

The Secretary General

307968 07.05.2007

FB/pdb

Bruxelles, le 30 avril 2007

M. Hans-Gert POETTERING Président Parlement européen Bur. PHS 11B014 Bruxelles

Objet: Crédits inscrits sur le poste 4000 – exercice 2006

Monsieur le Président,

Je vous prie de bien vouloir trouver ci-joint le rapport des auditeurs externes concernant les comptes du Groupe Union pour l'Europe des Nations pour l'exercice 2006.

Je vous prie de croire, Monsieur le Président, à l'assurance de ma haute considération.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

UNION FOR EUROPE OF THE NATIONS GROUP (UEN GROUP)

BUDGET ITEM 4000 OF THE BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2006

UNION FOR EUROPE OF THE NATIONS GROUP ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUDGET ITEM 4000

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Report of the external auditors on the financial statements relative to the use of the credits of item 4000 of the budget of the European Parliament for the financial year ending 31 December 2006

In accordance with our audit mandate, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Union for Europe of the Nations Group prepared by the Group's Accountant, which comprise the balance sheet at 31 December 2006, the statement of revenue and expenditure for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. These financial statements are laid out on pages 5 to 15.

Responsibilities of the Group

According to the Rules on the use of appropriation from budget item 4000 of the European Parliament (hereafter "the Rules"), the Group is responsible to the Parliament for the conformity of appropriation usage and for the preparation and fair presentation of the Group's financial statements in accordance with the principles set out in these Rules. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. It also includes ensuring the respect of the Rules of budget item 4000.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our responsibility is to verify the financial statements prepared by the political group, and to report to the Group on the results of our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International standards on Auditing as issued by the IASSB, applied with a public sector perspective. Those standards require the auditor to comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance to support his audit opinion.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessment, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the entity's financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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In accordance with the specific requirements of our audit mandate, our audit work also included specific procedures aiming at gathering reasonable audit evidence that:

- Expenditures have been charged to the correct item in the budget of the Group;
- Appropriations are available;
- Expenditures are in conformity with the Rules governing appropriation item 4000;
- Principles of sound financial management have been applied;
- · Payments orders are supported by original documentation or certified true copies;
- The accounts have been laid out in accordance with the harmonised chart of accounts included in the Rules;
- The accounts have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles as laid out in articles 124 and 125 of Council Regulation 1605/2002, or that departures are adequately explained in the notes to the accounts.

Opinions

- As a result of our work, we did not identify any significant non conformity issues with the
 provisions laid out in the Rules governing appropriation item 4000 or with the Group's internal
 rules.
- The overall presentation of the revenue and expenditure statement and of the balance sheet complies with the harmonised chart of accounts included in the Rules.
- We do not have to report departures from accounting principles laid out in articles 124 and 125
 of Council Regulation 1605/2002, unless adequately disclosed in the notes to the financial
 statements.
- Based on the transactions that we have tested, we did not become aware of any significant departure from the principle of sound financial management.
- In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the UEN Group at 31 December 2006 and its revenue and expenditure for the financial year then ended, in accordance with the accounting principles and policies laid out in note 1 to the financial statements, which were applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding financial period.

In accordance with our audit mandate, we have prepared a management letter which presents our comments on the internal controls and procedures of the Group.

Brussels, 19 April 2007

Ernst & Young Reviseurs d'Entreprises SCC

Taude Josse

Represented by

Partner

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUDGET ITEM 4000 FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

BALANCE SHEET

			Amounts in Euros		
		Notes	31 December 2006	31 December 2005	
<u>ASSETS</u>			·		
FIXED AS	SETS				
Chapter 1	Tangible and intangible fixed assets				
1.	Intangible fixed assets		-	-	
2.	Tangible fixed assets	1 and 8	9,149.56	11,733.36	
CURRENT	ASSETS				
Chapter 2	Debtors, stocks and other current assets				
1.	Suppliers	4	29,674.84	6,876.12	
2.	Staff		-	•	
3.	VAT	3	113,085.59	70,111.38	
4.	Stocks		-	-	
5.	Others		-	2,069.42	
Chapter 3	Cash and banks				
1.	Securities		-	-	
2.	Cash		449,005.95	384,929.77	
		TOTAL ASSETS	600,915.94	475,720.05	
<u>LIABILIT</u>	<u>IES</u>				
Chapter 1	Reserves				
1.	Balance carried forward	2	487,239.47	430,496.38	
Chapter 2	Financial debts				
1.	Financial debts of more than one year		-	-	
2.	Financial debts of less than one year		-	-	
Chapter 3	Other debts				
1.	Other debts		-	_	
2	Charges settled in 2006 but paid in 2007	1 and 5	113,676.47	45,223.67	
		TOTAL LIABILITIES	600,915.94	475,720.05	

