To
Mr Ayaz Ahmed Siddiqui
by electronic mail

Subject: Your request for access to documents of 12 April 2024
EEAS reference: 2024/077

Dear Mr Siddiqui,

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 in the EEAS filing systems and document management databases for: “Election Expert Mission report for Pakistan 2024”.

After this search, the EEAS has identified the following document matching your application, as referenced hereafter:


The above mentioned document contains the findings of the Elections Expert Mission (EEM) that was deployed by the European Union (EU) to follow the 8 February 2024 general elections in Pakistan. The document contains the EEM’s independent findings and conclusions on whether the electoral process complied with relevant international commitments, standards and good practice for democratic elections.

While reports from Election Observation Missions are made public, because they do observe the election according to international methodology, EEM reports are meant for the EU and its Member States. They are made public only if the country concerned expressly agrees. By

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disclosing the document to the general public the EU would breach the mutual trust with the Election Commission and the Government of Pakistan, thereby undermining the EU bilateral relations with Pakistan and preventing the EU to be invited to observe future general elections. For this reason, any unilateral disclosure from the side of the EU would undermine the international relations as per Article 4(1)(a), third indent, of the Regulation.

I have considered the possibility to grant you partial access to the document. However, even a partial disclosure would be negatively perceived by the non-EU country at stake thereby undermining the EU international relations as mentioned above.

Therefore, I regret to inform you that we are not in a position to disclose this document at this point in time, since it would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards international relations, as per Article 4(1)(a), third indent, of the Regulation.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed, you may make a confirmatory application within 15 working days in accordance with Article 7(2) of the Regulation.

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]

Ludovic Promelle