



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Secretariat-General

Directorate C – Transparency, Efficiency and Resources
SG.C.1-Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents

Brussels,
SG.C.1/

By registered letter with AR

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Subject: Your confirmatory application for access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 - GESTDEM 2021/6265

Dear Ms Bijl,

I refer to your e-mail of 17 October 2021, registered on 20 October 2021, in which you submit a confirmatory application in accordance with Article 7(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents¹ (hereafter ‘Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001’).

Your confirmatory application was submitted in relation to your initial application of 22 July 2021 in which you requested public access to, I quote, ‘documents which contain the following information:

- ‘A list of all meetings of DG HOME officials with United Arab Emirates representatives, including with UAE government officials (or their representatives), with employees of the UAE Embassy to the EU (incl. the Ambassador, incl. their representatives), as well as with employees and/or consultants working for lobby and/or consultancy and/or PR firms where the UAE is a client, that took place between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2015;
- [a]gendas, minutes, reports and other documentation of these meetings;

¹ OJ L 145 of 31.5.2001, p. 43.

- [a]ll correspondence that took place between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2015 between DG HOME officials and UAE representatives, including UAE government officials (or their representatives), employees of the UAE Embassy to the EU (incl. the Ambassador, incl. their representatives), as well as employees and/or consultants working for lobby and/or consultancy and/or PR firms where the UAE is a client. This could include but is not limited to, e-mails, text messages, basis documents, memos or drafts’.

You clarified that your request should cover, I quote, ‘any information that the Commission holds in relation any of the above points, including information that may have been deemed short-lived or unimportant’.

As explained to you in an e-mail dated 18 November 2021, your initial request of 22 July 2021 was unfortunately not registered in due time as a result of a clerical mistake at the initial stage. Your request was registered on 20 October 2021. As the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs was dealing with your request and would provide you with a reply to your application, the Secretariat-General requested your agreement to close your confirmatory application.

The Secretariat-General did not receive a response to the clarification request of 18 November 2021.

In the meantime, however, the initial reply of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs was sent to you on 14 December 2021. The reply in question was registered under reference Ares(2021)7711516.

Against this background, the Secretariat-General will close your confirmatory application concerning the lack of reply to your request, which has become devoid of purpose in light of the fact that you have in the meantime received an initial reply from the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

Nevertheless, you remain entitled to submit a new confirmatory application in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, should you wish to request a review of the initial reply of 14 December 2021.

Yours sincerely,

María Oliván Avilés
Head of Unit