COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

of 8 March 2005

concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (Sixth EDF) for the financial year 2003

(2005/256/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Third ACP-EEC Convention, signed at Lomé on 8 December 1984,

Having regard to Internal Agreement 86/126/EEC on the financing and administration of Community aid [1], and in particular Article 29(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Financial Regulation of 11 November 1986 applicable to the Sixth European Development Fund (Sixth EDF) [2], and in particular Articles 66 to 73 thereof,

Having examined the revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet relating to the Sixth EDF as at 31 December 2003 and the Court of Auditors' Report concerning the financial year 2003 together with the Commission's replies [3],

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to Article 29(3) of the Internal Agreement, the discharge for the financial management of the Sixth EDF is to be given to the Commission by the European Parliament on the recommendation of the Council,

(2) The overall implementation by the Commission of the operations of the Sixth EDF during the financial year 2003 has been satisfactory,

HEREBY RECOMMENDS that the European Parliament give the Commission a discharge in respect of the implementation of the operations of the Sixth EDF for the financial year 2003.

Done at Brussels, 8 March 2005.

For the Council
The President
J.-C. JUNCKER

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[1] OJ L 86, 31.3.1986, p. 210. Agreement as last amended by Decision 86/281/EEC (OJ L 178, 2.7.1986, p. 13).
[2] OJ L 325, 20.11.1986, p. 42.
[3] OJ C 293, 30.11.2004, p. 315.