The Director-General

Brussels TRADE/SW/A5 (2020)1819343

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Ms Pia Eberhardt Corporate Europe Observatory Rue d'Edimbourg 26 1050 Brussels Belgium

Advance copy by email: ask+request-7681-66e35632@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2020/1016

Dear Madam.

I refer to your email of 19 February 2020 in which you make a request for access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/20011 ("Regulation 1049/2001"), and which was registered on the 20 February under the reference GestDem No 2020/1016

You request access to the following documents:

- a list of all lobby meetings held by DG Trade since 1 January 2019, in which the future EU-UK trade deal has been discussed. The list should include: date, Commission attendees, the name of the organisation(s) attending, and a more precise topic if that exists.

The information requested by you is stored in several databases. Therefore, we have performed a number of search operations in order to examine the possibility to establish a list falling into the scope of your request. Unfortunately, the result of these searches has

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Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

either been not to identify any such records or to produce results comprising a very large number of records where the vast majority would be outside the scope of your request. The data range concerned by your request can not therefore be extracted from the relevant databases by means of a routine search operation using the search tools available. For these reasons, the information requested is not included in any existing document.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 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 the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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 Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission Secretariat-General

Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1) BERL 7/076

B-1049 Bruxelles

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

Yours faithfully,

Sabine WEYAND