EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT Directorate B - Circular Economy & Green Growth ENV.B.2 - Sustainable Chemicals

Brussels, ENV.B.2/CCN/np

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Mr Vincent Harmsen c/o Simon de Bergeyck Rue au Bois 216 1150 Brussels Belgium

Advance copy by email:

Dear Sir,

Subject: Your application for access to documents: Ref GestDem No 2017 – 0052

We refer to your e-mail dated 22/12/2016 in which you make a request for access to documents registered under the above mentioned reference number and our holding reply Ref. Ares(2017)353973 - 23/01/2017.

You requested access to:

"...-on the topic of endocrine disrupters (also spelled: disruptors), all correspondence (including emails), agendas, phone logs, minutes of meetings or any other reports of such meetings between officials of DG ENV and officials the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), between October 2015 and December 22th 2016.

When 'officials' are mentioned in this request this includes the Commissioner and his Cabinet members."

We have identified the following documents:

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111 Office: BU-9 05/147 - Tel. direct line +32 229-65015

- 1. E-mail from ENV to US EPA, amongst others addressees, of 05/10/2015 on US-EU workshop on EDs: updated agenda + link to the webinar to follow the workshop remotely;
- 2. Attachment: Draft Agenda (provided already in our reply to you with number GESTDEM 2016-709);
- 3. E-mail from US EPA to ENV of 11/04/2016 on Fwd: Proposed workshop on Advancing 21st Century Risk Assessment.

Please note that documents originating from third parties are disclosed for information only and cannot be re-used without the agreement of the originator, who holds a copyright on them. They do not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

In addition, some of the documents to which you have requested access contain personal data.

Pursuant to Article 4(1) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with Community legislation regarding the protection of personal data. The applicable legislation in this field is Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data .

When access is requested to documents containing personal data, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 becomes fully applicable.

According to Article 8(b) of this Regulation, personal data shall only be transferred to recipients if they establish the necessity of having the data transferred to them and if there is no reason to assume that the legitimate rights of the persons concerned might be prejudiced.

We consider that, with the information available, the necessity of disclosing the aforementioned personal data to you has not been established and/or that it cannot be assumed that such disclosure would not prejudice the legitimate rights of the persons concerned. Therefore, we are disclosing the documents requested expunged from this personal data.

In case you would disagree with the assessment that the expunged data are personal data which can only be disclosed if such disclosure is legitimate under the rules of personal data protection, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, 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 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,

Bjorn Hansen Head of Unit