



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
CLIMATE ACTION

Legal Affairs, Inter-Institutional Relations & Communication

Brussels

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Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2021/3069

Dear Ms Balanya ,

We refer to your e-mail dated in 6 May 2021 which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 10 May 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to:

“i) All correspondence (including email) between 1st January 2021 and 6th May 2021 between Commissioner Simson, Commissioner Timmermans, Commissioner Breton, President van der Leyen, Commissioner McGuinness, Commissioner Gentiloni and/or their cabinets and/or officials from DG Energy, DG Clima, DG Grow, DG Fisma and Secretariat General on one hand and stakeholders on the other, where EU taxonomy for sustainable activities was addressed.

ii) list of meetings/videocalls/calls between 1st December 2020 and 6th May 2021 between officials and/or representatives of the European Commission and stakeholders where the issue of EU taxonomy for sustainable activities was addressed.

iii) minutes of the meetings/videocalls/calls mentioned above”.

Your submitted application for access to documents covers topics falling under the responsibility of different Commission services. In that regard, your request has been split into separate requests, whereby each part is attributed to the respective Commission service under a separate Gestdem reference number. Each Director-General service provides its own, separate reply which relates only to the documents held by that service.

DG CLIMA has identified several documents that fall under scope of the request, which are annexed to this letter.

Following an examination of identified documents under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents and taking into account the opinion of the third party, I regret to inform you that a complete disclosure of the documents 1-4, 6, 8-22, 24-30, 32-42, 45-62, 64-73, 75, 77-85, 87-95 and 97 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: names and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management; names and contact details of other natural persons and other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

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, 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 above mentioned 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.

Please note that documents 1, 2, 10, 15, 56 and 61 were drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant official of the European Commission. They solely reflect the author's interpretation of the interventions made and do not set out any official position of the third parties to which the documents refers, which were not consulted on its content. They do 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 within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels, or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

p.o. Anna Johansson