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|  | Brussels, 19 June 2019 |
| Ms Maria Raimundo  E-Mail: ask+request-6868-982343d8@asktheeu.org | |
| Ref. 19/1126-vl/ns  Request made on: 01.05.2019  Registered on: 02.05.2019  Deadline extension: 24.05.2019 | |
| Dear Ms Raimundo, | |

Thank you for your request for access to documents of the Council of the European Union.[[1]](#footnote-1)

As a reminder, you asked access to documents containing the following information:

"1. EU/ Angola; EU/Mozambique; EU/Guinea-Bissau; EU/Congo discussions in terms of latest trade, and aid and development

2. EU/Angola election observation mission to Angola in 2008 (EU Election Observation Mission (EOM) - EU observing Angolan elections)

3. EU/Angola/Mozambique energy questions discussions

4. EU election observation mission to Mozambique in 2019 (EU Election Observation Mission (EOM) - EU observing Mozambican elections) discussions

5. EU/Angola/Mozambique Annual action programme (PAANE Programme) discussions

6. EU/Mozambique Idai Cyclone discussions

7. EU /Mozambique discussions in DIPECHO

8. EU/Mozambique Peace Process discussions

9. EU SSR Guinea-Bissau

10. EU/Africa partnership discussions

11. EU/Angola/Mozambique Mundus ACP II discussions

12. EU/Congo development program (as per the Cotonou Agreement) discussions

13. EU/Congo Commercial and entrepreneurial capacity-building project (PRCCE) discussions

14. EU/Congo Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) on the voluntary partnership agreement (FLEGT-VPA) EU/Congo commitment to civil society discussions

15. EU/Congo Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) in 2011 discussions."

Your request is formulated in too general terms. For instance, the expression "discussions" is too general. In order to enable us to carry out an in-depth fruitful research within our competent policy services and central archives, we would suggest to focus on more specific topics and/or more specific meetings (i.e. Council sessions or a specific Council preparatory bodies' meetings).

Moreover, having regard to the high number of topics concerned, it would not be possible to handle your request within standard deadlines. It would also be advisable to review the list of subjects and set priorities.

Therefore, we would suggest to consult first the Council register, since several documents in which you are interested are in the public domain.

The homepage of the Council register can be reached at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/>.

In defining your query, by choosing the option "Search in the register" you could use several criteria, for example: document number, words in subject or text, subject matter, date and inter-institutional file number.

The Council's public register contains references to most Council documents since 1st January 1999 (exceptions may apply regarding classified documents), of which approximately 75% are public and available for downloading.

As an example, please find enclosed a set of relevant documents downloadable from our register focusing, among others, on the topics of your interest.

If you find a document in the register that cannot be directly downloaded (i.e. marked by a "grey" pdf icon), you may introduce a request for access by using the available electronic form, thus formulating a more precise and targeted application.

Furthermore, most of this information is handled by the Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS). Consequently we would suggest to consult their respective website, which also provide initial communications, technical information, reports, background notes, factsheets, press releases and statements. For your convenience, please find here below some suggested hyperlinks having regard to your focus themes:

* <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/angola_en>
* <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/mozambique_en>
* <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/guinea-bissau_en>
* <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/congo-republic_en>
* <https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/25853/eu-election-observation-mission-angola-2008_gl>
* <https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headQuarters-homepage/49661/eu-and-election-observation_en>
* <https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/election-observation-missions-eueoms_en/23928/EU%20Election%20Observation%20Mission%20to%20Mozambique%20in%202014>
* <https://www.welcomeurope.com/european-funds/dipecho-236+136.html#tab=onglet_details>
* <http://www.eeas.europa.eu/archives/csdp/missions-and-operations/eu-ssr-guinea-bissau/index_en.htm>
* <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/flegt.htm>
* <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-flegt/discussions/eu-and-congo-assess-progress-towards-timber-legality-verification-and-other-vpa-goals>
* <https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-releases-15-million-immediate-assistance-after-cyclone-kenneth-hits-mozambique-and-comoros_en>
* <https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/12658/reminder-fourth-joint-implementation-committee-jic-voluntary-partnership-agreement-flegt-vpa_en>

Finally, you may also wish to forward an application for application to the respective transparency services:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/service-standards-and-principles/transparency/freedom-information/access-documents_en>

<http://www.europa.eu/public-register/>

Yours sincerely,

Paulo VIDAL

Enclosures

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)