

Vote 29 International Co-Operation

Introduction

As Accounting Officer for Vote 29, I am required each year to prepare the Appropriation Account for the Vote, and to submit the Account to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit.

In accordance with this requirement, I have prepared the attached account of the amount expended in the year ended 31 December 2011 for certain Official Development Assistance, including certain grants-in-aid, and for contributions to certain International Organisations involved in Development Assistance and for salaries and expenses in connection therewith.

The expenditure outturn is compared with the sums granted by Dáil Éireann under the Appropriation Act 2011, including the amount that could be used as appropriations-in-aid of expenditure for the year.

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles and notes 1 to 7 form part of the Account.

Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles

The standard accounting policies and principles for the production of Appropriation Accounts have been applied in the preparation of the Account except for the following:

Depreciation

Vehicles have been depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum.

Buildings are not depreciated.

Foreign Exchange Transactions

Transactions arising on convertible currencies are translated into Euro at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of settlement. At programme country mission level, transactions arising on non-convertible currencies are translated into Euro at the market rate of exchange prevailing at the beginning of the month.

Statement on Internal Financial Control

Along with the Account, I have submitted a statement in the standard format on the system of internal financial control that operates in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

David Cooney
Accounting Officer
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
26 March 2012

Certificate of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I have audited the Appropriation Account of Vote 29: International Co-operation for 2011 under Section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993. The Account has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles. The duties of the Accounting Officer and of the Comptroller and Auditor General in relation to the Appropriation Accounts, and the basis of the audit opinion, are set out in Part 1 to this volume.

I have obtained all the information and explanations I considered necessary for the purposes of my audit. In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in respect of the Vote for International Co-operation. The Appropriation Account is in agreement with the books of account.

In my opinion, the Appropriation Account properly presents the receipts and expenditure of the Vote for the year ended 31 December 2011.

Chapter 19 of my report on the accounts of the public services for 2011 refers to certain matters relating to Vote 29 on which I considered it appropriate to report in accordance with Section 3 (10) of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

Seamus McCarthy
Comptroller and Auditor General
27 July 2012

Vote 29 International Co-Operation Appropriation Account 2011

Service	2011 Estimate provision	2011 Outturn	2010 Outturn
	€000	€000	€000
Administration			
A.1. Salaries, wages and allowances	18,626	17,405	17,879
A.2. Travel and subsistence	2,747	2,084	2,085
A.3. Training and development and incidental expenses	2,920	1,488	2,092
A.4. Postal and telecommunications services	1,920	1,563	1,606
A.5. Office equipment and external IT services	2,020	1,207	1,413
A.6. Office premises expenses	3,910	3,364	4,267
A.7. Consultancy services and value for money and policy reviews	1,400	1,092	1,124
Other services			
B. Payment to grant-in-aid fund for bilateral and other co-operation (grant-in-aid)	365,633	365,633	373,951
C. Emergency Humanitarian Assistance	51,000	50,997	52,501
D. Payments to international funds for the benefit of developing countries	34,354	34,354	28,000
E. Contributions to United Nations and other development agencies	39,500	39,500	39,500
Gross expenditure	524,030	518,687	524,418
Deduct:			
F. Appropriations-in-aid	1,153	1,790	1,488
Net expenditure	522,877	516,897	522,930
Surplus to be surrendered		€5,980,013	€12,400,000

Notes to the Appropriation Account

1 Operating Cost Statement 2011

	2011	2010
€000	€000	€000
Expenditure on administration	28,203	30,466
Expenditure on services and programmes	490,484	493,952
Gross expenditure	<u>518,687</u>	<u>524,418</u>
Deduct		
Appropriations-in-aid	1,790	1,488
Net expenditure	<u>516,897</u>	<u>522,930</u>
Changes in capital assets		
Purchases cash	(191)	
Disposals cash	14	
Profit on disposals	(6)	
Depreciation	<u>633</u>	
	450	(557)
Changes in net current assets		
Decrease in stock	1	(6)
Increase in closing accruals	(3,098)	(1,883)
Total operating cost	<u><u>514,250</u></u>	<u><u>520,484</u></u>

Note: Net allied services expenditure and notional rents are borne on Vote 28 - Foreign Affairs and Trade.

2 Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2011

	Note	2011	2010
		€000	€000
Capital assets	2.1	9,452	9,902
Current assets			
Bank and cash	2.2	6,350	5,591
Stocks	2.3	15	16
Prepayments		10,235	7,205
Other debit balances	2.4	31	74
Total current assets		16,631	12,886
Less current liabilities			
Accrued expenses		138	206
Other credit balances	2.5	164	146
Net liability to the Exchequer	2.6	2,061	1,072
Bilateral and other co-operation fund (grant-in-aid)	7	4,156	4,447
Total current liabilities		6,519	5,871
Net current assets		10,112	7,015
Net assets		19,564	16,917
Represented by:			
State funding account		19,564	16,917

