

### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels AGRI.I.1/CCL/IB(2022)7014603

Verheecke Lora 9 rue du Bronze 1070 Bruxelles Belgium

By email:

ask+request-11784-cdce645e@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2022/4867, GESTDEM 2022/4868, GESTDEM 2022/4869

We refer to your e-mails of 30 August 2022 in which you make requests for access to documents, registered on 31 August 2022 under the above-mentioned reference numbers.

### You request access to:

- All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts and recordings) AND the meeting minutes/notes relating to the meeting between Janusz Wojciechowski and COPA COGECA, Landbrug & Fødevarer & others on 23rd June 2022.
- All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts and recordings) AND the meeting minutes/notes relating to the meeting between Janusz Wojciechowski and COGECA on 28th April 2022."
- All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts and recordings) AND the meeting minutes/notes relating to the meeting between Janusz Wojciechowski and COPA COGECA on 24th February 2022.

We have identified 10 documents falling within the scope of your request. You will find enclosed a list of the documents identified, as well as redacted copies of the aforementioned 10 documents, which are disclosed under (I), (II) or (III) below.

### I. Personal data redacted

With regard to the attached documents, a complete disclosure of the identified documents 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 the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;
- handwritten signatures/abbreviated signatures of 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<sup>1</sup>, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested 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.

# II. Out of scope: Parts of document number 4, Ares(2022)6191998

There is information contained in this document, which is out of scope of your request. For this reason, such information has been redacted

## III. Partial access: Document 3, Ares (2022) 6071617

Having examined the document mentioned above, we have come to the conclusion that it may be partially disclosed. Some parts of this document have been blanked out as their disclosure is prevented by the exception to the right of access laid down in Article 4(1)(a), third indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 (protection of the public interest as regards international relations). The redacted parts of the document concern trade negotiations with Chile and the information contained therein reveals negotiating priorities, strategic objectives and tactics which the European Commission pursued in these negotiations and could equally consider pursuing in its trade negotiations with other trade partners. This would weaken the negotiating position of the European Union in such negotiations and would hence undermine the protection of the public interest as regards international relations.

You may reuse public documents, which have been produced by the European Commission or by public and private entities on its behalf based on the <u>Commission</u> <u>Decision on the reuse of Commission documents</u>. You may reuse the documents

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Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, *Official Journal L* 145, 31/05/2001, p. 43 – 48

disclosed free of charge and for non-commercial and commercial purposes provided that the source is acknowledged and that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the documents. Please note that the Commission does not assume liability stemming from the reuse.

Please note that documents originating from third parties are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

Documents Ares (2022)6191998, Ares (2022)6071617, Ares (2022)3902295 and Ares (2022)3363677 were drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant services of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development. It solely reflects the services interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the documents refer, which was not consulted on its content. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled to make 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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

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

Yours faithfully,

Wolfgang BURTSCHER

Enclosure: 10 documents