Ms Noa Steiner  
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Ref. 24/1806 ADD

Request made on: 14.06.2024  
Deadline extension: 05.07.2024

Dear Ms Steiner,

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

The General Secretariat of the Council thanks you for your patience and comprehension as regards the extended time frame in dealing with this request.

Following our communication of 29 July, the following documents still remained to be examined under this request: ST 13056/23 INIT + ADD1 + ADD2 + ADD3 + ADD 4.

Please find attached document ST 13056/23 ADD1.

Please find attached partially accessible versions of documents ST 13056/23 INIT + ADD2 + ADD3 + ADD4. I regret to inform you that full access cannot be given for the reasons set out below.

Document ST 13056/24 INIT contains comments by Latvia, Poland and Finland on the Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea for 2024 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194 as regards certain fishing opportunities in other waters. Document ST 13056/24 ADD2 contains comments by

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France, Sweden and Poland on that same proposal. Document ST 13056/24 ADD4 contains comments by Germany, also on that same proposal. One sub-item in document ST 13056/24 INIT, as well as one paragraph in document ST 13056/24 ADD4, contain information that would undermine the position of the EU in future fisheries negotiations vis-à-vis two of its main international negotiating partners. One paragraph in document ST 13056/24 ADD2 contains information that would weaken the position of the EU vis-à-vis a third country, hence causing prejudice to the EU’s stance towards that country. Full disclosure of these documents would therefore undermine the protection of the public interest as regards international relations.

As a consequence, the General Secretariat has to refuse full access to these three documents\(^3\).

Document ST 13056/24 ADD3 contains comments by Lithuania on the same proposal referred to here above. Part of this document contains information that would weaken the position of the EU vis-à-vis a third country, hence causing prejudice to the EU’s stance towards that third country. It also contains some paragraphs that relate to that Member State’s budgetary considerations stemming from the proposal. Full disclosure of this document would therefore undermine the protection of the public interest as regards international relations, and the financial, monetary or economic policy of that Member State.

As a consequence, the General Secretariat has to refuse full access to this document\(^4\).

Yours sincerely,

Fernando FLORINDO

(Enclosures)
