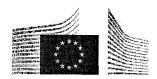
## List of documents Initial request Ms Vicky Cann (CEO) 2015/562- Post-mandate activities Ms Damanaki

Scope of the request: "...Further to Gestdem 2014-6009, I am requesting copies of all applications and accompanying materials made by ex-Commissioner Maria Damanaki for new professional activities including to work for The Nature Conservancy and any other applications for authorisation which she has made for new professional activities under the commissioner code of conduct. I would further like to request any emails, correspondence and meeting notes which relate to these applications; all opinions from the ad hoc ethical committee on each case; and the Commission decision(s)."

Document	Description and references	Status
Ms Damanaki		
1 E-mail of Ms Damanaki of 26.11.2014 Notification Ref. Ares(2014)3952332	E-mail of Ms Damanaki to Ms Day — Authorisation request to enter The Nature Conservancy for Oceans	Extension of delay  Third party consultation ongoing
2. Letter of 28.11.2014 Ref. Ares(2014)3979818	Letter of Ms Day to Ms Damanaki requesting complementary information on the envisaged activity in "The Nature Conservancy for Oceans"	Partial Access – E-mail of former Commissioner deleted
3. E-mail of 02.12.2014 of Ms Damanaki Complementary information	E-mail of Ms Damanaki to Ms Day —Authorisation request to enter "The Nature Conservancy"	Extension of delay  Third party consultation ongoing

Ref. Ares(2014)4023468		
4. Note of 5.12.2014 of Ms Day to the members of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee		Full disclosure of cover note
Ref. Ares(2014)4081609		Attachments possible disclosure is linked to the reply of the third party to the consultation
5. E-mail of 11.12.2014 of Mr Van der Pas (member of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee)	E-mail to Ms Day requesting complementary information on the envisaged activity in "The Nature Conservancy"	Partial disclosure (E-mails of committee members and names and e-mails of officials deleted – Exception in Article 4(1) letter b))
Ref. Ares(2014)4182531		Additional deleted sentence is out of the scope
6. Letter of 16 December 2014 to Ms Damanki Ref. Ares (2014)4233446	Letter of Ms Day to Ms Damanaki requesting complementary information on the envisaged activity in "The Nature Conservancy"	Partial Disclosure— E-mail of former Commissioner deleted
7. E-mail of 17.12.2014 of Ms Damanaki Ref. Ares(2014)4271810	E-mail forwarding complementary information on "The Nature Conservancy"	Extension of delay  Third party consultation ongoing
8. Note of Ms Day to the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee of 19.12.2014  Ref. Ares(2014)4297194	Note of Ms Day to the members of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee forwarding the complementary information provided by Ms Damanaki;	Full disclosure cover note  Attachments possible disclosure is linked to the reply of the third party to the consultation
9. E-mail of 08.01.2015	Opinion of the Ad Hoc Ethical Committee of 8 January 2015	Partial disclosure of cover e-mail (Name of Commission's official deleted - Exception in Article

Ref. Ares(2015)59143		4(1) letter b))	
10. LS Consultation [Ref. Ares (2015)67233 and Ref. Ares(2015)]108828]	E-mail of SG of 08.01.2015 and reply of the LS of 09.01.2015	Partial disclosure of cover e-mails (Names and e-mails of Commission's officials deleted - Exception in Article 4(1) letter b))  Full disclosure of draft decision	
11. Commission decision C(2015) 99 of 12 January 2015	Activités après cessation de fonction d'un membre de la Commission- Communication de M le Président – OJ 2111 Commission Decision C(2015)99 of 12.01.2015	Full disclosure	
12. PV (2015) 2111 of 13 January 2015	Decision of 13 January 2015	Public Document (copy not enclosed)	
13. Letter of Ms Day to Ms Damanaki of 13.01.2015 Ref. Ares(2015)132028	Letter of 13 January 2015 to Ms Damanaki informing her of the adoption of the Commission decision on the request for authorisation of post-mandate-activity	Partial disclosure cover letter;  Attachment corresponds to document n° 11 above;	
14. Note of Ms Day to Members of the Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee of 13.01.2015  Ref. Ares(2015)131083	Note of 13 January 2015 to the Members of the Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee on the Commission decision on Ms Damanaki postmandate activities;	Partial disclosure cover note-E-mail of former Commissioner deleted;  Deleted parts in the text contain information which is outside the scope of the request and does not concern former Commissioner Ms Damanaki  Attachment corresponds to document n°11 above;	



# EUROPEAN COMMISSION SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary General

# **DOCUMENT 2**

Brussels, SG/B3 Ares(2014)

Ms Maria Damanaki

By e-mail to:

Dear Ms Damanaki,

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 November 2014 whereby you informed the Commission about your intention to join "The Nature Conservancy" as from January 2015.

