EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES

Coordination and Planning

Brussels GROW.01/LB/

Ms Roxburgh Venetia 40 Bermondsey Street London United-Kingdom

By email to: ask+request-8671aa73879d@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2020/6275

Dear Ms Roxburgh,

We refer to your e-mail of 20 October 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 20 October 2020 under the above-mentioned reference number.

1. Scope of your request

You request access to "All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts, recordings and minutes/notes) relating to the meetings listed below:

1. Between Gaelle Garnier, Cabinet member of Thierry Breton, Thierry Breton, Commissioner and ArcelorMittal on the 10th September 2020".

Please note that the documents originating from third parties are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

2. Identification and assessment of the concerned documents

We have identified 2 documents falling within the scope of your request.

Your application concerns the following two documents:

- 1. Ares(2020)2742743: Email from Arcelor Mittal to Commissioner Breton
- 2. Ares(2020)5010199: Minutes of the conference call, 10 September 2020

Having examined the documents requested under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, I have come to the conclusion that they may be partially disclosed. Some parts of the documents have been blanked out as their disclosure 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.

3. Reason for partial access

Protection of personal data

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 information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;
- other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person such as handwritten signatures, office numbers and phone numbers.

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.

Consequently, we 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 mentioned above, 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.

Therefore, partial access is granted to the requested documents, expunged of personal data.

4. Means of redress

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,

(e-signed)
Matthias Schmidt-Gerdts
Head of Unit

Enclosure: 2 annexes