



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

General Affairs and Resources  
**Legal Affairs**

Brussels,  
MARE.E.4/CLV/cd

Ms Luisa IZUZQUIZA  
Corporate Europe Observatory  
Rue d'Édimbourg 26  
B-1050 BRUSSELS



**Subject: Your letter of 03/05/2019 concerning the transparency unit staffing and budget**

Dear Ms Izuzquiza,

I thank you for the above-mentioned letter, which has received my fullest attention.

Your letter raised issues requiring an in-depth examination and, while the Secretariat-General of the Commission is doing a reply to parts of it, the answer to other parts of your letter required further work by DG MARE.

In your letter, you requested in particular the following information:

*“For the years 2017, 2018 and 2019:*

- any and all documents that contain the number of staff in your Transparency Unit (or the department dealing with access to EU documents requests) - this could be, for instance, organigrams or staffing plans that are specific to that unit;*
- any and all documents containing the budget for your Transparency Unit (or the department dealing with access to EU documents requests); I would appreciate the most detailed version of this budget possible.”*

We consider that your requests only concern the unit coordinating the handling of access to documents requests within DG MARE. In this respect, we would like to inform you that for DG MARE, in 2017 and early 2018 administrative coordination was carried out by Unit MARE.E2 (*Inter-institutional Matters, Strategic Programming and Communication*) and support on legal coordination from Unit MARE.E4 (Legal affairs). Since March 2018, MARE.E4 is in charge of all coordination.

In terms of number of staff involved, please be informed that the coordination tasks is carried out by 2 Administrators (legal coordinators) and 2 secretaries (administrative support). However, these persons work only partially on the coordination of access to document requests received by DG MARE.

As for the budget, there is not specific dedicated budget for the Unit dealing with transparency issues, this is part of the general administrative budget.

Yours sincerely,

Valérie TANKINK  
Head of Unit