



European Economic and Social Committee

Brussels, 06.02.18 000109
DA/2018/D/595

Dear Ms Izuzquiza,

Further to your request for access to documents addressed to the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) on 16 January, the EESC administration has identified a number of documents containing the requested information, which I am pleased to transmit to you.

Please note that the EESC members do not receive any form of remuneration from the EU budget in relation to the performance of their duties.

Their travel expenses are calculated solely on the basis of actual costs and of the most direct route. The EESC members are also entitled to travel allowances intended to cover all travel-related expenses, which are calculated taking into account the distance and the duration to travel from their declared place of residence to the Committee headquarters in Brussels.

Subsistence (or meeting) allowances are similar to those received by the members of the European Parliament and include the accommodation expenses.

To respond to your request, the travel costs and allowances paid to the President for his activities related to the work of the EESC in 2016 amounted to € 135.895,75.

Please find in attachment the following documents:

- 207 "*Statements of travel and subsistence expenses*" concerning the amounts paid to the President for his EESC meetings in 2016. His travel allowances are calculated considering that his place of residence is situated in Greece;
- An Excel table with information extracted from the EESC databases, complement that included in the "*Statements*" namely for each of the trips:
 - the place of origin and destination;
 - the dates of the trip;
 - the travel costs and allowances;
 - any other information.

The EESC President did not travel by air taxi, all his travels were made by means of transport available to all citizens.

In accordance with the specifications of your request, and in order not to undermine the right to privacy of identifiable individuals¹, in the "Statements of travel and subsistence expenses" the following personal data have been redacted:

- the President's private address;
- the President's bank account number;
- the name of the EU agent processing the statement of travel and subsistence expenditures.

Should you not agree with the way the EESC replied to your request you are entitled to file a confirmatory application within 15 working days of receiving this reply².

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us again.

Yours sincerely,

European Economic and Social Committee

¹ Article 4(1) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

² Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001