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUDGET ITEM 4000 FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

			Amounts in Euros	
		Notes	31 December 2006	31 December 2005
REVENUE				
Chapter 1	EP Subsidies and other EP revenue			
1.	Allocation from EP		1,895,991.00	1,659,969.00
2.	Other revenue from EP			11,758.00
			1,895,991.00	1,671,727.00
Chapter 2	Own resources		•	
1.	Interest and similar receipts		23,808.16	9,5 8 5.67
	Exchange gains		-	-
	Miscellaneous ressources		-	902.49
4.	Amount carried forward from the preceding financial year		430,496.38	273,455.17
			454,304.54	283,943.33
TOTAL RI	EVENUE		2,350,295.54	1,955,670.33
GRAND TO	OTAL		2,350,295.54	1,955,670.33
<u>EXPENDI</u>	<u>rure</u>			
Chapter 1	Staff			
1.	Secretariat missions		406,302.43	309,846.54
2.	Recruitment		1,927.80	-
3.	Traineeships		33,048.53	43,599.65
4.	Salaries and related costs, fees		186,051.59	115,361.28
5.	Staff training		4,123.65	7,794.62
6.	Staff entertainment			
			631,454.00	476,602.09

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUDGET ITEM 4000 FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (CONTINUED)

			Amounts in Euros	
			31 December	31 December
		Notes	2006	2005
Chapter 2	Equipment, routine administrative costs and operating c	nets		
1.	Equipment, operating expenditure, computer engineering	0313		
	and maintenance	1 and 8	8,046.17	10,113.42
2.	Equipment, telecommunications-related installation and	1 4414 0	0,0 (011)	20,115
	maintenance expenditure, office machinery, furniture and			
	technical installations	1 and 8	5,986.19	7,534.23
3.	Stationery and office supplies	•	5,786.45	13,128.52
4.	Postage and telecommunications		45,659.86	39,643.84
5.	Printing and photocopying costs	6	16,868.15	12,350.25
6.	Office rental costs		49,831.77	31,606.00
			132,178.59	114,376.26
Chapter 3	Documentation, studies and research			
1.	Newspapers, magazines, press agencies and books		34,307.57	26,613.89
2.	Studies and research		10,035.82	10,320.08
3.	Databases		-	-
-			44,343.39	36,933.97
Chanter 4	Legal and accounting costs, financial and other charges			
î.	Legal costs		_	_
2.	Accounting/audit costs		14,000.00	12,000.00
3.	Financial charges and exchange losses		4,126.86	3,792.86
4.	Translation and interpreting costs		3,328.80	-,.,
5.	Other operating expenditure			-
			21,455.66	15,792.86
Chapter 5	Expenditure on meetings and entertainment			
1.	Official Group meetings		102,519.42	51,381.47
2.	Other meetings and conferences		28,278.13	-
3.	Expenditure on entertainment		2,475.68	23,873.32
4.	Guests		16,153.21	28,720.99
5.	Fact-finding missions by individual Members		24,551.17	-
			173,977.61	103,975.78
				•

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUDGET ITEM 4000 FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (CONTINUED)

