ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: Statement of the Resources Director

« Je déclare que, conformément à la communication à la Commission sur la clarification des responsabilités des acteurs-clé en matière d'audit et de contrôle interne à la Commission¹, j'ai communiqué au Directeur général mes avis et recommandations sur l'état général du contrôle interne dans la DG.

Je certifie également par la présente que les informations fournies dans les parties 2 et 3 du présent rapport annuel d'activité et dans ses annexes sont, à ma meilleure connaissance, exactes et complètes. »

Bruxelles, le 26 mars 2014

signé

Carlos Alegria

Directeur "Ressources et Support"

¹ SEC(2003)59 of 21.01.2003.

ANNEX 2: Human and Financial resources

Human Resources by	Human Resources by ABB activity						
Code ABB Activity	ABB Activity	Establishment Plan posts	External Personnel	Total			
31 01 07	Interpreting and linked activities	624	16	640			
31 AWBL-01	Administrative support for the interpretation Directorate-General						
		46	9	55			
31 AWBL-03	Support and assistance to conferences, events and meetings						
		54	25	79			
31 AWBL-05	Policy strategy and coordination for the interpretation Directorate-General						
		16	3	19			
	Total	732	53	785			

ANNEX 3: Draft annual accounts and financial reports



ANNEX 4: Materiality criteria

The threshold of 2 % was taken as reference for determining materiality for the following reasons :

- 62% of the 2013 commitments appropriations (and 89% of the payments made in 2013) were processed through automated procedures (payments of ACI contracts);
- For these payments, the error rate as reported by ex-post controls was 0.34%;
- The reimbursement of ACIs' sickness and accident insurance claims is the responsibility of an external insurance company, thereby transferring the risk.
- Procurement and grant management account for a limited budget where standard ex-ante and ex-post controls are implemented in order to ensure the necessary control environment is in place and all errors are fully reported.

ANNEX 5: Internal Control Template(s) for budget implementation (ICTs)²

- 5.1 Execution of the central budget (100% administrative expenditure)
- 5.2 Procurement Direct
- 5.3 Conference Organisation under co-delegated procedure
- 5.4 Grant Management
- 5.5 Income Collection

² In each case, the cost of control is compared against the budgetary commitment

1.1 Execution of the central budget (100% administrative expenditure)

Process 1: Payment of ACI contracts

Main control objectives: Fraud prevention (as in the PMO, the calculation of ACI remuneration is a fully automated procedure and the main risk of fraud is linked to the reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses, where the majority of controls are concentrated); compliance (legality and regularity), effectiveness, efficiency and economy.

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The recruitment or planning offices of the Institutions introduce the wrong information about the ACI contract into the DG SCIC internal payment system. An ACI contract is modified after the "conforme aux faits" was sent and the contract paid.	The system which allows the booking of meetings, allocation of interpreters, monitoring of meeting attendance and payment of ACI is fully integrated and therefore it is not possible to create fictitious entries at different levels. List of contracts for other Institutions are automatically injected into the payment system. Modification of the existing contract by the recruitment department is notified to the payment office.	Coverage: All interpreter bookings are entered into the Meetings and Interpretation Management system which is a single database for the whole of the DG.	Costs: The residual risk of fraud once this has been taken into account is extremely minimal and therefore there is no further cost assigned to this risk. Benefits: Fraud prevention; compliance and effectiveness and efficiency.	Occasional controls were performed as soon as the problem was flagged.
Due to the unpredictability of demand, the DG may have recruited too many ACIs in the long or medium term exercise.	Constant monitoring of demand and review of procedures regarding the long, medium and short-term recruitment exercises.		Meeting the demand for interpretation, whilst ensuring stand-by rates are kept within the targets in the MP are key objectives for SCIC to achieve its mission. Therefore, the monitoring of demand is an ongoing task for the management within the Unit and Directorate - making the costs impossible to identify as a single, stand-alone action.	Modulated ACI recruitment to reduce staff stand-by on days of lesser activity.
DG SCIC performs the role of inter-	Reorganisation of the payment	Coverage: 100% of all payment	Costs: This re-organisation has	Efficiency: % of errors (in value)