In view of the link between the scope of "The Nature Conservancy" and your former Commission portfolio, the Commission must request the Ad hoc Ethical Committee's opinion before it takes its own decision on the compatibility of your envisaged activity with article 245(2) of the TFEU.

Against this background, and in order to facilitate the work of the Committee and the Commission's assessment, may I ask you to provide us with additional information notably as concerns the nature of the function which you intend to take with "The Nature Conservancy" and the possible link between your envisaged activity and the Commission's policy in the field of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs.

Thank you in advance for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Day



# **DOCUMENT 4**

Brussels, **0** 5 DEC. 2014 SG/B3 Ares(2014)

Note to the Members of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee

Mr Nikolaus Van der Pas

Mr Rafael García-Valdecasas

Mr Terry Wynn

<u>Subject</u>: Former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's post-office occupation with "The Nature Conservancy"

Please find enclosed former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's e-mail of 26 November 2014 notifying the Commission about her envisaged post Commission-office occupation with "The Nature Conservancy" as well as her e-mail of 2 December 2014 in reply to my letter of 28 November 2014.

Ms Damanaki's envisaged occupation consists on taking responsibility for "The Nature Conservancy"'s marine programme. This activity presents a link with Ms Damanaki's former "Fisheries and Maritime affairs" Commission portfolio. In accordance with paragraph 1.2 of the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, may I ask you to provide the Commission with your opinion about the compatibility of this activity with article 245(2) of the TFEU.

You will find enclosed a fiche prepared by the Secretariat General providing you with the relevant information on this activity. This fiche is based on the information provided by Ms Damanaki and/or available through open sources.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Catherine Day

Encl: Ms Damanaki's e-mails of 26 November and 2 December 2014

Letter to Ms Damanaki of 28 November 2014 Fiche to the Ad hoc Ethical Committee

# DOCUMENT 5

From: SG COURRIER DAY

Sent: 12 December 2014 10:55

To: SG COURRIER DAY

Subject: FW: Ares(2014)4081609 - RE/ Former Commissioner Maria

Damanaki's post-office activities

Attachments: Annexes.pdf; note to Ad-hoc Committee.pdf

----Original Message----From: Nikolaus Van der Pas

Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2014 12:47 PM

To: DAY Catherine (SG);

; (SG)

Cc:

Subject: FW: Ares (2014) 4081609 - RE/ Former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's

post-office activities

Dear Catherine,

The Committee would like to receive more precise information about Ms Damanaki's involvement in "The Nature Conservancy" (TNC). In her first notification Ms Damanaki states " I intend to engage myself in an occupation in TNC". In reply to your question she says "I will be responsible for the marine program of TNC for Oceans". Neither reply gives an indication of what will be her position within the organization and her corresponding managerial, financial or other responsibilities. The Committee believes that these elements, as well as the question of Ms Damanaki's remuneration

) are necessary elements

to underpin its opinion.

The Committee notes Mr Damanaki's statement that the TNC "runs conservation projects around the world, albeit not in Europe". According to its own web site, the TNC is active in Europe, although this may not have materialized in specific projects. It would be helpful if Ms Damanaki's could clarify this point.

Best regard, Klaus

----Original Message----

From: EC ARES NOREPLY [mailto:DIGIT-NOREPLYARES@ec.europa.eu]

Sent: vendredi 5 décembre 2014 12:04

To: GARCIA-VALDECASAS Rafael; Wynn Terry; VAN DER PAS Nikolaus Subject: Ares(2014)4081609 - RE/ Former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's

post-office activities

Veuillez trouver ci-joint le document Ares (2014) 4081609 concernant "RE/ Former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's post-office activities" envoyé par Mme DAY Catherine le 05/12/2014.