		Amounts in Euros		
<u>N</u>	lotes_	31 December 2006	31 December 2005	
Chapter 6 Publications and advertising				
Posters, booklets, publications		1,907.50	2,300.00	
2. Advertising inserts and audiovisual advertising		772.68	10,233.15	
3. Advertising material, novelty items, telecommunications advert	ising	16,742.30	22,237.20	
4. Internet sites and cyber advertising		14,021.25	10,179.67	
5. Visits to Institutions, information stands		-	1,700.00	
		33,443.73	46,650.02	
Chapter 7 Members of Parliament				
1. Decentralised political and information activities	7	8 26,203.09	730,842.97	
		826,203.09	730,842.97	
Chapter 8 Subsidies and subscriptions				
1. Subsidies		-	-	
2. Subscriptions		-	-	
		-		
		1.042.054.0#	1 405 150 05	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1,863,056.07	1,525,173.95	
Credit repayable to the European Parliament		•	-	
Balance carried forward to the next financial year		487,239.47	430,496.38	
GRAND TOTAL		2,350,295.54	1,955,670.33	

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

NOTE 1: BASIS OF THE ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

Basis of the accounts

The accompanying accounts of the Union for Europe of the Nations Group have been prepared to comply with:

- the 4000 financial rules approved by the Bureau of the European Parliament on 30 June 2003 and amended by the Bureau on 22 March 2006 (PE 335.475/BUR);
- the internal financial rules of the Union for Europe of the Nations Group;
- the accounting principles and the harmonised accounting plan included in the 4000 financial rules.

In accordance with the 4000 financial rules:

- the movements on the accounts and the balances must be entered in the accounting ledgers;
- all accounting entries, including adjustments to the accounts, must be based on dated and numbered supporting documents, to which they must refer;
- the accounting records must be organised so as to leave a trail for all accounting entries.

Accounting principles mandated by Financial Regulations and Rules

- 1. In accordance with the 4000 financial rules, the annual accounts are drawn up in accordance with the following generally accepted accounting principles:
 - going concern basis;
 - prudence;
 - consistent accounting methods;
 - comparability of information;
 - materiality;
 - no netting;
 - reality over appearance;
 - accrual accounting principle, subject to other provisions of the Rules as detailed in item 2 below.

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

- 2. Pursuant to Rule 2.5.3 of the Rules on the use of appropriations from budget item 4000, the annual accounts are prepared on a modified accrual basis, based on the following rules:
 - All expenditure relative to activities of the current or previous financial years is recorded in the accounts of the current year, upon authorisation by the authorising officer responsible and payment by the accountant, if the actual payment is made no later than during the month following the end of the financial year.
 - All expenditure of a financial year, paid during the month following the end of the financial year, is recorded in the expenditure accounts of the current financial year with counterpart a liability account (number chapter 3.2) in the balance sheet.
 - All expenditure, for which actual payment is made later than the end of the month
 following the closure of the financial period, is recorded in the accounts of the next
 financial period. No provisions may be made for expenditure of the current financial
 year not paid by the end of the month following the end of that financial year, or for risks
 and future charges.
 - All revenue is recorded in the income accounts upon establishment by the authorising
 officer. All revenue established and not received in the course of the financial year is
 registered on a balance sheet account.

3. Classification

- The classification of the 2006 expenditure follows the principle of classification by destination as foreseen by article 2.5.2 of the Rules on the use of appropriations from budget item 4000.
- For the sake of clarity in general, and clear budgeting in particular, the Group decided to classify 2006 expenditure by destination and not by nature, thereby departing from the practice of previous financial years.
- Scrupulous adherence to the comparability principle, however, would have required the Group to recalculate all the balances from the previous financial year in accordance with this new accounting policy and present them in the new format. Since the extra work this would have created far outweighed the benefits of scrupulous adherence to the comparability principle, this action was not taken. The Group is of the opinion that this change affects neither the authenticity nor the accuracy of the picture presented by the accounts.

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

Specific accounting policies

Exchange policy

The accounts are kept in Euro. Revenue and expenditure in other currencies are converted in Euro at the exchange rate applicable on the bank transfer. The balance sheet accounts in other currencies are not remeasured at the end of the financial year.

Depreciations of tangible fixed assets

Assets with a unit value of 420 Euros or more and being intended to be used for the activities of the Group on a lasting basis are entered in the inventory and in the balance sheet. Fixed assets are recorded at their acquisition cost and are depreciated on a monthly basis following the straight line method, using the following annual percentages:

Software	:	25.0 %
Hardware	:	25.0 %
Telecommunications and audiovisual equipment	:	25.0 %
Technical equipment	:	12.5 %
Other installations and machines	:	12.5 %
Office furniture	:	10.0 %

A summary of movements on tangible fixed assets during the year is presented in Note 8.

