Directorate D - Twin Transition, Economic & Social Affairs The Director

Brussels SG.D/EW

Mrs Belen Balanya Corporate Europe Observatory Rue d'Edimbourg 26 1050 Brussels

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Dear Mrs Balanya,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2021/3554

We refer to your e-mail dated 31 May 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 1 June under the abovementioned reference number.

You requested access to the following documents: '(i) all correspondence between 1 January 2021 and 31 May 2021 between Commissioner Timmermans, President van der Leyen, and/or their cabinets and/or officials from DG Clima and Secretariat-General on one hand and representatives of Shell, BP, Total, ENI, Repsol, Galp and/or Equinor on the other, where the issues of COP26 and/or net-zero emissions were addressed, (ii) list of meetings/videocalls/calls between 1 January 2021 and 31 May 2021 between officials and/or representatives of the European Commission and representatives of Shell, BP, Total, ENI, Repsol, Galp and/or Equinor on the other, where the issues of COP26 and/or net-zero emissions were addressed and (iii) minutes of the meetings/videocalls/calls mentioned above'. The Commission understands your request under point (ii) to refer to the same officials and/or representatives of the European Commission as mentioned under point (i).

This reply addresses the elements in your request falling under the responsibility of the Secretariat-General, i.e. the correspondence, meetings/videocalls/calls with the President von der Leyen, her cabinet and officials of the Secretariat-General and their related minutes.

The other elements of your request are addressed in a separate reply.

As for contacts involving President von der Leyen, her cabinet and officials of the Secretariat-General, the Secretariat-General does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description in 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 and involving the President von der Leyen, her cabinet and officials of the Secretariat-General, are held, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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 of 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 unit (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/242
B-1049 Bruxelles

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

Yours sincerely,

e-signed

Elisabeth WERNER (acting) Director