



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Trade

The Director General

Brussels
trade.dga2.f.3(2017)5647786

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Max Bank
LobbyControl
Am Justizzentrum 7
D-50939 Cologne
Germany

Advance copy by email :

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXX.XXX

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2017/5341

Dear Mr Bank,

We refer to your e-mail dated 15 September 2017 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 15 September 2017 under the above-mentioned reference number.

In your request, you asked for access to:

- "1) a list of meetings of DG Trade officials and/or representatives (including the Commissioner and the Cabinet) and Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft (Volkswagen AG) in which the Japan-EU Free Trade Agreement JEFTA, the US-EU trade relations and/or the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were discussed (between September 2015 and today, i.e. 15.09.2017);*
- 2) minutes and other reports of these meetings;*
- 3) all correspondence (including emails) between DG Trade officials and/or representatives (including the Commissioner and the Cabinet) and Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft (Volkswagen AG) in which the Japan-EU Free Trade Agreement JEFTA, the US-EU trade relations and/or the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were discussed (between September 2015 and today, i.e. 15.09.2017)."*

We understand that your request concerns individual meetings between Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft (Volkswagen AG) and DG Trade officials and/or representatives (including the Commissioner and the Cabinet) and in which the Japan-EU Free Trade Agreement JEFTA, the US-EU trade relations and/or the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were discussed, which took place between September 2015 and 15 September 2017.

We regret to inform you that DG Trade has not identified any such meeting and therefore we have not identified any documents corresponding to your request

Indeed, 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 DG Trade could not identify any such documents corresponding to the description given in your application, it 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
1049 Bruxelles

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

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]

Jean-Luc DEMARTY