Valuation methods applied for securities and cash

Financial assets are valued at nominal value or fair market value, whichever is lower. Interest income is recognised in the accounts upon receipt.

Valuation methods applied for receivables, other assets and debts

Receivables, other assets and debts are stated at nominal value. Value reductions on receivables and other assets are recorded if there is uncertainty concerning their collectibility.

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 2: CARRY FORWARD TO THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

In accordance with the Rules on the use of appropriations from budget item 4000, credits that are not used during the financial year may be carried over to the following financial year up to a maximum of 50% of the annual appropriations received from the European Parliament's budget. Credits not used at 31 December 2006 which may be carried forward to the following financial year are detailed below:

	€
1. Credits received by our group for the financial year 2006	1,895,991.00
2. Maximum amount of carry forward to 2007 (50% of 1.)	947,995.50
3. Difference between total revenue and total expenditure at the end of the financial year 2006	487,239.47
4. Credits to be returned to the European Parliament	
5. Carry forward to financial year 2007	487,239.47

NOTE 3: VAT RECOVERABLE

VAT paid, for which the Union for Europe of the Nations Group anticipates to obtain refund from the relevant tax authorities in application of the privileges and immunities of the European Institutions, is detailed as follows at 31 December 2006:

	€
VAT France	705.91
VAT Ireland	12,182.80
VAT Danemark	5,134.89
VAT Poland	72,279.04
VAT Latvia	15,734.20
VAT Lithuania	7,048.75
	€ 113,085.59

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 4: SUPPLIERS

The amount of € 29,674.84 recorded under this heading represents advance payments to suppliers.

NOTE 5: OTHER DEBTS

The amount recorded under this heading of the balance sheet at 31 December 2006 (€ 113,676.47) consists of expenditure related to the 2006 financial year and paid until 31 January 2007 in application of article 2.5.3 of the Rule PE 335.475/BUR.

NOTE 6: FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 2006 the group has concluded the following long standing (>1 year) financial commitments:

- 1. Renting of copying machines OCE Belgium, cost 8,998.20 €/year
- 2. Renting of copying machines OCE Belgium, cost 5,475.60 €/year.

UNION FOR EUROPE OF THE NATIONS GROUP FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 7: DETAIL OF THE EXECUTION OF THE DECENTRALISED CREDITS OF CHAPTER 7 ARTICLE 1

The detail of the decentralised credits executed for Chapter 7.1 of the accounting plan annexed to the 4000 financial rules is the following:

Article	Category	Year ended 31 December 2006	%	Year ended 31 December 2005	%
1.	Staff	9,482.00	1.2%	4,837.02	0.7%
2.	Secretariat - equipment and expenses	32,415.06	3.9%	22,431.34	3.1%
3.	Documentation, studies and research	132,664.20	16.1%	238,552.32	32.6%
4.	Legal, accounting, financial and other operating costs	3,396.19	0.4%	-	-
52.	Other meetings and conferences	269,479.85	32.6%	220,264.28	30.1%
53.	Expenditure on entertainment	36.38	0.0%	-	-
54.	Guests	80,437.73	9.7%	86,900.58	11.9%
61.	Posters, booklets and publications	145,819.41	17.7%	65,635.46	9.0%
62.	Advertising inserts and audiovisual advertising	71,981.04	8.7%	28,676.69	3.9%
63.	Advertising material, novelty items, telecommunications				
64.	advertising Internet sites and cyber	16,008.19	1.9%	6,902.96	1.0%
65.	advertising Visits to institutions;	17,245.56	2.1%	5,235.04	0.7%
03.	information stands	47,237.48	5.7%	51,407.28	7.0%
	Total Chapter 7.1	826,203.09	100%	730,842.97	100%

UNION FOR EUROPE OF THE NATIONS GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENT RELATIVE TO THE USE OF THE CREDITS OF ITEM 3701 OF THE BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

NOTES ANNEXED TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Note

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