



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
CLIMATE ACTION
Directorate A – Strategy, Analysis and Planning
CLIMA.A.4 – Administration, Financial Affairs & Human Resources

Brussels
CLIMA.A.4

Lora Verheecke
9 rue du Bronze
1070 Brussels
Belgium

Advance copy by email : ask+request-12273-afb2974c@asktheu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents 2022/7194

Dear Ms Verheecke,

We refer to your request for access to European Commission documents registered on 12.12.2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to:

All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts and recordings) AND the meeting minutes/notes relating to the meeting between Frans Timmermans and Breakthrough Energy Catalyst Foundation and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on 25th October 2022 .

Your application concerns the following document:

20221025_Minutes meeting with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation_redacted, registered on 10.11.2022, Reference Ares(2022)7766430.

With regard to the document listed above, a complete disclosure of the identified documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you [do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor do you] put forward [any] arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest. [if the applicant puts forward arguments to establish the necessity of a transmission for a specific purpose in the public interest, please explain why you consider these arguments insufficient].

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

This document was drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant service of the EVP Frans Timmermans' Cabinet. It solely reflects the service's interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the document refers, which was not consulted on its content. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

In case you would disagree with this position, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to submit a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed to the Secretariat-General of the Commission within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter. You can submit it in one of the following ways:

by asking for a review via your portal¹ account (available only for initial requests submitted via the portal account),

or by mail:

European Commission

Secretariat-General

Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)

BERL 7/076

B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Electronically signed

Rudy VAN HORENBEEK

Head of Unit

¹ <https://www.ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-request>