EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR TRADE

Latin America Unit

Brussels, TRADE/D.2/AN

Ms Audrey Changoe Friends of the Earth Europe 26 rue d'Edimbourg 1050 Brussels

by email only:

ask+request-9814-de73b11d@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents -GestDem 2021/4729

Dear Mrs Changoe,

I refer to your e-mail dated 26/07/2021 in which you make a request for access to documents in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001¹ ("Regulation 1049/2001"), registered on 27/07/21 under the above mentioned reference number.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in answering your request, which is mainly due to a high number of access to documents requests being processed at the same time (including different requests originating from you) and also to the nature of your inquiry which required numerous searches in our database.

In your communication of 26 July 2021 you ask for:

A list of meetings between Civil Society Organisations and the following staff members of the European Commission on the EU Mercosur Trade Deal:

- Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis, from June 2019 to present.
- Cabinet members of Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis: from June 2019 to present.
- Director-General Sabine Weyand from June 2019 to present.
- Former Commissioner Phil Hogan from January 2019 until September 2020.
- as well as a number of officials from DG TRADE (covering the period from January 2020 until September 2020 or respectively to the present date).

Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 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 document corresponding to the description given in your application is held by DG TRADE, we are unfortunately not able to treat your inquiry as a request for access to documents. However, in line with the Code of Good Administrative Behaviour, and given that it does not represent a disproportionate administrative burden, we treat your inquiry as a request for information. I am pleased to provide you in the annex with a table listing the meetings between Civil Society Organisations and staff members of the European Commission holding senior management position as well as meetings held by DG Trade officials covering the period January 2020 until September 2020 or July 2021 respectively. I regret to inform you that we are not in a position to disclose the names of individual staff members of the European Commission not holding any senior management position as they are subject to and protected by privacy rules framework applicable to the staff of the European Commission.

Yours sincerely,

P. Garzotti

Annex: - list of meetings