



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Food chain: stakeholder and international relations  
Multilateral International relations  
Head of Unit

Brussels,  
sante.ddg2.d.3/RF/ak(2018)3746310

*Sent by registered letter  
with acknowledgement of receipt*

Dear Ms Verheecke,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2018/1740**

We refer to your email dated 20/03/2018 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 23/03/2018 under the above-mentioned reference number.

In your request, you asked on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001<sup>1</sup> access to:

- *Composition of the CETA SPS committee*
- *Correspondence between external stakeholders and members of the CETA SPS committee*
- *A list of meetings and minutes of meetings of the CETA SPS committee*

We would like to inform you that for what regards the reports of the CETA Joint Committee meetings, they are published under the following link:  
<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1811>

Please be aware that the CETA Joint Committee meeting was chaired by the European Commission officials of DG SANTE and the counterpart from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). In addition, on the EU side other European Commission officials from DG SANTE and DG TRADE participated in the meeting and similar participants of ministries and agencies from Canada.

For what concerns the part of your request related to the correspondence between stakeholders and members of the CETA SPS committee, the EU Commission had an exchange with the Italian Meat Manufacturers Association and with the Bundesverband Rind und Schwein e.V. (BRS)/German Livestock Association (BRS).

Article 4(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 provides that *the institution shall consult the third party with a view to assessing whether an exception in paragraph 1 or 2 is applicable, unless it is clear that the document shall or shall not be disclosed.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

**Ms Lora Verheecke**  
Corporate Europe Observatory  
26 rue d'Edimbourg  
1050 Brussels

**Advance copy by email:** ask+request-5270-2b617abf@asktheeu.org  
Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111

The general principle of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 is to grant the widest possible access to any document held by an EU-institution which is requested under this Regulation. The institution only refuses disclosure of (a part of) the requested document(s), if disclosure would undermine the protection of a specific interest as laid down in Article 4 of this Regulation.

The stakeholders have been consulted, and they have no objections to the disclosure of the communication. The communication is attached to this letter. Please note that the correspondence received by the Commission from third parties is disclosed for information only and cannot be re-used without the agreement of the originators, who hold a copyright on it. It does not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such

Pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with Community legislation regarding the protection of personal data. The applicable legislation in this field is Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data<sup>2</sup>. When access is requested to documents containing personal data, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 becomes fully applicable<sup>3</sup>.

According to Article 8(b) of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001, personal data shall only be transferred to recipients if they establish the necessity of having the data transferred to them and if there is no reason to assume that the legitimate rights of the persons concerned might be prejudiced. We consider that, with the information available, the necessity of disclosing the aforementioned personal data to you has not been established and/or that it cannot be assumed that such disclosure would not prejudice the legitimate rights of the persons concerned. Therefore, we are disclosing a version of the documents requested in which these personal data have been redacted.

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 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 5/288  
B-1049 Bruxelles or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours faithfully,



Koen Van Dyck

---

<sup>2</sup> Official Journal L 8 of 12.1.2001, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU of 29 June 2010 in case C-28/08 P, Commission/The Bavarian Lager Co. Ltd, ECR 2010 I-06055.

Annexes: Exchange with the Italian Meat Manufacturers Association and the Bundesverband Rind und Schwein e.V. /German Livestock Association (BRS)