

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Secretariat-General

Directorate E - Policy Co-ordination II
SG.E.1-Citizens and Security

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SG/E1/WS/SF/lb

Ms. N. Holland
Corporate Europe Observatory
Rue d'Edimbourg 26
BE-1050 Brussels

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Advance copy by email: ask+request-2726-e321ace6@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2016/1577 – holding reply

We refer to your e-mail dated 25/03/2016 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 30/03/2016 under the above mentioned reference number.

You request access to the following documents:

"From the office of the Vice-President of the European Commission Jyrki Katainen (the Vice-President, his team, staff members) documents which contain the following information:

Any documents since January 1st 2015, including briefings, reports, correspondence (email or other), and a list of meetings (also since January 1st 2015) with detailed minutes and any other reports of such meetings, concerning the regulation of new plantbreeding within the EU.


Any documents since January 1st 2015 including briefings, reports, correspondence (email or other), and a list of meetings (also since January 1st 2015) with detailed minutes and any other reports of such meetings, concerning the policy process the European Commission is considering to to determine the regulatory status of new plant breeding techniques in the EU.

Of particular interest are any documents (as listed above) received from and responding to new plant breeding developers and their representatives, including but not limited to: Europabio, the New Breeding Techniques Platform, the US Mission to the EU, the Biotechnology Industry Organisation, the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO), CropLife, the European Seed Association, lobby consultancies (such as Schuttelaar & Partners) and individual companies and research institutions.

By new plant breeding methods, we mean those techniques that were the subject of the New Techniques Working Group report (2012) and the subject of various reports by the JRC."

Your application is currently being dealt with. However, we will not be in a position to reply within the time limit of 15 working days, which expires on 20/04/2016 as not all documents are held by the Secretariat-General and we will need to check with the relevant cabinets. Moreover, (part of) the documents requested may originate from third parties which have to be consulted. We will therefore extend the time limit by 15 working days in accordance with Article 7(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents. This new time limit expires on 17/05/2016.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Sleath', followed by a horizontal line.

William SLEATH
Head of Unit