



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Trade

The Director General

Brussels,

***By registered letter with
acknowledgment of receipt***

Lora Verheecke
Friends of the Earth Europe
Rue d'Edimbourg 26
1050 Bruxelles

Advance copy by email:
ask+request-6302-2d6c15a2@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem 2019/400

Dear Ms Verheecke,

I refer to your e-mail dated 22 January 2019 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 23 January 2019 under the above-mentioned reference number.

The idea of creating an EU-ASEAN working group on issues related to palm oil was launched at the EU-ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meeting of 21 January 2019. As the group has not yet been formed and the process of its creation leading by EEAS is still ongoing, DG TRADE is not in possession of any document related to the working procedures, participants, frequency, expected objectives of such group or minutes (since no meetings have been held).

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution. Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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 Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Luc DEMARTY