



Our Ref: Fol/Req/21/103

Date: 03/06/2021

Dear Mr. Naughton,

I refer to the request, which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

'All communication sent and received, including any documents or attachments, and all minutes of meetings held, including by the Minister himself, in relation to or in which the World Health Organisation' (WHO) Covid-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) initiative is mentioned.

The search should be limited to February 15, 2021 to the present. The search can be limited to Assistant Principle and above level, and should include the Office of the Minister and Minister himself.'

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request, which was sent to you on 10/05/2021.

I have identified 65 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 40, to part-grant 18 and to refuse 7 of these records.

Section 37 - Personal information

I have part-granted 2 records under Section 37 (1). This is a mandatory exemption under the legislation and I am obliged to refuse access to records falling under that section. Full access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information.

Section 35 - Information obtained in confidence

I have refused 1 record under Section 35 (1)(a). This is a mandatory exemption under the legislation and I am obliged to refuse access to records falling under that section. The record contains information (including advice) for a member of the Government, given in confidence and on the understanding that it would be treated by it as confidential.

Section 33 – Security, defence and international relations

I have refused 6 records and part-granted 1 record under Section 33(3)(c)(ii). This is a mandatory exemption under the legislation and I am obliged to refuse access to records falling under that section. The records contain information communicated in confidence, which disclose the position taken by another State.



Section 28 - Meetings of the Government

I have refused 1 record under Section 28 (1)(c). This is a mandatory exemption under the legislation and I am obliged to refuse access to records falling under that section. The record contains information (including advice) for a member of the Government, for use by him or her solely for the purpose of the transaction of any business of the Government at a meeting of the Government.

Material outside scope of request

Further to the material refused above, I have also partially granted 16 documents, which have been redacted to remove material outside the scope of your request.

Right of appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to foi@dfa.ie. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at foi@dfa.ie, or 01-4082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Smith
Executive Officer
Policy Unit
Development Cooperation and Africa Division
Department of Foreign Affairs