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
institutional payment office for ACI. However, due to differing procedures between the Institutions, there is a risk of error when handling payment requests.	team where the payment officers are grouped by Institution and therefore understand the payment rules linked to their specific area.	requests are filtered in this way.	given clear benefits and improved efficiency. However, as this is the ongoing work of all payment officers, it is not possible to enter the cost of control. Benefits: Efficiency – payments for one officer will follow the same rules.	in ACI payments detected by ex post control.
ACI presents a forged supporting document in order to claim higher or non-existent expenses.	Payment officers are trained to spot possible forged documents. Online access to the ticket booking system Amadeus can be used to confirm the authenticity of the airline ticket presented by the ACI.	Coverage: 100% of non-local contracts. Depth: Training and further guidance is given to ensure controls are sufficient and up to date.	Costs : 3 FTE + 2 CA in Operational Unit (estimated 5% of their time) Benefits: Fraud prevention; compliance and effectiveness and efficiency.	Efficiency: % of errors (in value) in ACI payments detected by ex post control reports.
The amount paid is incorrect or paid to the wrong ACI.	The reimbursable amount per each category of expenses is determined by the initiating agent according to the clear procedure. The flat rate character of allowances paid reduces the risk of error. Each payment is checked by the verifying agent and subject to an independent ex-post control on a sampling basis.	Coverage / Frequency : 100% of non-local contracts. Random sampling of approx. 1,2% of payments (in value) via ex-post control.	Costs: 3 FTE + 2 CA in Operational Unit (estimated 10% of their time) 1 FTE in Financial Unit (estimated 20% of their time) Benefits: Prevention of fraud, compliance issues.	Efficiency: % of errors (in value) in ACI payments detected by ex post control reports.

Process 2: Professional Training for Interpreters (Officials and ACIs):

Main control objectives: Prevention of fraud, Compliance (legality and regularity), Effectiveness, efficiency and economy

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators (2013)
The decision for language training priorities does not sufficiently reflect the needs of the DG at the time of the language addition due to unpredictable structural/cyclical valuations in demand.	<u>For officials</u> : Unit C3 defines language training priorities in consultations with Directorate A on the basis of objective criteria such as needs of new officials, existing offer of languages by staff and ACIs and training in universities and loss of passive languages due to retirement. <u>For ACIs</u> : a selection committee decides which applications to accept on the basis of the HoU's recommendations and programming needs.	Due to extensive consultation, complete coverage and depth once a year.	For officials: Standard requests made via Commission systems which follow the usual validation/acceptance procedures. For ACIs: half a day for the selection committee plus time to prepare the files. Due to the fact the decisions are taken as part of the day to day work or in Committee, making the costs impossible to identify as a single, stand-alone action. Benefits: Compliance (legality and regularity)	passive languages by interpreter <u>For ACIs:</u> number of languages
Lack of or insufficient supporting documents, absence of legal and/or budgetary commitment for the reimbursement of expenses	Standard ex-ante control procedure with operational initiation and verification in Unit C3 and the financial initiation and verification in Unit S2	Coverage: 100% of all files controlled	Cost: 1 FTE in Operational Unit (estimated 20'% of their time) 1 FTE in Financial Unit (estimated 10% of their time) Benefit: Fraud prevention, compliance	Number of exceptions

Process 3: Organisation of inter-institutional accreditation tests for ACI:

Main risks It may happen (again) that Mitigat	ating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
A person who did not attend the accreditation test or is not eligible for reimbursement of expenses receives payment. The amount of expenses reimbursed is incorrect. The reim categor by the it the clear checklis The ceil of trav allowar	eilings for the reimbursement avel expenses and flat rate ances paid, to cover tence expenses, reduces the	Coverage / Frequency: 100% of payment requests received. Depth: Standard checklists ensure all steps and controls are followed.	Costs: 1 FTE (estimated 5% of their time) Benefits: Control against possible fraud, compliance issues.	Fraud prevention/ compliance issues: number of non-eligible claims refused. Number of complaints linked to incorrect payment of expenses

1.2 Procurement Direct

Stage 1: Needs Analysis and Planning

Main control objectives: Effectiveness, efficiency and economy. Compliance (legality and regularity):

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The needs are not well				
defined (operationally and				
economically) and that the				
decision to procure was			Costs: In addition to standard	
inappropriate to meet the			procurement procedures, the	
operational objectives			DG manages 12 framework	Effectiveness: Number of
	AOSD supervision and	100% of all specifications are	contracts. The controls in place	projected tender cancelled,
Poor planning and organisation	approval of specifications	signed off by the AOSD	are difficult to estimate as	Number of contract
of the procurement process,			stand-alone costs or they are	discontinued due to lack of use
including the planning of	Creation of framework	Meetings are conducted on a	included in the time allocated	(poor planning).
supervision and monitoring	contracts rather than individual	regular basis to ensure all	to the FTEs in Stage 2 of this	Effectiveness: N° of 'open'
	procurement procedures in the	procurement procedures are	annexe.	or procedures where only one
Inappropriate choice of	areas of technical services and	reviewed.	Benefits:	or no offers were received.
procurement procedure and	equipment and conference		- Amount of rejection of	N° of requests for clarification
calculation of threshold	management.		unjustified purchases.	regarding the tender.
The best offer/s are not			- Efficiency - Fraud Prevention	_
The best offer/s are not				
submitted due to the poor definition of the tender				
specifications				

