Brussels, SF/WS

Mr. V. Harmsen Rue Auguste Lambiotte 39-1 1030 Schaerbeek Belgium

Per email: <u>ask+request-3193-</u> 202b3943@asktheeu.org

Dear Sir,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2016/4449

We refer to your e-mail dated 05/08/2016 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 08/08/2016 under the above mentioned reference number.

You request the following documents: "All correspondence (including emails), agendas, minutes of meetings or any other reports of such meetings where the (drafting of the) scientific criteria for the determination of endocrine disrupting properties was/were (explicitly or implicitly) discussed/mentioned between officials of Secretariat General and officials/representatives of the following third parties: US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Agriculture, Office of the US Trade Representative, United States Mission to the European Union, US Mission to the WTO, or the US government in general (between March 2016 and July 2016). When 'officials' are mentioned in this request this includes the Commission President and his Cabinet members."

We regret to inform you that no documents were found that would correspond to the description given in your application.

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 have been identified, the Commission is not in a position to handle 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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address: European Commission, Secretary-General, Transparency unit SG-B-4, BERL 5/282, B-1049 Brussels; or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,