



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 25 November 2022  
(OR. en)

15130/22

**LIMITE**

**AG 140  
INST 421  
PE 140  
COVID-19 179**

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Draft reply to the letter of the President of the European Parliament  
requesting Council documents related to the COVI Committee mandate  
- Approval of a letter

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Delegations will find a letter of the President of the European Parliament in annex I and the above-mentioned draft reply in annex II.

IM 009414 2022  
20.09.2022



The President

Mr Mikuláš Bek  
President-in-Office  
Council of the European Union  
Rue de la Loi, 175  
B-1048 Brussels

D 309949 16.09.2022

Dear President-in-Office,

On 10 March 2022, the European Parliament decided to set up a Special Committee on COVID-19 pandemic: lessons learned and recommendations for the future (COVI). It provided the COVI Committee with a mandate to look specifically at how the European response to the pandemic and the lessons learned can contribute to future action in a variety of EU policy areas.

The Special Committee work will focus on four pandemic-related areas: health; a coordinated response respecting democracy and fundamental rights; the societal and economic impact; and the EU and the world.

Following a decision by the Committee Coordinators on 13 July 2022, the COVI Committee decided that certain Council documents are necessary for the work on the Committee report.

In accordance with the *Inter-institutional Agreement between the European Parliament and the Council concerning the forwarding to and handling by the European Parliament of classified information held by the Council on matters other than those in the area of the common foreign and security policy of 12 March 2014*, I would like to request access for the COVI Committee Members, one accredited parliamentary assistant from their office, COVI Committee political advisers and COVI Committee Secretariat staff, to certain Council documents listed in the Annex to this letter.

I trust that this request will be considered favourably and the documents requested will be provided to the COVI Committee as soon as possible in the spirit of good cooperation between our two institutions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Roberta Metsola', written over a horizontal line.

Roberta Metsola

Copy: Ms Van Brempt, Chair of the COVI Special Committee

Annex: List of requested Council documents related to the COVI Committee mandate

Annex

List of requested Council documents related to the COVI Committee mandate\*

- Council negotiating directive on the international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response
- Framework agreements between the EU member states and pharmaceutical companies regarding the donation of excess COVID-19 vaccines to COVAX
- Documents related to the 2020 call for tenders for the supply of medicinal products used for ICU patients subject to COVID-19 and Member States' participation in these tenders
- EU documents on trade-related bottlenecks related to critical products used in vaccine manufacturing, therapeutics and diagnostics
- Documents relating to vaccine safety, such as clinical trial studies, side effects of the vaccines and their efficiency rate;
- Mandate for the WTO negotiations on the TRIPS waiver.

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\* The documents requested concern only documents originating from the Council

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DRAFT

From: Chair of the Permanent Representatives Committee

To: President of the European Parliament

Brussels,

Dear President,

I refer to your letter of 16 September 2022<sup>1</sup> requesting access to a number of Council documents related to the COVI Committee mandate, in accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement of 12 March 2014 between the European Parliament and the Council concerning the forwarding to and handling by the European Parliament of classified information held by the Council on matters other than those in the area of the common foreign and security policy.

Having examined your request, I can confirm that, with the exception of the Council negotiating directives on the international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (already transmitted to the European Parliament on 7 March 2022<sup>2</sup> pursuant to Article 218(10) TFEU), the Council does not hold any document originating from the Council on the matters stipulated in the annex to your letter.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Copy: Ms Kathleen Van Brempt, Chair of the COVI Special Committee

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<sup>1</sup> D309949

<sup>2</sup> SGS 22/01130