

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Trade

**The Director General**

Brussels, **28 JAN. 2015**  
Ares (2015) 253637

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*By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt*

Dear Mr. Hoedeman,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2015/0106**

We refer to your email dated 07/01/2015 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 07/01/2015 under the above mentioned reference number.

Your application concerns the minutes of the meeting between the Cabinet members of the EU Trade Commissioner with representatives of Goldman Sachs, which took place on 17/12/2014 in Brussels. We have identified one document falling under the scope of your request.

Having examined the document requested under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, I have come to the conclusion that it may be partially disclosed. A part of the document has been blanked out as its disclosure is prevented by exceptions to the right of access laid down in Article 4 of this Regulation.

The expunged part of 91 words in section 2) of the document could harm the commercial interests of the company in question, as stated in the exception of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EC) 1049/2001. Disclosure of this part of the document would reveal specific positions taken by this company on international trade and investment matters and could hence undermine the protection of its commercial interests.

The exceptions laid down in Article 4(2) of Regulation 1049/2001 apply unless there is an overriding public interest in disclosure of the document. This is not the case in the meeting document in question.

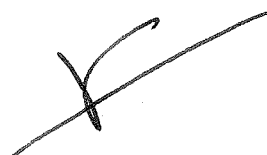
In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

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  
Secretary-General  
Transparency unit SG-B-4  
BERL 5/327  
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'L' followed by a long horizontal stroke that curves upwards at the end.

Jean-Luc DEMARTY