Brussels SG.D.1/AW

Nienke Palstra, Global Witness, Rue Belliard 53, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgique

<u>ask+request-11314-</u> 3e810685@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam.

## **Subject:** Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2022/3013

We refer to your application for access to documents, which was registered on 25/05/2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to 'All documents—including but not limited to correspondence, emails, minutes, notes (hand written or electronic), audio or video recordings, verbatim reports, operational conclusions, lines to take, briefings, and presentations—related to the meeting on 2022-03-30 between Ursula von der Leyen and Google.'

Your application concerns the following documents:

- 1. Ares(2002)1515298 Meeting request Google with President von der Leyen \_Redacted
- 2. Ares(2022)2605155 email\_Redacted
- 3. Ares(2022)2605155 Thank you letter from Google for the meeting in Brussels Redacted
- 4. Ares(2022)3938580 Short notes of meeting with President vdL and Google on 30 March 2022\_Redacted.

A complete disclosure of these documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation (Regulation 2018/1725) does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is

no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you neither express any particular interest to have access to these personal data, nor put forward arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

Please note that document 3, originating from a third party, is disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released document without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on it. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from its reuse.

Please also note that the note of meeting in document 4 was drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant services of the European Commission. It solely reflects the author's interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the document refers, which were not consulted on its content. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

In case you would disagree with this position, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to submit 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 Brussels, or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,

Click or tap here to enter text.

Elisa Roller Director

Enclosure: disclosed documents