## **EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE**



**Head of Division** 

Brussels, 3 August 2016 eeas.sg.affgen.2 (2016) 4569610

Mr Evert-Jan Brouwer Coordination Europe-Haiti

Subject: Your request for access to documents

Our ref: 2016/068

Dear Mr Brouwer,

Thank you for your requests for access to documents addressed to the EEAS, which we have examined in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. We note that your email, dated 13 July, contains several separate requests:

- 1. We first treated your request of documents containing information about the official EU Decision to send an EU Electoral Observation Mission (EOM) to Haiti for the election process 2015-2016. Such decision is under the prerogative of the HR/VP, who took the decision regarding Haiti on 5 June 2015, on the basis of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Program of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights for Election Observation. You will find the Implementing Decision and its Annex attached to this letter.
- 2. You also requested the documents relating to the EU EOM in Haiti which the EEAS has shared with the European Parliament. These documents originate from the Electoral Observation Mission, which is independent from the European institutions. Since the EEAS holds these documents, we consulted the originator on the possibility to disclose the content of their documents. Such consultation is mandatory pursuant to Article 4(4) of Regulation 1049/2001. We regret to inform you that the Mission replied that their documents contain internal reporting on developing issues, which are not for public circulation. In the absence of consent from the third party concerned, EEAS is not in a position to make their documents public.
- 3. Concerning your requests of access to the documents showing i. the official budget, as well as ii. the extra expenditures of the EU EOM in Haiti, we would like to inform you that the

European Commission (Foreign Policy Instrument 5, FPI5) is in lead of all budgetary issues related to the EU Electoral Observation Missions, including the one in Haiti.

4. Regarding access to the official EU Decision to give support to the elections in Haiti via the *United Nations Development Program*, the European Commission (DG DEVCO) is in lead of all issues related to the EU electoral assistance provided to third countries.

The last two requests above should therefore be addressed to the European Commission.

The EEAS takes this opportunity to indicate that the conclusions of the EU EOM in Haiti on different stages of the electoral process, as well as several other EOM documents and press releases, are published on the Mission's website www.eueom.eu/haiti2015.

Rafael Daerr

acting Head of Division

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