Stage 2: Preparation of the contract (Call for Tenders; Evaluation of tenders; award decision; budgetary commitment; legal commitment):

Main control objectives: Effectiveness, efficiency and economy; Compliance (legality and regularity); Fraud prevention and detection.

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The most economically	Meetings between operational and financial units to ensure all aspects are prepared and planned in advance. Formal evaluation process: Opening committee and Evaluation committee (DG Interpretation does not have a specific panel and no external experts are invited to evaluation or selection committees	100% of the offers analysed in the evaluation committees. Depth : all documents transmitted	Costs: Operational Units Unit S4 – 2 FTE (estimated 30% of their time); Unit S4 – 1 FTE (estimated 10% of their time) Unit S5 – 3 FTEs (estimated 10% of their time); S6 – 2 FTEs (estimated 20% of their time) Finance Unit: 1 FTE (estimated 20% of their time)	Effectiveness: Numbers of 'valid' complaints or litigation cases filed. Efficiency: Cost of
advantageous offer not being selected, due to a biased, inaccurate or 'unfair' evaluation process	Opening and Evaluation Committees' declaration of absence of conflict of interests	100% of the members of the opening committee and the evaluation committee	Benefits: Compliance with FR. Difference between the most onerous offer and the selected one Benefits: Amount of contracts for which the control prevented the risk of	successful tender minus cost of the most onerous one (or average cost).
	Exclusion criteria documented	100% checked. Depth : required documents provided are consistent		Average cost of a tendering Procedure
	Standstill period, opportunity for unsuccessful tenderers to put forward their concerns on the decision	100% when conditions are fulfilled	litigation or fraud. Benefits: Avoid contracting with excluded economic operators Benefits: Amount of procurements successfully challenged during standstill period	

Stage 3: Financial transactions & contract Execution:

Main control objectives: Ensuring that the implementation of the contract is in compliance with the signed contract

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The products/services/works foreseen are not, totally or partially, provided in accordance with the technical description and requirements foreseen in the contract and/or the amounts paid exceed that due in accordance with the applicable contractual and regulatory provisions	Operational and financial checks in accordance with the financial circuits. Operation authorisation by the AO	100% of the contracts are controlled, including only value- adding checks	Costs: Operational UnitsUnit S3 – 1 FTEs (estimated 5% of their time);Unit S4 – 1 FTE (estimated 30% of their time)Unit S4 – 1 FTE (estimated 10% of their time)Unit S5 – 2 FTEs (estimated 5% of their time);Unit S6 – 10 FTEs (estimated 10% of their time)Finance Unit: 4 FTE (estimated 20% of their time)Benefits: Amount of irregularities, errors and overpayments prevented by the controls	Effectiveness: % error rate prevented (amount of errors/irregularities averted over total payments) Number of control failures; Number/amount of liquidated damages. Efficiency: Average cost per open project. % cost over annual amount disbursed Time-to-payment Late interest payment and damages paid (by the Commission).

Stage 4: Management Supervision:

Main control objective: Ensuring that any weakness in the procedures (tender and financial transactions) is detected and corrected

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
An error or non-compliance		100% at least once a year.	Costs: Operational Units	Effectiveness: Amounts
with regulatory and			Unit S4 – 1 FTE (estimated 10%	associated with errors
contractual provisions,	Deview of evenest requite	Depth: look for any systemic	of their time)	detected (related to fraud,
including technical	Review of ex post results	problem in the procurement	Unit S5 – 1 FTEs (estimated 10%	irregularities and error). In
specifications, or a fraud is		procedure and in the financial	of their time);	% over total checked.
not prevented, detected or		transaction procedure and any	Unit S6 – 2 FTEs (estimated 10%	N° system improvements made.

