

Committee of Inquiry into Money Laundering, Tax Avoidance and Tax Evasion
The Chair

D 304313 17.03.2017

Mr Pierre MOSCOVICI
Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels

Subject: Implementation of the Arrangement on the examination of non-classified confidential documents in the secure reading room

Dear Commissioner,

First of all, I would like to thank you once more for your cooperation in setting up our arrangement on the examination of non-classified confidential documents, on the basis of which documents already made available to TAXE and TAX2 committees have now been delivered to our secure reading room.

I regret to note, however, that the documents received, in particular, those relating to the Code of Conduct Group – only cover the period until June 2016. I should therefore be grateful if you could instruct your services to forward, as a matter of urgency, all relevant documents from the Code of Conduct Group from that time onwards.

Furthermore, I should also be grateful if the PANA committee could be provided with the replies received to the questionnaire on the monitoring of the implementation of the so-called 'model instruction' from 2 June 2016 on, as well as with the documents from the Working Party from April 2016 onwards.

Finally, I must express my concern about the fact that a substantial amount of text has been blackened in the documents regarding the Code of Conduct Group (e.g. with regard to the Commission position, Member State's positions or to definitions). Such a restriction makes it more difficult for the PANA committee Members to fully understand and appraise the information contained in the documents in question.

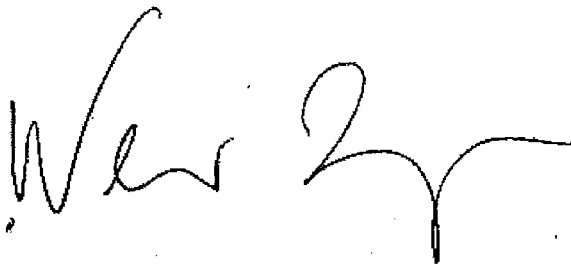
Moreover, it does not appear to be supported by any valid justification in light of the duty of sincere cooperation between our respective Institutions as regards the ongoing inquiry and of the commitments taken in the Framework Agreement.

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.../...

I would therefore urge you to instruct your services to make available to the PANA committee, in accordance with our arrangement, the full text of the above-mentioned documents or, at the very least, to provide a detailed justification of the refusal to disclose them.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Werner Langen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent 'W' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Werner LANGEN