Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2015/3451

Dear Mr. Bauer,

We refer to your message to HOME ACCESS DOCUMENTS contact mailbox of 25 June 2015, in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 25 June 2015 under the above mentioned reference number.

In your message, you request information to information campaigns conducted by the Commission in Nigeria and Ethiopia to reduce migration coming from these countries.

With regard to your request for access to documents relating to information campaigns in Nigeria, we regret to inform you that no documents were found that would correspond to the description given in your application. There are no such campaigns on-going or planned in Nigeria.

Indeed, as specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 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 have been identified, the Commission is not in a position to handle your request.

As far as your request might relate to information campaigns in Niger, as opposed to Nigeria, please see the explanation below.
With regard to your request, I wish to stress that the information campaigns in Niger and Ethiopia are, in the first place, still under final development. Secondly, they are not and will not be implemented by the European Commission directly, but rather by the International Organization on Migration (in Niger) and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (in Ethiopia). Last but not least, the aim of both campaigns is to clearly communicate and raise awareness concerning the serious risks and dangers faced by migrants attempting to reach the EU through irregular channels, including the perils of irregular sea crossings and the threats posed by smugglers and traffickers.

With regard to your request for a copy of the following documents:

- documents containing a summary of the information campaigns done in Niger and Ethiopia;
- the budget for the information campaigns;
- the Commission decision for the said campaigns;
- a roadmap / indicative timeframe for the campaigns;

Please note that this information is already publicly available; see:


With regard to your request for access to evaluation reports for the campaigns, we regret to inform you that no documents were found that would correspond to the description given in your application, for the reasons mentioned above. Again, as specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 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 have been identified, the Commission is not in a position to handle your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 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 upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission  
Secretary-General  
Transparency unit SG-B-4  
BERL 5/327  
B-1049 Bruxelles  
or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours Sincerely,

Matthias RUETE