



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT

The Director-General

Brussels,
ENV.D.2/AK/fb Ares(2022)

Ms Rebecca Vaughan
1 Long Lane
London SE1 4PG
United Kingdom

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2022/0563

Dear Ms Vaughan,

We refer to your e-mail of 25 January 2022 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 26 January 2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

We regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application:

- 1) Correspondence, including emails, sent and received since 01/01/2021, between DG ENV Unit D2 and external industry representatives relating to "COP15" and/or the "Convention on Biological Diversity";
- 2) Meetings, including the meetings minutes, since 01/01/2021, between DG ENV Unit D2 external industry representatives relating to "COP15" and/or the "Convention on Biological Diversity".

My services have regular meetings with a business association under a service contract covering *inter alia* advocacy actions to promote an ambitious outcome of the COP15 discussions. However, no formal invitations and no minutes of these meetings are drafted. To our knowledge there have been no other meetings between DG ENV Unit D2 and external industry representatives on the topics mentioned in the 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 unable 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 (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels

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

Yours sincerely,

e-signed
Florika FINK-HOOIJER

c.c.: Stefan LEINER, Anna KARAMAT (ENV.D.2), Michelle ROLLO (ENV.E.4)