

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Resource management and better regulation **Better regulation**

Brussels SANTE.A.1/CF

Lora VERHEECKE 9 rue du Bronze 1070 Bruxelles Belgium

By email only: <u>ask+request-10774-</u> dfc30833@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2022/1268

We refer to your e-mail of 28 February 2022 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 2 March 2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

We also refer to our email of 23 March 2022 extending the time limit to respond to your request according to Article 7(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

1. Scope of your request

In your request, you ask, on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001¹, access to:

"All documentation (including but not limited to all email correspondence, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, transcripts, recordings and minutes/notes) relating to the meeting between Ralf Kuhne and Association Internationale de la Mutualité (AIM) on 21st February 2022".

2. Identification and assessment of documents

We have identified 4 documents falling within this part of the scope,

Having examined the documents under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, we have come to the conclusion that partial access can be granted to all of them, as their full disclosure is prevented by one of the exceptions to the right of access laid down in Article 4 of the Regulation.

We enclose a copy of the documents redacted of the parts that cannot be disclosed, as further explained below.

Please note that documents originating from third parties are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released documents without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual

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

property right on them. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

You may reuse public documents, which have been produced by the European Commission or by public and private entities on its behalf based on the <u>Commission Decision on the reuse of Commission documents</u>. You may reuse the documents disclosed free of charge and for non-commercial and commercial purposes provided that the source is acknowledged and that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the documents. Please note that the European Commission does not assume liability stemming from the reuse.

As to the summary record of a meeting with external parties, this document was drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the relevant services/officials of the Commission. It solely reflects the services'/ author's interpretation of the interventions made and does not set out any official position of the third parties to which the document refers, which were not consulted on its content. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

3. Reason for partial disclosure

Protection of the privacy and integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with Community legislation regarding the protection of personal data - Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

A complete disclosure of the mentioned documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons;
- handwritten signatures/abbreviated signatures of natural persons;
- other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person including their job titles.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you do not put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, we conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

In accordance with the above mentioned, partial access is granted to the mentioned documents, expunged of personal data.

4. Means of redress

In case you would disagree with this position, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to submit 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
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels, or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Carmen GARAU Head of Unit

Enclosure: List of documents and disclosed documents.