

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
Secretariat-General

Directorate E - Policy Co-ordination II  
**SG.E.1-Citizens and Security**

Brussels,  
SG/E1/JM/FC/cj/

Ms Vicky Cann  
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Rue d'Edimbourg 26  
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*Advance copy by e-mail:*

[ask+request-5120-d601a579@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-5120-d601a579@asktheeu.org)

Dear Madam,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2018/0774 (and identical requests GestDem 2018/0779, GestDem 2018/0817 and GestDem 2018/0960)**

We refer to your e-mail dated 05/02/2018 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on the same day under reference number GestDem 2018/0774.

### **1. Scope of your request**

You request the following documents: *"Under the right of access to documents in the EU treaties, as developed in Regulation 1049/2001, I am requesting a list of lobby meetings held on the topic of the Commission's new strategy "to minimise exposure of EU citizens to endocrine disruptors, beyond pesticides and biocides" which was announced on 4 July 2017. The list should include: date of meeting, Commission attendees, names of those attending from third party organisations, and also enclose any minutes from those meetings"*.

You submitted the same request to other Directorates-General of the European Commission<sup>1</sup>. This reply addresses also the other identical requests you have submitted.

### **2. Identification and assessment of the concerned documents**

With reference to your request concerning *"a list of lobby meetings held on the topic of the Commission's new strategy to minimise exposure of EU citizens to endocrine disruptors, beyond pesticides and biocides"*, please note that no such document exists.

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<sup>1</sup> Under reference number GestDem 2018/0779 to DG GROW, under reference number GestDem 2018/0817 to DG ENV, under reference number GestDem 2018/0960 to DG SANTE.

It is nevertheless noteworthy that in accordance with the Commission's transparency commitment<sup>2</sup>, Members of the Commission, members of their cabinets and Directors-General publish on the Europa website the dates, locations, names of the organisations and self-employed individuals met and the topics of discussion, within two weeks of each meeting, since 1 December 2014. Therefore, I would like to refer you to the relevant transparency webpages of the European Commission<sup>3</sup>.

Furthermore, as your request also covers "*any minutes from those meetings*", we have identified the following documents which would correspond to your request:

- 1) Minutes of the meeting between SANTE and the European Consumers Association (BEUC) on 11 July 2017, Ares(2017)3628177;
- 2) Minutes of the meeting between the Cabinet of VP Katainen / SG and the Endocrine Society on 26 September 2017, Ares(2018)750824.
- 3) Minutes of the meeting between GROW and Cosmetics Europe on 27 September 2017, Ares(2018)696453
- 4) Minutes of the meeting between the Cabinet of VP Katainen / SG and EDC-Free Europe Coalition on 28 September 2017, Ares(2018)750714.

### **3. Out of scope**

Documents 1 and 3 contain information on other topics unrelated to the new strategy on Endocrine Disruptors. These parts of the documents have been redacted as they concern information that falls outside the scope of the request.

### **4. Protection of personal data**

The documents to which you have requested access contain personal data. 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>4</sup>.

When access is requested to documents containing personal data, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 becomes fully applicable<sup>5</sup>.

According to Article 8(b) of this Regulation, 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Decision 2014/839/EU, Euratom of 25 November 2014 on the publication of information on meetings held between Members of the Commission and organisations or self-employed individuals, Official Journal L 343, 28.11.2014, p. 22–24

<sup>3</sup> For example, for the First Vice-President, see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyinitiative/meetings/meeting.do?host=b47bf526-b773-40e7-9392-89d454e0672f>

For Vice-President Katainen, see: <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyinitiative/meetings/meeting.do?host=d4efd679-b6bf-4ef8-a077-a041991378c7>

<sup>4</sup> Official Journal L 8 of 12.1.2001, p. 1

<sup>5</sup> Judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU of 29 June 2010 in case 28/08 P, Commission/The Bavarian Lager Co. Ltd, ECR 2010 I-06055.

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 the documents requested, the personal data of which has been expunged.

You may reuse the documents requested free of charge for non-commercial and commercial purposes provided that the source is acknowledged, that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the documents. Please note that the Commission does not assume liability stemming from the reuse.


## **5. Means of redress**

In case you disagree with this assessment, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, 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](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,



Julien Mousnier  
Head of Unit

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