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|  | Brussels, 20 December 2016 |
| Mr Sean Defoe  Email: ask+request-3571-8f28923f@asktheeu.org | |
| Ref. 16/2311-ws/mf  Request made on: 18.11.2016  Deadline extension: 09.12.2016 | |
| Dear Mr Defoe, | |

Thank you for your request for access to documents of the Council of the European Union ("Communication with Irish Finance Department").[[1]](#footnote-1)

No communication has taken place between the Council and the Irish Finance Department specifically on Ireland's corporate tax rate since November 2015.

In more general terms, issues concerning an effective level of taxation have been discussed at the ECOFIN Council meeting of 25 May 2016, where also Ireland took the floor. You may want to consult the video of the meeting at the following address:

<http://video.consilium.europa.eu/en/webcast/de6daeb5-2654-44bf-bc27-56addb13d6ad>

The Commission had prepared a statement on this issue, which can be found in room document # 4 (enclosed), but which was finally not formally made.

Other than that, the General Secretariat of the Council has not identified any documents related to the subject matter of your request.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando PAULINO PEREIRA

Enclosure

1. The General Secretariat of the Council has examined your request on the basis of the applicable rules: Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43) and the specific provisions concerning public access to Council documents set out in Annex II to the Council's Rules of Procedure (Council Decision No 2009/937/EU, OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)