To
Mr Yasha Maccanico
by electronic mail

Subject: Your request for access to documents of 18 July 2022
Our ref: 2022/118

Dear Mr Maccanico,

I would like to thank you for your request for access to documents, which the EEAS has examined in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.¹

Following your request, we have searched for the documents related to the EU-Morocco Subcommittee on social affairs and migration meeting of 19 May 2022, in the EEAS filing systems and document management databases.

Please be informed that the EU-Morocco Subcommittee on social affairs and migration is organized within the framework of the EU-Morocco Association Agreement and allows the EU and Morocco to take stock of developments in the above-mentioned areas, as well as to discuss the best avenues for future cooperation in a climate of mutual trust.

We have examined the documents related to the above-mentioned meeting of the Subcommittee. All documents contain sensitive information in the areas discussed during the meeting. EU and Morocco exchanged views and opinions in an environment of mutual trust, with the understanding that they will not be disclosed to the general public. Therefore, any disclosure of these documents would hamper the on-going dialogue and the progress of discussions in these areas, and ultimately negatively affect the EU’s relations with Morocco.

In addition, several of these documents are internal EU briefings, containing assessments of EU institutions on the actions, policies and intentions of the Moroccan side. Their disclosure would harm the environment of mutual trust in future diplomatic dialogues with Morocco and would undermine the EU’s bilateral relations with this country.

Therefore, I regret to inform you that we are not in a position to disclose these documents at this point in time, neither as a whole or partially, since it would undermine the protection of international relations as per Article 4(l) (a), third indent, of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed, you may confirm your initial request by lodging a confirmatory application within 15 working days in accordance with Article 7(2) of the Regulation 1049/2001.

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]

Nereo Penalver Garcia