EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES

The Director-General

Brussels, GROW/03/LB

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt:

Mr Bram Vranken Vredesactie Patriottenstraat 27, 2600 Berchem Belgium

Advance copy by email: ask+request-7412-283ea1d4@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/6092

Dear Mr Vranken.

I refer to the request for access to documents, which you have sent via the AsktheEU.org website and which was registered on 25/10/2019 under the above mentioned reference number.

You requested access to "- All documents -including but not limited- to e-mails, minutes, reports, etc. - relating to meetings with representatives of individual companies, including lobby consultancies and law firms, and/or industry associations on the establishment of DG Defence Industry and Space.

- all correspondence (including emails) between DG Growth officials and/or representatives (including the Commissioner and the Cabinet) and representatives of individual companies (including lobby consultancies and law firms) and/or industry associations, relating to the establishment of the DG Defence Industry and Space."

In response to your request I would like to clarify that the Commission does not discuss its institutional or organisational matters with external stakeholders.

I can confirm you that, to date, the Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) including the Commissioner and the Cabinet, has not held any meetings with representatives of individual companies, including lobby consultancies and law firms, and/or industry associations on the establishment of the DG Defence Industry and Space.

In accordance with Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access to documents of the institutions applies only to existing documents in the possession of an institution. Based on above, I regret to inform you that DG GROW does not possess any

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document containing the requested information. Therefore, DG GROW is not in a position to fulfil your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 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 Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents' BERL 7/076 B-1049 Bruxelles, or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

e-signed Timo PESONEN