



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

Directorate E  
SG-E-3  
Transparency, Relations with stakeholders and External Organisations

Brussels, 14 December 2006  
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Mr Simon Stocker  
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**Subject: Confirmatory application for access to a document under Regulation  
No. 1049/2001**

Dear Mr Stocker,

I refer to your letter dated 26 October 2006, registered on 31 October 2006, in which, in accordance with Regulation (EC) N° 1049/2001<sup>1</sup>, you request the review of the decision of the Directorate General for External Relations of 9 October 2006 not to grant you access to the document concerned by your initial request for access. I also refer to my holding reply of 23 November 2006, in which the time limit for replying to your confirmatory request was extended by 15 working days, pursuant to Article 8(2) of the Regulation.

This extended time limit expires today. Unfortunately, we still have not been able to finalise the analysis of your request and are, therefore, not yet in a position to provide you with a final reply.

However, I can assure you that we are doing our utmost to provide you with a final reply as soon as possible. The absence of a reply within the prescribed time limit should, therefore, not be interpreted as an implicit refusal to grant you the requested access.

I regret this additional delay and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Yours faithfully,

Marc Maes  
Deputy Head of Unit

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<sup>1</sup> JO L145 of 31.05.2001, p. 43