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ENVIRONMENT
Directorate B - Natural Capital
ENV.B.2 - Bio-diversity
The Head of Unit

Brussels, 01/08/2013
env.b.2(2013)2989775

Ms Hannah Mowat

FERN

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2013/3306

Dear Ms Hannah Mowat,

We refer to your e-mail dated 19th June 2013 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 20th June 2013 under the above mentioned reference number as well as to our letter no 2629686 dated 10th July 2013.

In your application you have requested access to a list of meetings held where the subject of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy was discussed, between the Commissioner for Environment and/or his cabinet and/or officials and/or representatives of DG Environment and representatives from Biotope, Eftec, the Biodiversity Consultancy, IUCN, Forest Trends, BBOP, the Environment Bank Ltd, Eurelectric, Euromines, La Farge, CEFIC, HeidelbergCement, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), COPACOGCECA, MissionMarkets, Birdlife, EIB, European Seaports Organisation, in which the issue of biodiversity, compensation, biodiversity offsetting/trading, habitat/environment banking, no net loss, mitigation hierarchy and/or a similar terms were addressed, minutes and reports of the meetings mentioned above and all correspondence (including email) in relation to the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy between the Commissioner for Environment and/or his cabinet and/or officials and/or representatives of DG Environment and representatives from Biotope, Eftec, the Biodiversity Consultancy, IUCN, Forest Trends, BBOP, the Environment Bank Ltd, Eurelectric, Euromines, La Farge, CEFIC, HeidelbergCement, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), COPACOGCECA, MissionMarkets, PrimeSolutions Securities Inc., Birdlife, EIB, European Seaports Organisation, in which the issue of biodiversity, biodiversity offsetting/trading, habitat/environment banking, no net loss, mitigation hierarchy and/or a similar terms were addressed.

Several documents listed below were identified as falling under the scope of your request:

1. Final Report of the Study on Innovative Financing from private sector for Biodiversity (BD Finance final Summary-300312.pdf). Document is uploaded to the web page of DG Environment: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enveco/biodiversity/pdf/BD_Finance_summary-300312.pdf
2. Agenda of the Innovative Financing for Biodiversity Workshop (3 May 2011)
3. Briefing sent to participants of the Innovative Financing for Biodiversity Workshop (3 May 2011)
4. Minutes of the meeting between Commissioner Potocnik and EIB's President Mr. Philippe Maystadt, that took place on 1st April 2011. The EIB, nevertheless, would like to clarify that this document does not necessarily reflect the current official position of the EIB on the issues that it raises, and that the information does not reflect the latest developments on initiatives such as the EU Project Bond initiative.
5. Documents related to the Habitat Banking Exploratory Workshop of 7 July 2011
6. Correspondence with Forest Trends related to:
 - a. Follow-up to the workshop on Habitat Banking of 7 July 2011
 - b. Materials on biodiversity offsets for first inter-service group on biodiversity offsets on 24 October 2011
7. Meetings between DG Environment and the European Investment Bank (EIB), 15 June 2012 and 10 June 2013, Brussels:
The aim of these meetings were to discuss the concept of a Biodiversity Financing Facility, as outlined in the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, which would support a number of innovative projects including biodiversity offsets. No minutes
8. 3rd European Water Conference, 24-25 May 2012, Brussels:
<http://waterblueprint2012.eu>
9. Agenda and Minutes of the Joint Workshop on Biodiversity Offsets between the Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme and the European Union No Net Loss Working Group, Brussels, Belgium; 22 May 2013
10. Documents related to the Workshop on EU No Net Loss Policy Options, 3rd July 2013, Brussels (agenda and briefing document)
11. CEFIC – Biodiversity and ecosystem services: What do chemical companies need to know?, Presentation, 9 January 2013, Europe's Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – Enhancing Europe's Natural Capital.
12. Study on “The Use of Market –based Instruments for biodiversity protection – the case of Habitat Banking (2010), where the concept of No-Net-Loss is analysed, available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enveco/pdf/eftec_habitat_technical_report.pdf

Please note that these documents cannot be reproduced or disseminated for commercial purposes without prior consent given by the Commission.

Moreover, you can find all documents related to the Working Group No Net Loss on the dedicated website CIRCABC (<https://circabc.europa.eu>). To have access to these documents, you have first to create an ECAS account (instructions attached). Once you are registered with an ECAS account, you can join the No Net Loss group by clicking on "join this group".

Some of the documents listed above contain names of individuals that qualify as personal data. Thus, these references are blanked out in compliance with the applicable provisions of Regulation No 45/2001 on the processing of personal data read in conjunction with Article 4 (1)(b) of Regulation No 1049/2001 on access to documents.

Please note some documents falling under the scope of your request were sent to the Commission by third parties. In compliance with Article 4(4) of the Transparency Regulation (Regulation 1049/2001) we are consulting them whether they agree with potential disclosure of these documents. You will receive by 19 August a separate letter which will inform you about the results of our consultation and our decision on disclosure. Please accept apologies for the delay in replying with regard to these documents.

Yours faithfully,

P. J

François Wakenhut

Julie Raynal

