Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2022/2635

Dear Mr Fanta,

We refer to your e-mail of 10 May 2022, registered on 11 May 2022, in which you make a request for access to documents under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to “All documents regarding the meeting between Commissioner Thierry Breton and Elon Musk in Austin, Texas, as shown in a video posted by Commissioner Breton's account on Twitter on May 9. My request is meant to cover all exchanges with Musk and his representatives via e-mail, text messages, etc. before and after the meeting”.

We have identified the enclosed document falling within the scope of your request.

Please note that parts of the document are out of the scope of your request, and have therefore been redacted.

A complete disclosure of the identified document is also 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 data:

- the names/initiatives and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initiatives and contact details of other natural persons;
- other information relating to identified or identifiable natural persons.

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 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 requested document, 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 this document was drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant service of the Cabinet of Commissioner Thierry Breton. It solely reflects the service’s interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the document refers, which were not consulted on its content. It does 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 faithfully,

Electronically signed
Kerstin Jorna
Director-General