



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

The Director-General

Brussels, 2 08. 2018
Taxud E2/SVDV – taxud.e.2(2018)4500143

Mrs Maria Hengeveld
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(via registered letter and e-mail)

Dear Mrs Hengeveld,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2018/4010

We refer to your request dated 23 July 2018 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered under the above-mentioned reference number as follows: "... a list of all lobby meetings held by DG TAXUD, DG GROW, DG TRADE and DG SANTE since 2013, where Mr. Paul Polman (in his capacity as CEO of Unilever or any other capacity) or any other representative of Unilever was present. The list should include dates of meetings, participants and their affiliation, as well as the issues discussed".

We regret to inform you that DG Taxation and Customs Union did not hold meetings that would correspond to the description given in your application. As such, we cannot deliver a list of meetings and we do not have documents relating to this subject available.

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, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by DG Taxation and Customs Union, we are not in a position to handle your request.

I would also like to inform you that this reply does not prejudice the replies, which you will receive from other Directorates-General to your applications registered under other Gestdem numbers (DG SANTE 2018/3886, DG GROW 2018/4013, DG TRADE 2018/4014).


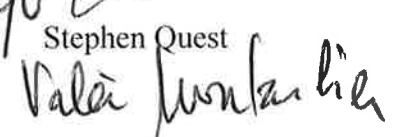
In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

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 5/282
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,


Stephen Quest

Valérie Winkler