2.1 Statement of Capital Assets

	Land and buildings	Equipment	Office equipment	Furniture and fittings	Vehicles	Totals
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
Gross assets						
Cost or valuation at 1 January 2011	8,277	1,019	679	1,661	2,239	13,875
Additions	31	26	42	34	58	191
Disposals	—	(34)	—	(10)	—	(44)
Cost or valuation at 31 December 2011	8,308	1,011	721	1,685	2,297	14,022
Accumulated depreciation						
Opening balance at 1 January 2011	—	753	573	1,006	1,641	3,973
Depreciation for the year	—	135	59	168	271	633
Depreciation on disposals	—	(31)	—	(5)	—	(36)
Cumulative depreciation at 31 December 2011	—	857	632	1,169	1,912	4,570
Net assets at 31 December 2011	8,308	154	89	516	385	9,452
Net assets at 31 December 2010	8,277	266	106	655	598	9,202

2.2 Bank and Cash

	2011	2010
at 31 December	€000	€000
PMG balances and cash	6,350	5,602
Orders outstanding	—	(11)
	6,350	5,591

2.3 Stocks

	2011	2010
at 31 December	€000	€000
Stationery	15	16

2.4 Other Debit Balances

	2011	2010
at 31 December	€000	€000
Sundry debtors	31	74

2.5 Other Credit Balances

at 31 December

2011	2010
€000	€000

Amounts due to the State

Professional Services Withholding Tax

97 84

Value Added Tax

19 42

116	126
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Other credit balances

48 20

164	146
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2.6 Net Liability to the Exchequer

at 31 December

2011	2010
€000	€000

Surplus to be surrendered

5,980 12,400

Exchequer grant undrawn

(3,919) (11,328)

Net liability to the Exchequer

2,061	1,072
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Represented by:**Debtors**

Bank and cash

6,350 5,591

Debit balances: suspense

31 74

6,381	5,665
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Creditors

Due to the State

(116) (126)

Other credit balances

(48) (20)

Bilateral and other co-operation fund (grant-in-aid)

(4,156) (4,447)

(4,320)	(4,593)
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2,061	1,072
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3 Variations in Expenditure

An explanation is provided below in the case of each expenditure subhead where the outturn varied from the amount provided, by more than €100,000, and by more than 5% (25% in the case of administration subheads).

Subhead	Less/(more) than provided €000	Explanation
A.2.	663	Savings were delivered through lower than anticipated air fare costs and continued tight cost control on expenditure to this subhead.
A.3.	1,432	Savings were delivered across all incidental costs associated with managing the aid programme at head quarters and at country mission level.
A.5.	813	Savings were delivered on this subhead through lower than anticipated office running costs at head quarters and at country mission level.

4 Receipts

Appropriations-in-aid	2011	2011	2010
	Estimated €000	Realised €000	Realised €000
1. Appropriations-in-aid	300	1,018	642
2. Receipts from pension-related deductions on public service remuneration	853	772	846
	<u>1,153</u>	<u>1,790</u>	<u>1,488</u>

Explanation of significant variations

An explanation is provided below in the case of each heading where the outturn varied from the amount estimated by more than €100,000, and by more than 5%.

Heading	Less/(more) than estimated €000	Explanation
1.	(718)	The surplus arose through higher than anticipated grant refunds received into the Bilateral aid programme. Miscellaneous receipts of this nature fluctuate from year to year and are difficult to forecast accurately in advance.

5 Employee Numbers and Pay

	2011	2010
Number of staff at year end (full time equivalents)	194	209
	2011	2010
	€000	€000
Pay	14,894	14,947
Higher, special or additional duties allowances	34	45
Other allowances	44	103
Overtime	37	31
Employer's PRSI	788	833
Total pay	15,797	15,959

The total charge to A.1. includes certain non-pay elements which are not reflected in the above note.

5.1 Allowances and Overtime Payments

	Number of recipients	Recipients of €10,000 or more	Maximum individual payment 2011 €	Maximum individual payment 2010 €
Higher, special or additional duties	6	2	12,345	20,947
Other allowances	25	—	6,622	5,704
Overtime	18	1	10,612	9,281

Note: Certain individuals received extra remuneration in more than one category.

6 Miscellaneous Items

Contributions to UN and other development agencies (subhead E.)	2011	2010
	€000	€000
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	8,940	8,700
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	8,200	8,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	6,100	6,000
World Health Organisation (WHO) Programmes	1,200	1,200
United Nations Population Fund	3,050	3,000
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	2,000	2,000
UNAIDS	3,000	3,000
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)	1,200	400
UN International Drugs Control Programme	100	100
UN Industrial Development Organisation	481	450
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA)	4,000	3,800
UNEP Trust Fund	755	743
Others - various	474	2,107
	39,500	39,500

7 Miscellaneous Accounts

Bilateral and other co-operation fund (grant-in-aid) account (subhead B.)

Account of receipts and payments during year ended 31 December 2011

	2011	2010
	€000	€000
Balance on 1 January 2011	4,447	1,733
Grant-in-aid 2011	365,633	373,951
	370,080	375,684
Expenditure 2011	365,924	371,237
Balance on 31 December 2011	4,156	4,447

In addition, at 31 December 2011, unspent balances totalling €3.98m (2010 - €5.13m), were held in bank accounts controlled by Irish Aid mission offices in eleven countries.