Brussels ECFIN.G.3/FRS

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Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/7663

Dear Sir,

We refer to your e-mail of 9 December 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 10 December 2020 under the above mentioned reference number.

We regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

The Financial Times article you report appears to refer to the Eurogroup meeting of 30 March 2012. However, the Commission could not identify any document or report on Italy's budgetary situation among the documents transmitted to the Eurogroup Members for that meeting. The Commission has also searched among documents for other Eurogroup meetings around the time, but no documents corresponding to the description in the article were identified.

In order to satisfy your interest in the subject matter, we have attached the following other documents:

- the Commission "Recommendation for a Council recommendation on Italy's 2012 national reform programme and delivering a Council opinion on Italy's stability programme for 2012-2015";
- the accompanying Commission staff working document "Assessment of the 2012 national reform programme and stability programme for Italy".

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled 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 Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission

Secretariat-General

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

BERL 7/076 B-1049 Brussels

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

Yours sincerely,

Electronically signed

Maarten Verwey

Enclosures: I. SWD_COM recommendation_Italy_2012

II. COM recommendation_Italy_2012