Please find attached document Ares(2014)4081609 regarding "RE/ Former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's post-office activities" sent by Ms DAY Catherine on 05/12/2014.

Note: This e-mail was automatically generated by the European Commission's central mail registration system.

Replies by e-mail must be addressed to the original sender DAY Catherine (mailto:catherine.day@ec.europa.eu).

Remarque : Cet e-mail a été généré automatiquement par le système d'enregistrement central du

courrier de la Commission européenne.

Toute réponse éventuelle par e-mail doit être adressée à l'expéditeur en personne, à savoir DAY

Catherine (mailto:catherine.day@ec.europa.eu).



# EUROPEAN COMMISSION SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

# **DOCUMENT 6**

The Secretary General

Brussels, 1 6 DEC. 2014 SG/B3 Ares(2014)

Ms Maria Damanaki By e-mail to:

Dear Ms Damanaki,

Following your e-mail to me of 26 November 2014, my letter to you of 28 November and your reply of 2 December, the Ad hoc Ethical Committee was requested, on 5 December, to provide its opinion on the compatibility with Article 245(2) of the TFEU of your envisaged activity with "The Nature Conservancy".

The Chairman of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee wrote to me on 11 December informing me that the Committee would like to receive more precise information about your involvement with "The Nature Conservancy". In your e-mail of 2 December you explained that you intend to be responsible for the marine program of "The Nature Conservancy" for Oceans but the Committee wishes to know what will be your position within "The Nature Conservancy", what will be your corresponding managerial, financial or other responsibilities and if your activity will be, or not, remunerated.

The Committee noted your statement according to which "The Nature Conservancy" runs conservation projects around the world, albeit not in Europe. But the Committee observed that, according to its own web site, the "The Nature Conservancy" seems to be active in Europe, although this may not have materialized in specific projects. It would be helpful if you could clarify this point as well.

I thank you in advance for providing the additional information requested in order to allow the Committee to issue its opinion and the Commission to adopt its decision in due time.

In the meantime, my Services inform me that, according to "The Nature Conservancy" 's website, it was announced on 11 December that you will join "The Nature Conservancy" as Global Managing Director for Oceans. Against this background, may I suggest that you inform "The Nature Conservancy" that your assignment can only be confirmed once the Commission has decided that your envisaged activity is compatible of with article 245(2) of the TFEU.

Thank you in advanvce for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Day

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# EUROPEAN COMMISSION SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary General

## **DOCUMENT 8**

Brussels, 1 9 DEC. 2014 SG/B3 Ares(2014)

Note to the Members of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee

Mr Nikolaus Van der Pas

Mr Rafael García-Valdecasas

Mr Terry Wynn

<u>Subject</u>: Additional information requested from Ms Damanaki regarding her envisaged occupation with "The Nature Conservancy"

Following Nikolaus Van der Pas' e-mail to me of 11 December 2014 (12h47), I sent, on 16 December, the enclosed letter to Ms Damanaki, asking her for the additional information requested by the Ad hoc Ethical Committee in order to provide the Commission with its opinion on the compatibility of Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity with "The Nature Conservancy" with article 245(2) of the TFEU.

Ms Damanaki replied to my letter by e-mail of 17 December here attached. Ms Damanaki replies to your questions on her position within "The Nature Conservancy" and on the presence of "The Nature Conservancy" in Europe.

As concerns the question of remuneration, Ms Damanaki confirmed that her envisaged activity will be remunerated and that she will inform the Paymaster's Office about the precise amount she will receive, in view of the calculation of the amount of the transitional allowance to which she is entitled according to Article 7 of Council Regulation 422/67/CE.

The information provided by Ms Damanaki will hopefully enable the Committee to provide its opinion, in line with section 1.2 of the Code of Conduct for Commissioners.

Thank you once again for your co-operation.

Catherine Day

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Encl: My letter to Ms Damanaki of 16 December 2014 Ms Damanaki's e-mail of 17 December 2014 Catherine DAY, Secretary General of the European Commission

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**Subject:** Request from the European Commission of 5 December 2014, Ares(2014)4081609, regarding former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's intention to accept the invitation to become, as "Global Managing Director for Oceans", responsible for the marine programme of The Nature Conservancy for Oceans.

