



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



**Council conclusions on Special Report No. 10/2006 of Court of  
Auditors on ex post evaluations of Objectives 1 and 3 programmes  
1994-1999 (Structural Funds)**

*2774th AGRICULTURE and FISHERIES Council meeting  
Brussels, 19 December 2006*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

"- The Council takes good note of the extensive and analytical report of the Court of Auditors and welcomes the recommendations made therein.

- The Council agrees that well focussed, high quality ex post evaluation is essential in the development of better policy programming and implementation. The Council concludes that adequate resources are needed in order to ensure that shortcomings experienced in the past are avoided in the future.

- The Council finds that the conclusion concerning shortcomings in the evaluation methodology for the period 1994-99 are relevant; however it underlines that these problems have already been addressed in respect of the current Structural Funds period 2000-2006.

- The Council is aware that further improvements have been introduced for the upcoming Structural Funds period 2007-2013, and considers that the evaluation methodology should continue to be addressed.

- The Council believes that the improvements made to the evaluation methodology and data collection mechanisms during the current period (2000-2006), and the legal provisions for the period 2007-2013, will ensure an adequate basis for evaluation of the allocated resources against the cohesion policy objectives.

**P R E S S**

- Finally, the Council considers that the existing partnership among the Commission, the Member States, the research community and stakeholders should continue to address methodological aspects of evaluation, such as those raised by the Court of Auditors report, and to propose solutions, as appropriate".

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