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
corrected by ex-ante control, prior to payment		weakness in the selection process of the ex post controls	of their time) Finance Unit : 1 FTE (estimated 10% of their time)	Efficiency: Costs of the ex post controls and supervisory measures with respect to the 'benefits'.
	Review of exceptions reported	100% at least once a year. Depth : look for any weakness in the procedures (procurement and financial transactions)	Benefits: Amounts detected associated with fraud & error. Deterrents & systematic weaknesses corrected	Average cost of an ex-post control
	Review of the process after each procedure	100%. Depth : review any significant problem that occurred		

1.3 Conference organisation under co-delegated procedure:

Stage 1: Needs Analysis and Planning:

Main control objectives: Effectiveness, efficiency and economy;

Main risks It may happen that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The operational needs are not well defined, as SCIC is rarely in position to know well in advance which conferences will be organised under the co- delegation management mechanism. This leads to a difficult planning of the whole procurement processes and an overload of work for operational and financial units.	The AOSD has written to all Resource Directors requesting a six month planning notice of the events for which SCIC is likely to be asked to intervene.	Every 6 months letters will be sent to Resource Directors.	Costs: It is not possible to assign costs to this action and as it has be put in place in 2013, the control indicators will be monitored during the following years to ensure the expected benefits are realised. Benefits: Better planning of the procurement processes as opposite to high demand during peak periods. More even distribution of workloads for both the financial and operational units.	Replies from RDs in response to the note from the AOSD

Stage 2: Preparation of the contract (Call for Tenders; Evaluation of tenders; award decision; budgetary commitment; legal commitment):

Main control objectives: Effectiveness, efficiency and Economy; Compliance (legality and regularity); Fraud prevention and detection

Main risks It may happen that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The offer best meeting our	- Ensuring that both	100% of the terms of	Costs: 1 FTE in Operation	
requirements is not selected	technical specifications and	reference and award criteria	(estimated 20% of their time	Number of complaints or
due to poor technical	evaluation/award criteria are	discussed and endorsed.	Unit). 1 FTE in Financial Unit	litigation cases
specifications, unclear or	systematically double		(estimated 10% of their	

Main risks It may happen that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
inadequate award criteria.	checked. - Ensuring that all steps of		time)	
	the evaluation process are		Benefits: Compliance with	
	followed and the procedures are correctly applied		FR; Prevent the risk of litigation and fraud, ensuring	
			selection of the best offer	

Stage 3: Financial transactions & contract Execution: Ensuring that the implementation of the contract is in compliance with the signed contract

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The products/services/works foreseen are not, totally or partially, provided in accordance with the technical description and requirements foreseen in the contract.	Close monitoring and checking of operational steps involved in the fulfilment of the contract. This includes BATs (bon à tirer), regular meetings with the supplier and a detailed coordination meeting where services to be provided are discussed well enough before the conference/event.	100% of the contracts are monitored and coordination meetings are always organised prior to the event.	 Costs: 5 FTEs at operational level (estimated at 30% of their time) Costs: 1 FTE at the financial level (20% of their time) Benefits: Amount of errors and non-compliant services are reduced to almost 0. 	% Error rate = amount of errors/total payments

Stage 4: Management Supervision: Ensuring that any weakness in the procedures (tender and financial transactions) is detected and corrected

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
An error or non-compliance with regulatory and contractual provisions,	Ex ante controls	100% files are reviewed ex- ante by the financial unit.	Costs : 1 FTE person at the financial level (estimated at 30% of their time).	Number of recording of exception or non-compliant notes

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
including technical specifications, or a fraud is not prevented, detected or corrected by ex-ante control, prior to payment	Review of exceptions reported	100% at least once a year. Depth : look for any weakness in the procedures (procurement and financial transactions)	Benefits : to reduce errors and non-compliant procedures	Number of "Avis negatif" Number of remarks on the check-lists
	Review of the process after each procedure	100%. Depth : review any significant problem that occurred		

1.4 Grant Management:

The management of both grants and bursaries from Universities and students studying conference interpretation.