- 1. The Committee has examined the Commission's request mentioned above and the accompanying information provided by Ms Damanaki and by the Commission itself.
- 2. According to Ms Damanaki's notification (email of 26 November) "the Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a non-profit global organization for nature conservation. The TNC aims at achieving results by management of great areas in land and sea. It is mainly focused on implementing policies for environmental protection. It runs conservation projects around the world, albeit not in Europe". In her supplementary information (email of 17 December), Ms Damanaki specifies that "The TNC prioritizes its presence in the so-called third world. But even there, TNC carries out and implements conservation policies. They do not lobby the local governments in any kind of way. They create and run protected areas in land and water. As to the European presence of the organization, mentioned on the TNC's web site, Ms Damanaki specifies that "These are hubs for public presence and information only and they are not running conservation projects in Europe in any sense."
- 3. According to her information Ms Damanaki has been invited by TNC to serve as a remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans. I will be responsible for supervising the marine projects worldwide. The list of projects I am going to run, I have already included in my previous email." The Committee notes that none of these projects are in Europe.
- 4. The Committee concludes from the information at its disposal that Ms Damanaki will be a remunerated employee of the TNC and not a member of its governing and financial structures. The Committee therefore sees no reasons to assume incompatibility between Ms Damanaki's planned post-office activities and her former Commission mandate, the more so as the TNC is a non-profit organization, supporting and implementing conservation and development policies that respond to European and worldwide concerns.
- 5. Although none of the TNC projects is directly related to Europe, the Committee observes that the EU is strongly involved in international maritime and fisheries policies, including their relationship with developments policies. The Committee also

assumes that, as a remunerated Managing Director, Ms Damanaki may be called upon to support TNC fund raising efforts. Should this happen Ms Damanaki must be aware of, and fully respect, the obligations arising from the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, and in particular abstain from any activity, in particular lobbying, in all relevant areas.

#### Opinion:

The Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee is of the opinion that Ms Maria Damanaki's acceptance of the invitations to become the remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans" of The Nature Conservancy for Oceans is compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the TFEU.

Nikolaus van der Pas Rafael Garcia-Valdecasas Terry Wynn

Date: 26 December 2014

From:

(SG)

**DOCUMENT 10** 

Sent: To:

Thursday 8 January 2015 16:34

(SJ)

Cc: Subject:

(SG): (SG); URGENT: Projet de décision de la Commission concernant l'activité après cessation de

fonctions de Mme Damanaki

**Attachments:** 

E-mail de Mme Damanaki à CD du 26.11.2014.pdf; Note CD à Mme Damanaki du 28.11.2014 demandant des infos complémentaires pdf; E-mail de Mme Damanaki à CD du 02.12.2014.pdf; Note CD (texte) Consultation Cadhoc 5.12.2014 The Nature Conservancy pdf; Note CD (annexes) Consultation Cadhoc 5.12.2014 The Nature Conservancy.pdf; E-mail NvdP a CD 12.12.2014 Infos complémentaires The Nature Conseervancy.pdf; Lettre de CD à Mme Damanaki du 16.12.2014.pdf; E-mail Mme Damanaki à CD du 17.12.2014.pdf; Note CD au Cadhoc 19.12 2014 suivi E mail de Mme Damanaki du 17.12.2014.pdf; Avis (contenu) Cadhoc The Nature Conservancy 26.12.2014.pdf; Avis (couverture) Cadhoc The Nature Conservancy 26.12.2014.pdf; Draft

Décision Mme Damanaki The Nature Conservancy.doc

#### Chère

Tu trouveras ci-joint un projet de Décision de la Commission, que nous souhaiterions également inscrire à l'ordre du jour de la prochaine réunion de la Commission (mardi 13 janvier) sur l'activité après cessation de fonctions de Mme Damanaki en tant que "Global Managing Director for Oceans" au sein de "The Nature Conservancy".

Le projet de décision est la dernière pièce jointe.

