



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Secretariat-General

Directorate E - Policy Co-ordination II  
The Director

Brussels,  
SG/E/WS

Mr. Vincent Harmsen  
By email only: [ask+request-3670-2bf8010c@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-3670-2bf8010c@asktheeu.org)

Dear Sir,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GESTDEM No 2016/7234**

We refer to your e-mail dated 22/12/2016, which was registered on 23/12/2016, in which you make a request for access to documents. As you know, your request has been divided in 6 parts (GESTDEM references). This letter replies to GESTDEM 2016/7234, the part of your request attributed to the Secretariat General.

You request access to the following: *"documents which contain the following information:*

*-on the topic of endocrine disruptors (also spelled: disrupters), all emails with in attachment scientific studies, or in general documents containing conclusions drawn by scientists or scientific organisations, sent to officials/representatives of the European Commission (all DGs, including the SG) by third parties (between March 15th 2016 and December 22th 2016).*

*This request entails the emails and their attachments.*

*When 'officials' are mentioned in this request this includes the Commissioners and their Cabinet members, as well as the Commission President and his Cabinet."*

We have identified the documents in the Annex, which correspond to the description given in your application.

Please note that documents received simultaneously by several Commission services, or Commissioners, will in principle be released by the responsible Commission service only.

As a consequence, access to documents number 2/2.a. and 3/3.a. will be provided to you by DG Health and Food Safety as part of request GESTDEM 2016/7237.

For documents 1/1.a. and 4/4.a. partial or full access will be provided as indicated in the Annex.

The documents you requested are enclosed, expunged of personal data, in particular name and contact details of individuals.

Pursuant to Article 4(1) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with Community legislation regarding the protection of personal data. The applicable legislation in this field is Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data.

When access is requested to documents containing personal data, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 becomes fully applicable.

According to Article 8(b) of this Regulation, personal data shall only be transferred to recipients if they establish the necessity of having the data transferred to them and if there is no reason to assume that the legitimate rights of the persons concerned might be prejudiced.

We consider that, with the information available, the necessity of disclosing the aforementioned personal data to you has not been established and/or that it cannot be assumed that such disclosure would not prejudice the legitimate rights of the persons concerned.

You are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission, Secretary-General, Transparency unit SG-B-4, BERL 5/282, B-1049 Brussels; or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu).

Yours sincerely,

William Sleath  
acting Director

Enclosures