

Model of Standard Audit Report with unqualified opinion

In accordance with the audit mandate, we have audited the Group's Financial Statement prepared by the Group Accountant for the year ending [date] as presented on pages X to Y of this document.

Respective responsibilities of the Group and the Auditor

Pursuant to the Rules on the use of appropriations from Budget Item 400 (hereafter "the Rules"), the Group is responsible to the European Parliament for the conformity of appropriation usage and of the preparation of the group's annual financial report.

We are responsible for planning and carrying out the required work to verify the financial report prepared by the Group and to report with reasonable assurance our audit opinions to the Group.

Basis of Opinions

We have conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing as issued by the IAASB. This standard requires the auditor or auditing company to plan and carry out the work in such a way as to obtain sufficient and appropriate evidence and explanations to support audit opinions. An audit includes an examination, on a sample basis, of evidence relevant to the opinions.

The audit work included specific procedures aimed at gathering sufficient and appropriate audit evidence that:

- (a) the statement of revenue and expenditure gives a true and fair view of the group's financial position for the financial year concerned;
- (b) the balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the Group's assets at the end of the financial year;
- (c) the overall considerations on financial statements in the rules adopted by the Accounting Officer of the Commission referred to in article 80 of the Regulation 2018/1046¹, have been observed in the preparation and presentation of the accounts or, where appropriate, a divergence from these overall considerations is adequately explained by a note to the financial statements.
- (d) an effective and efficient internal control system for the management of operations, which includes effective segregation of the duties of authorising officer and accounting officer or of the equivalent functions, is in place;
- (e) the accounts have been presented in accordance with the harmonised Accounting Plan in Part 2 of the Rules;
- (f) the expenditure complies with the provisions of the Rules;
- (g) the expenditure has been charged to the correct item in the budget of the Group;
- (h) the appropriations were available;
- (i) the principles of sound financial management have been applied;
- (j) payment orders are substantiated by original supporting documents (or certified true copies);
- (k) the Group's internal rules have been observed.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012

The audit work included verification of the risk management activities of the Group and of the quality of management and control systems. If necessary, recommendations for improving the conditions of implementation of operations and promoting sound financial management were issued.

The audit work also included assessment of the suitability and effectiveness of internal management systems and the performance of departments in implementing policies, programmes and actions by reference to the risks associated with them; and assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal control and audit systems applicable to every budget implementation operation.

Opinions

- As a result of our work, we did not identify any material non-conformity with the dispositions laid out in the Rules or with the Group's internal rules including the internal control system.
- The overall presentation of the income and expense statement and of the balance sheet complies with the chart of account provided with the Rules.
- No departures from generally accepted accounting principles have been established [or:] Departures from generally accepted accounting principles are adequately explained by means of notes to the account.
- The principle of sound financial management has been applied.
- In our opinion, the balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group at [date] and of the revenue and expenses for the X months ending [date].