Tous les précédents sont également annexés, à savoir (dans l'ordre):

- E-mail de Mme Damanaki à la Secrétaire générale du 26 novembre
- Lettre de la Secrétaire générale à Mme Damanaki du 28 novembre demandant des informations complémentaires
- Réponse de Mme Damanaki du 2 Décembre
- Note de la Secrétaire générale au Comité éthique ad hoc du 5 décembre demandant son avis sur l'activité
- E-mail du Président Comité éthique ad hoc à la Secrétaire générale du 11 décembre sollicitant des informations complémentaires
- Lettre de la Secrétaire générale à Mme Damanaki du 16 décembre lui demandant les informations complémentaires souhaitées par le Comité éthique ad hoc
- Réponse de Mme Damanaki du 17 Décembre
- Note de la Secrétaire générale au Comité éthique ad hoc du 19 décembre transmettant les informations complémentaires communiquées par Mme Damanaki
- Avis du Comité éthique ad hoc du 26 décembre

Comme d'habitude, cette consultation est également envoyée par ARES

Merci d'avance de ta coopération: La réponse du SJ est attendue pour demain à 15 H au plus tard pour que le document puisse aller à la réunion hebdo de lundi12 janvier matin.

From: Sent:

EC-NOTIS-SERVICE-NOREPLY@ec.europa.eu

To:

Monday 12 January 2015 13:06

SG)

Ares: New Document - sj.f(2015)114628/Title: Avis du SJ - Projet de décision de la Subject: Commission concernant l'activité après cessation de fonctions de Mme Damanaki

You received a new document:	My Documents	
Title	Avis du SJ - Projet de décision de la Commission concernant l'activité après cessation de fonctions de Mme Damanaki	
Recipient(s)		
Sent by	(SJ.F)	
Save number	sj.f(2015)114628	
Registration number	Ares(2015)108828	
Document date	08/01/2015	
Registration date	12/01/2015	
Sensitivity level	Handling restriction	
Marking information	Opinion of the Legal Service	
Comment(s)	Vous trouverez ci-joint quelques remarques sur le projet de décision. Je suis d'accord sur l'approche générale. Bien à vous,	
Attachment(s)	Modifs_IMP_Draft Décision Mme Damanaki The Nature Conservancy (2).doc	

Remark: the hyperlinks work only from the Commission's computer network. If you want to access Ares via the Internet or the scientific network (JRC), use the following link: <a href="https://myremote.ec.europa.eu/app/">https://myremote.ec.europa.eu/app/</a> The EEAS staff located in the KO buildings will have to connect to ARES by using the following link:http://intracomm.ec.testa.eu/Ares

Please click on 'Preferences' in Notis Web interface <a href="http://www.cc.cec/notis">http://www.cc.cec/notis</a> to set your notification options, including preferred language.

#### MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE COMMISSION

According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the members of the Commission give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.

Further to this Treaty provision, the Code of Conduct for Commissioners (C (2011) 2904 final) establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned occupations which former Commissioners intend to take up during the eighteen months after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the nature of the planned occupation and, if the activity is related to the content of the Commissioner's portfolio, it shall seek the opinion of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee.

On 26 November 2014, former Commissioner Maria Damanaki informed the Commision about her intention to engage in an occupation with "The Nature Conservancy". On 2 December, in reply to the Secretary General's letter of 28 November, Ms Damanaki explained that her envisaged function consists on taking responsibility for "The Nature Conservancy" 's marine programme. On 17 December, Ms Damanaki further informed that the post is that of Global Managing Director for oceans and that this activity will be remunerated.

"The Nature Conservancy" is a not-for-profit global organisation for nature conservation, based in Washington, DC, USA. It presents itself as the leading conservation organisation working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. It aims at achieving results by management of great areas in land and sea. It is mainly focussed on implementing policies for environmental protection. It runs conservation projects around the world, but not in Europe.

Its marine program includes diverse projects such as restoring coastal habitats, recovery act restoration projects, helping people and marine life adapt to climate change and developing better approaches to fisheries, expanding ocean protection and improving management.

Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity presents a link with her former "Fisheries and Maritime affairs" Commission portfolio. In accordance with section 1.2 of the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, the Ad hoc Ethical Committee was therefore requested, on 5 December, to provide its opinion on this activity.

