Brussels, 14 June 2024

Mr Luis Miguel Hurtado Coronado
Email: ask+request-14515-c6a861f8@asktheeu.org
       ask+request-14516-2049e1db@asktheeu.org

Ref. 24/1363 and 24/1365

Requests made on: 29.04.2024
Deadline extension: 24.05.2024

Dear Mr Hurtado Coronado,

Thank you for your requests for access to documents of the Council of the European Union.¹

We apologise for the delay in handling your requests, caused by the large period of time concerned, by the increased number of requests being examined in this semester and by the need to carry out internal and external consultations on the possible release of the documents that are not yet in the public domain.

At this stage we can provide you with the following information:

- The latest proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the Council for a Council Decision amending Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/2354 on an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility (EPC) to support the deployment of the Rwanda Defence Force in Mozambique is dated 20 March 2024 and annexed to document ST 8051/24, which is still not in the public domain. We are carrying our consultations with the European External Action Service in this regard.

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) has started to examine the abovementioned proposal at its meeting on 27th March 2024 (see the PSC agenda CM 2359/24), with a view to providing advice.

Our service is still carrying out our internal consultations to verify if our institution holds copy of letters or documents originating from the Rwandan authorities related to assistance measures during the period on which you focus (as requested, from July 2022 onward). It is possible that this correspondence was addressed from its originator to the European External Action Service.

You also focus on EPF assistance measures in support of the Rwanda Defence Force in Mozambique between January 2023 and May 2024.

We identified the following set of documents related to this topic:

- ST 7766/24 (High Representative’s report), ST 6594/24 (EUTM Mozambique strategic review), ST 10991/23 (High Representative’s report, partially accessible), ST 10732/23 (High Representative’s report), ST 8039/23 (High Representative’s report, partially accessible), as well as, for your convenience, some referring to 2022: ST 14280/22 (General Guidelines on Operational Priorities for Humanitarian Aid in 2023), ST 13858/22 (I/A Item Note), ST 13857/22 (final Decision), ST 13856/22 (High Representative’s proposal, partially accessible), ST 13337/22 (High Representative’s report, partially accessible), ST 11772/22 (recommendation for support, partially accessible), ST 10391/22 (I/A Item Note), ST 8539/22 (concept note, partially accessible), ST 6161/22 EXT 1 + EXT 1 REV 1 (partial declassification of a High Representative’s report);

- WK 7507/2024 (EPF/Assistance measures - 2023 Annual Activity Report), WK 16947/2023 (EPF Aggregate budget 13/2023), WK 13477/23 ADD 1 + ADD 2 + ADD 5 + ADD 9 (3rd EU-AU Ministerial: Addenda to the draft 1st report of the EU – AU Ministerial Follow-up Committee: Assessment of the implementation of the Joint Vision for 2030), WK 6902/2023 (EU-AU Summit follow-up - Assessment of the implementation of the Feb 2022 EU-AU Summit commitments), WK 6481/2023 (EPF/Assistance Measures 2022 Annual Activity Report), WK 5860/2023 (Political Dialogue between the EU and the Government of Rwanda), as well as, for your convenience, some referring to 2022: WK 16819/2022 (EPF/AM Amending budget 4/2022), WK 15063/2022 (written consultation for the Members of the Political and Security Committee of 27 October 2022) and WK 10579/2022 + REV 1 (EPF Ceiling for Payments for 2023).

The undisclosed parts of the partially accessible documents listed above are covered by Article 4(1)(a), first, second and third indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 (protection of public interest as regards public security, defence and military matters and international relations).
You also focus on documents related to the PSC agenda related to the deployment of the Rwanda Defence Forces is during the same period as above.

We have not identified any other PSC meeting agenda referring to this topic other than the abovementioned CM 2359/24.

Please note that the documents still not in the public domain (those without a hyperlink) are undergoing internal consultations within the competent services of the General Secretariat and with the European External Action Service. You will receive a complementary reply as soon as our consultations are completed.

Pursuant to Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you may ask the Council to review this decision within 15 working days of receiving this reply. Should you see the need for such a review, you are invited to indicate the reasons thereof.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando FLORINDO