay outstanding bills; insists once more on the need for the Council to adopt as a matter of urgency Draft amending budget 8/2013; reiterates once more that it will not give its consent to the MFF 2014-2020 Regulation as long as Draft amending budget 8/2013 has not been adopted, as clearly stated in its resolution of 3 July 2013.

8. Instructs its President to declare that Amending budget No 6/2013 has been definitively adopted and arrange for its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union;

9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.