The Committee delivered its opinion on 26 December. Based upon the information provided by Ms Damanaki, the Committee considered the nature of "The Nature Conservancy" and the kind of conservation projects it carries out and implements, prioritising its presence in developing countries, without lobbying local governments in any kind of way. The Committee took note of the scope of "The Nature Conservancy"'s action in Europe, confined to holding hubs for public presence and information, without running conservation projects in Europe. The Committee also noted that Ms Damanaki will serve as a remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans", supervising "The Nature Conservancy"'s marine projects worldwide (a list of which was contained in the information provided by Ms Damanaki). The Committee underlined that none of these projects are in Europe.

From: Sent:

To:

Friday 9 January 2015 16:13

(SG)

I (SJ)

Cc:

Subject:

(SG)

Draft Décision Mme Damanaki The Nature Conservancy



**Draft Décision** Mme Damanaki ...

Chers collègues,

Vous trouverez ci-joint quelques remarques sur le projet de décision. Je suis d'accord sur l'approche générale.

Bien à vous,

#### MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE COMMISSION

According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the members of the Commission give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.

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Its marine program includes diverse projects such as restoring coastal habitats, recovery act restoration projects, helping people and marine life adapt to climate change and developing better approaches to fisheries, expanding ocean protection and improving management.

Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity presents a link with her former "Fisheries and Maritime affairs" Commission portfolio. In accordance with <a href="section-paragraph">section-paragraph</a> 1.2 of the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, the Ad hoc Ethical Committee was therefore requested, on 5 December, to provide its opinion on this activity.

The Committee delivered its opinion on 26 December. Based upon the information provided by Ms Damanaki, the Committee considered the nature of "The Nature Conservancy" and the kind of conservation projects it carries out and implements, prioritiszing its presence in developing countries, without lobbying local governments in any kind of way. The Committee took note of the scope of "The Nature Conservancy"'s action in Europe, confined to holding hubs for public presence and information, without running conservation projects in Europe. The Committee also noted that Ms Damanaki will serve as a remunerated "Global Managing Directors for Oceans", supervising "The Nature Conservancy"'s marine projects worldwide (a list of which was contained in the information provided by Ms Damanaki's information). The Committee underlined that

none of these projects are in Europe.

The Committee concludeds from the information at its disposal that Ms Damanaki will be a remunerated employee of the "The Nature Conservancy" and not a member of its governing and financial structures. The Committee saw therefore no reason to assume incompatibility between Ms Damanaki's planned post-termoffice activity and her former Commission mandate, the more so as the "The Nature Conservancy" is a non-profit organization, supporting and implementing conservation and development policies that respond to European and worldwide concerns.

Although none of the "The Nature Conservancy" projects is directly related to Europe, the Committee observed that the European Union is strongly involved in international maritime and fisheries policies, including their relationship with developments policies. The Committee also assumed that, as a remunerated Managing Director, Ms Damanaki may be called upon to support "The Nature Conservancy" fund raising efforts. The Committee considered that, should this happen, Ms Damanaki must be aware of, and fully respect, the obligations arising from the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, and in particular abstain from any activity, in particular lobbying, in all relevant areas.

The Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee came to the conclusion -that Ms Damanaki's acceptance of the invitation to become the remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans" of "The Nature Conservancy for Oceans" is compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the TFEU.

The Services of the Commission examined the context and the nature of Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity, as well as the <u>possible?</u> links between this organisation and the Commission's Directorate General Fisheries and Maritime affairs which was under Ms Damanaki's responsibility[<u>you don't say anything about the conclusions drawn as regards these possible links]</u>. Taking also into account the opinion delivered by the Ad hoc Ethical Committee, they considered this activity compatible with the interests of the European Union, provided that no lobbying is made towards the Commission Services, in favour of any project carried out by "The Nature Conservancy" during eighteen months after Ms Damanaki's term of office at the Commission.

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The Commission is invited:

- (1) to decide that former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's envisaged activity as Global Managing Director for Oceans within "The Nature Conservancy" is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU on the condition that Ms Damanaki refrains from any lobbying activity with the Commission on behalf of "The Nature Conservancy", for any matter presenting a link with her former Commission portfolio on Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, during the eighteen months after ceasing to hold her term of office.
- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Damanaki about the present decision and the condition contained therein.

