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Lora Verheecke

Exclusively by email: ask+request-11740-e9bea8cf@asktheeu.org

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Woo@minbuza.nl

Min-BuZa.2022.12323-18

Date 27 September 2022

Re Decision Open Government Act request

Dear Ms Verheecke,

In your email of 17 August 2022, you requested information on meetings of the Dutch Permanent Representation to the European Union with representatives of Uber, Deliveroo, Bolt, Wolt, Free Now, Delivery Hero and Glovo since 1 January 2021, invoking Open Government Act (Wet open overheid; Woo).

The information you requested concerned the following:

'How many meetings have employees of the Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the European Union had with representatives of Uber, Deliveroo, Bolt, Wolt, Free Now, Delivery Hero and Glovo since 1st January 2021?

I would like to request a list of these meetings including who was present at the meeting, the names of the organisations and lobbyists present, the date of the meeting, and the subject matters discussed.'

The decision was postponed by two weeks on 13 September 2021.

Statutory framework

Your application falls within the scope of the Open Government Act.

Decision

In response to your application, one document has been created, namely a list of meetings of the Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the European Union with stakeholders. This list encompasses meetings in the period from the 1st of January until the date of your request, 17 August 2022. I have decided to grant your application and to disclose this document.

Despite the fact that the Open Government Act does not provide for any obligation to produce information that is not already contained in existing documents, regardless of the degree of effort that this would involve, I have decided to create a document in order to be able to substantively reply to your application and in that way serve the public interest by disclosure of the requested information.¹

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With regard to this document, it is relevant to mention that no distinction is made between who took the initiative for the meeting; the Permanent Representation in principle receives every stakeholder.

In the document you will find:

- the date of a meeting,
- the name of the stakeholder,
- the topic discussed at the meeting and
- the abbreviation of the department of the Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the European Union that is responsible for the topic discussed.

In the document you will not find the names of the persons who were present at the meetings. I do not disclose this information in respect of personal privacy, on the ground of section 5.1, subsection 2, opening words and (e) of the Open Government Act.

Manner of disclosure

The document is digitally enclosed with this decision.

Publication

The disclosed document will be published on www.rijksoverheid.nl, so that the document can be accessed by everyone.

Yours sincerely,

For the Minister of Foreign Affairs,
The deputy permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
to the European Union

[This letter was processed digitally and is therefore not signed.]

Michael Stibbe

¹ See the judgment of the Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Council of State (ABRVs) of 5 June 2013, no. 201204362/1/A3.

Within six weeks after this decision is sent, a notice of objection may be lodged. The notice of objection must be signed and dated and include the name and address of the person submitting it, a description of the decision against which the objection is being lodged and the grounds on which it is based. The notice of objection should be addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Legal Affairs Department, Postbus 20061, 2500 EB The Hague, The Netherlands.

Date

27 September 2022

Reference

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