Dear Ms Eberhardt,

Subject: Your request for access to documents - 2014/175

Thank you for your request for access to documents dated 12 December, 2014, and registered the same day in the EEAS registry for access to documents requests under reference 2014/175.

We have examined your request in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (hereafter the "Regulation"), which is applicable to the EEAS pursuant to Article 11(1) of Council Decision 2010/427/UE of 26 July 2010 establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service.

We understand from your request that you wanted access to documents which contain the following information from the EU Delegation in Washington:

1. Minutes and other reports of the meetings of the trade counsellors in Washington (between 21 June 2013 and the date of your request);

2. A list of meetings of staff in the Washington delegation with individual companies, industry associations, law firms, think tanks and lobby consultancies in which the TTIP negotiations were discussed (between 21 June 2013 and the date of your request);

3. Minutes and other reports of these meetings.

As regards (1), we have provided you with a list of the meetings on December 19th, 2014. Although there were no minutes or reports of such meetings, we have prepared the list to respond to your request as a matter of good administrative practice. In earlier years, the Delegation had prepared reports of such meetings but this has been discontinued due to a lack of resources.
As regards (2) and (3), we have identified 22 documents that match your request. You will find in Annex a list of the documents together with a justification of the parts from those documents which have been withheld in accordance to exceptions laid out in the Regulation.

We are pleased to transmit to you the 22 documents redacted in line with the above mentioned justification.

Please note that the reference to Art. 4.1.b in the "reason" column of the attached list concerns the personal data of the people taking part in the meetings concerned. They have been redacted to protect the "privacy and the integrity of the individual" as provided under Art. 4.1.b of the Regulation.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed you may write to the EEAS at the address below, confirming your initial request. You have fifteen working days in which to do so from receipt of this letter, after which your initial request will be deemed to have been satisfied.

The EEAS would inform you of the result of this review within fifteen working days from the registration of your request, either granting you access to the documents or confirming the refusal. In the latter case, you would be informed of how you can take further action.

All correspondence should be sent to the following address:

The European External Action Service
EEAS, Office PARC 01/278
B- 1046 Brussels
access-to-documents@eeas.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Claude Maerten