The Committee concluded from the information at its disposal that Ms Damanaki will be a remunerated employee of the "The Nature Conservancy" and not a member of its governing and financial structures. The Committee saw therefore no reason to assume incompatibility between Ms Damanaki's planned post-term activity and her former Commission mandate, the more so as the "The Nature Conservancy" is a non-profit organization, supporting and implementing conservation and development policies that respond to European and worldwide concerns.

Although none of the "The Nature Conservancy" projects is directly related to Europe, the Committee observed that the European Union is strongly involved in international maritime and fisheries policies, including their relationship with developments policies. The Committee also assumed that, as a remunerated Managing Director, Ms Damanaki may be called upon to support "The Nature Conservancy" fund raising efforts. The Committee considered that, should this happen, Ms Damanaki must be aware of, and fully respect, the obligations arising from the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, and in particular abstain from any activity, in particular lobbying, in all relevant areas.

The Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee came to the conclusion that Ms Damanaki's acceptance of the invitation to become the remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans" of "The Nature Conservancy for Oceans" is compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the TFEU.

The Services of the Commission examined the context and the nature of Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity, as well as the possible? links between this organisation and the Commission's Directorate General Fisheries and Maritime affairs which was under Ms Damanaki's responsibility[you don't say anything about the conclusions drawn as regards these possible links]. Taking also into account the opinion delivered by the Ad hoc Ethical Committee, they considered this activity compatible with the interests of the European Union, provided that no lobbying is made towards the Commission Services in favour of any project carried out by "The Nature Conservancy" during eighteen months after Ms Damanaki's term of office at the Commission.

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- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Damanaki about the present decision and the condition contained therein.



### **COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE**

SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL

Bruxelles, le 12 janvier 2015

C(2015) 99

**COMMISSION INTERNE** 

OJ 2111

#### ACTIVITES APRES CESSATION DE FONCTION D'UN MEMBRE DE LA COMMISSION

Communication de M. le PRESIDENT

Cette question est inscrite à l'ordre du jour de la 2111ème réunion de la Commission le 13 janvier 2015.

Destinataires: Membres de la Commission

#### MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE COMMISSION

According to Article 245(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the members of the Commission give a solemn undertaking that, both during and after their term of office, they will respect the obligations arising therefrom and, in particular, their duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance, after they have ceased to hold office, of certain appointments or benefits.

Further to this Treaty provision, the Code of Conduct for Commissioners (C (2011) 2904 final) establishes a specific procedure for the assessment of planned occupations which former Commissioners intend to take up during the eighteen months after they have ceased to hold office. The Commission shall examine the nature of the planned occupation and, if the activity is related to the content of the Commissioner's portfolio, it shall seek the opinion of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee.

On 26 November 2014, former Commissioner Maria Damanaki informed the Commission about her intention to engage in an occupation with "The Nature Conservancy". On 2 December, in reply to the Secretary General's letter of 28 November, Ms Damanaki explained that her envisaged function consists on taking responsibility for "The Nature Conservancy" 's marine programme. On 17 December, Ms Damanaki further informed that the post is that of Global Managing Director for oceans and that this activity will be remunerated.

"The Nature Conservancy" is a not-for-profit global organisation for nature conservation, based in Washington, DC, USA. It presents itself as the leading conservation organisation working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. It aims at achieving results by management of great areas in land and sea. It is mainly focussed on implementing policies for environmental protection. It runs conservation projects around the world, but not in Europe.

Its marine program includes diverse projects such as restoring coastal habitats, recovery act restoration projects, helping people and marine life adapt to climate change and developing better approaches to fisheries, expanding ocean protection and improving management.

Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity presents a link with her former "Fisheries and Maritime affairs" Commission portfolio. In accordance with section 1.2 of the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, the Ad hoc Ethical Committee was therefore requested, on 5 December, to provide its opinion on this activity.

The Committee delivered its opinion on 26 December. Based upon the information provided by Ms Damanaki, the Committee considered the nature of "The Nature Conservancy" and the kind of conservation projects it carries out and implements, prioritising its presence in developing countries, without lobbying local governments in any kind of way. The Committee took note of the scope of "The Nature Conservancy"'s action in Europe, confined to holding hubs for public presence and information, without running conservation projects in Europe. The Committee also noted that Ms Damanaki will serve as a remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans", supervising "The Nature Conservancy"'s marine projects worldwide (a list of which was contained in the information provided by Ms Damanaki). The Committee underlined that none of these projects are in Europe.