Stage 1: Programming, evaluation and selection of proposals

Main control objectives: Ensuring that the Commission selects the proposals that contribute the most towards the achievement of the policy or programme objectives (effectiveness); Compliance (legality & regularity); Prevention of fraud (anti-fraud strategy)

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The evaluation, ranking and selection of proposals is not carried out in accordance with the established procedures, the policy objectives, priorities and the essential eligibility, or with the selection and award criteria defined in the annual work programme and subsequent calls for proposals.	Assessment is done by staff (programme officer) and by an inter-institutional evaluation committee. When evaluating the applications, the Committee members use an evaluation grid which implements the eligibility and award criteria as published in the call for proposals.	100% of proposals from Universities and students are evaluated in a two-step process, starting with a first screening of each project/ student, complemented with more detailed information which is requested before the final meeting of the Evaluation Committee.	 <u>Costs</u>: Screening of proposals and student requests (including verification of supporting documents, requests for further information and preparation of the files for the committee. 2 FTEs in Operational Unit (estimated 25% of their time) The cost associated with the committee is not possible to quantify as it runs for 1 or 2 days per year and can involve different staff from different units and/or directorates. 	Number of complaints compared to the number of applications:

Stage 2: Grant Management – Ex post controls:

Main control objectives: Measuring the effectiveness of ex-ante controls by ex-post controls; addressing systemic weaknesses in the ex-ante controls, based on the analysis of the findings (sound financial management)

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
The ex-ante controls (as such) fail to prevent, detect and correct erroneous payments or attempted fraud.	Ex-post control strategy: All final reports are desk reviewed by the programme officer and random checks are carried out to identify possible 'suspicious' items. Final grant payments (in most cases 50% of the awarded grant) are only made after satisfying documentation/explanation has been received. Also, during the grant period DG SCIC obtains reports from its pedagogical assistants on the implementation of the co- financed action. Possible ex- post findings are taken into consideration for improving ex- ante controls.	100% of subsidised projects are subject to ex-post controls. As 90% of the grants awarded are low value grants, on-the- spot audit missions are therefore only performed when strictly needed in order to keep a correct balance between cost and benefit of such controls.	Costs : 1 FTE in the operational unit (estimated 20% of their time) 2 FTE in the financial unit (estimated 10% of their time) Benefits: sound financial management, prevention of fraud.	Number of exceptions reported: Number of errors discovered in ex-post checks: target is to keep this below 10%.

1.5 Income Collection

Main control objectives: Effectiveness, efficiency and economy; Compliance (legality and regularity); Sound financial management

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
Actual meeting costs are not reflected in the cost of an i-slot The management of resources in a context of unpredictable demand	Constant monitoring of demand and review of procedures regarding the long, medium and short-term recruitment exercises		Meeting the demand for interpretation, whilst ensuring stand-by rates are kept within the targets defined in the MP, are key objectives for SCIC to achieve its mission. Therefore, the monitoring of demand is an ongoing task for the management within the Unit and Directorate – making the costs impossible to identify as a single, stand-alone action.	Modulated ACI recruitment to reduce staff stand-by on days of lesser activity
Accuracy of billing (enquiries, complaints from clients about hours/language regime billed)	Single, integrated, up to date database – MIM (Meeting and Interpretation Management) which holds the data on all bookings of meetings, interpretation, therefore enabling a complete and efficient collection of information to ensure the correct invoice is sent to clients. Ex-ante control (before billing) S2 – verification of invoice against actual meeting/ interpretation that took place and modification, where necessary of the invoice using a module of MIM, Coral.	100% of all meetings and interpretation requirements are entered into MIM. 100% of all invoices are controlled before sent to clients	Costs : 2 FTEs (80%); 1 FTE (10%) Benefits: reduce number of questions and appeals made by clients relating to the invoices received.	Effectiveness & efficiency : Total number of i-slots billed during the year Total number and total value of corrections actually made:
Recovery (billing) delays	Introduction of SLAs introducing clear rules and		Costs : SLAs are created as and when needed with the clients of	Recovery delay

Main risks It may happen (again) that	Mitigating controls	How to determine coverage, frequency and depth	How to estimate the costs and benefits of controls	Control indicators
	guidelines on payments.		the DG. As this work is ongoing,	
			it is not possible to isolate the	
			control factor of these costs.	
			Benefits: ensuring the DG	
			functions in accordance with	
			the SLAs and sound financial	
			management	

ANNEX 6: Implementation through national or international publicsector bodies and bodies governed by private law with a public sector mission

ANNEX 7: AARs of Executive Agencies

ANNEX 8: Decentralised agencies

Not applicable

ANNEX 9: Performance information included in evaluations³

As surveys do not qualify as evaluations, no information is requested here on DG Interpretations' 3rd Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) and its 3rd IT helpdesk Survey which were organised out in 2013.

However, the results of the CSS which is carried out among participants in meetings of the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and the European Economic and Social Committee allow us to measure the quality of interpretation and provide us with one of our five KPI.

³ Surveys, rolling reviews, data collection, public consultations, legal implementation reports or other types of studies do not qualify as evaluations and do not need to be taken up in this Annex.