



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR TRADE

The Director-General

Brussels
TRADE/SW/E3 (2020) 5323193

*By registered letter with
acknowledgement of receipt*

Mr Rubens Carvalho
Earthsight
Willow House 3rd Floor,
London, EC2A 4NA
United Kingdom

Advance copy by email:
[ask+request-8462-
bae1e5c7@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-8462-bae1e5c7@asktheeu.org)

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2020/4885

Dear Mr Carvalho,

I refer to your request for access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001¹ ("Regulation 1049/2001") relating to information about meetings between DG TRADE and the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA). Your request has been registered under the reference number GestDem No 2020/4885.

In your request, you asked for a list of all meetings between ACEA and DG Trade officials from January 2019 to the present day. For the same period, you also requested all documents relating to meetings and/ or communications between ACEA and DG Trade officials whose subject concerned cross-sectoral supply chain due diligence obligations in relation to human rights and environmental impacts.

Regarding the first part of your request, the relevant information is stored in the database Events Management Tool (EMT), which is an electronic tool for keeping track of

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

meetings of Commission officials with external stakeholders. The data range concerned was therefore extracted from the EMT by means of a search operation using the search tools available.

Please find below (see table 1) a list containing the meetings that took place between ACEA and DG TRADE officials in the period 1 January 2019 – 31 August 2020.

Table 1: List of meetings between DG TRADE and ACEA, 1 Jan 2019 – 31 Aug 2020

Meeting ID	Meeting date/time	Meeting Topic	Organisations
TRADE/1626	24-06-2020 15:30	Meeting with ACEA on Trade Policy Review	ACEA
TRADE/1562	01-04-2020 14:00	Discussion on the position of the Commission on ROO and regulatory in the UK context	ACEA
TRADE/1366	17-01-2020 16:00	Challenges for the car sector / industrial policy, EU-US trade relations	ACEA
TRADE/1260	15-11-2019 15:15	EU-US trade issues	ACEA
TRADE/1217	15-10-2019 17:30	Trade issues from the perspective of the automobile industry, and in particular the EU-US trade relations, the Mercosur Trade Agreement, the Steel Safeguard Review	ACEA
TRADE/1129	10-09-2019 10:00	Korean automotive market	ACEA
TRADE/989	04-04-2019 10:00	Evaluation of the Expert Group on EU Trade Agreements	ACEA
TRADE/928	17-05-2019 10:00	US Presidential proclamation on Section 232 Investigation on cars; EU-US regulatory cooperation	ACEA
TRADE/833	15-03-2019 11:30	EU-US trade issues	ACEA
TRADE/767	12-02-2019 11:30	EU-US trade issues	ACEA
TRADE/723	08-01-2019 10:00	Steel safeguard and EU-Mercosur negotiations	ACEA

Please note that none of these meetings concerned directly or indirectly the issue of cross-sectoral supply chain due diligence obligations.

Letters and other forms of written correspondence to and from third parties (e.g. electronic messages) are stored in the Commission's electronic registry – ARES. A search operation performed in ARES resulted in no written correspondence found between DG TRADE and ACEA on the issue of cross-sectoral supply chain due diligence obligations in the period 1 January 2019 – 31 August 2020. Therefore, the Commission has concluded that there are no documents corresponding to the second part of your request.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil the second part of your request.

Please be informed that the information provided in this letter may not be copied or reproduced for commercial purposes without prior consultation with the European Commission.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 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 Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels

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

Yours faithfully,



Sabine WEYAND