The Committee concluded from the information at its disposal that Ms Damanaki will be a remunerated employee of the "The Nature Conservancy" and not a member of its governing and financial structures. The Committee saw therefore no reason to assume incompatibility between Ms Damanaki's planned post-mandate activity and her former Commission mandate, the more so as the "The Nature Conservancy" is a non-profit organization, supporting and implementing conservation and development policies that respond to European and worldwide concerns.

Although none of the "The Nature Conservancy" projects is directly related to Europe, the Committee observed that the European Union is strongly involved in international maritime and fisheries policies, including their relationship with developments policies. The Committee also assumed that, as a remunerated Managing Director, Ms Damanaki may be called upon to support "The Nature Conservancy" fund raising efforts. The Committee considered that, should this happen, Ms Damanaki must be aware of, and fully respect, the obligations arising from the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, and in particular abstain from any activity, in particular lobbying, in all relevant areas.

The Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee came to the conclusion that Ms Damanaki's acceptance of the invitation to become the remunerated "Global Managing Director for Oceans" of "The Nature Conservancy for Oceans" is compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the TFEU.

The Services of the Commission examined the context and the nature of Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity, as well as the possible links between this organisation and the Commission's Directorate General Fisheries and Maritime affairs which was under Ms Damanaki's responsibility, and noted that "The Nature Conservancy" does not benefit from any grant or contract from budget lines managed by DG MARE. Taking also into account the opinion delivered by the Ad hoc Ethical Committee, they considered this activity compatible with the interests of the European Union, provided that no lobbying is made towards the Commission and its services in favour of any project carried out by "The Nature Conservancy" during eighteen months after Ms Damanaki's term of office at the Commission.

The Commission is invited:

- (1) to decide that former Commissioner Maria Damanaki's envisaged activity as Global Managing Director for Oceans within "The Nature Conservancy" is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU on the condition that Ms Damanaki refrains from any lobbying activity with the Commission and its services on behalf of "The Nature Conservancy" for any matter presenting a link with her former Commission portfolio on Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, during the eighteen months after having ceased to hold office.
- (2) to instruct the Secretary General to inform Ms Damanaki about the present decision and the condition contained therein.

## **DOCUMENT 13**

Ref. Ares(2015)132028 - 13/01/2015



# EUROPEAN COMMISSION SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary General

Brussels, 1 3 JAN. 2015 SG/B3 Ares(2015)

Ms Maria Damanaki By e-mail to:

Dear Ms Damanaki,

I am pleased to inform you that the Commission decided, during its 2111<sup>th</sup> meeting of 13 January 2015, that your envisaged post Commission-office activity, first notified with your e-mail of 26 November 2014 (Ares(2014) 3952332), as Global Managing Director for Oceans within "The Nature Conservancy" is compatible with Article 245(2) of the TFEU on the condition that you refrain from any lobbying activity with the Commission and its Services on behalf of "The Nature Conservancy", for any matter presenting a link with your former Commission portfolio on Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, during eighteen months after having ceased to hold office.

Please find enclosed Commission Decision C(2015) 99.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Day

Cother

Encl: Commission Decision C(2015) 99

Cc: Mr Selmayr (Head of President Juncker's Private Office)

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111 Office: BERL 13/173 - Tel. direct line +32 229-58312 - Fax +32 229-93229



# EUROPEAN COMMISSION SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

The Secretary General

## **DOCUMENT 14**

Brussels, 1 3 JAN. 2015 SG/B3 Ares(2015)

# Note to the Members of the Ad-Hoc Ethical Committee Mr Nikolaus Van der Pas Mr Rafael García-Valdecasas Mr Terry Wynn

Subject:

Commission

Decisions

on

post-mandate activities

f former

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Maria Damanaki

Please find enclosed, for your information, Commission Decisions C(2015) 98 and C(2015) 99, adopted at its 2111<sup>th</sup> meeting of 13 January 2015, on former Commissioners Maria Damanaki's envisaged post Commission-office activities.

The Commission's decision on Ms Damanaki's envisaged activity takes due account of the Ad hoc Ethical Committee's opinion.

Catherine Day

Encl:

Commission Decision C(2015) 99 (Ms Damanaki)