



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada

Deputy Minister
of Foreign Affairs

Sous-ministre
des Affaires étrangères

Ms. Erica Pereira
Clerk of the Committee
Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development
House of Commons
131 Queen Street, 6th Floor
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Ms. Pereira:

I am writing in response to the following Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development motion for the production of papers, which was adopted on October 29, 2020:

That, pursuant to Standing Order 108(2), the Committee undertake a study of the granting of arms exports permits and the controls, protocols and policies that inform the granting of such permits and the imposition of export freezes; that particular attention be given to any permits granted while Canada's freeze of arms exports to Turkey that began in October 2019 was still in effect, including WESCAM sensors; that, pursuant to Standing Order 108(1)(a) the Committee order Global Affairs Canada to produce all documents, briefing notes, memorandums and emails between the department and the Minister of Foreign Affairs' Office, the Privy Council Office and the Prime Minister's Office related to the granting of any such permits as soon as possible but no later than 60 days of the adoption of this motion; that these documents be provided to the Committee without redactions except to protect Cabinet confidences; and that the Committee in consultation with the Office of the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel commit to protect the confidentiality of the documents in consideration of commercial sensitivity, national security and international relations as required; and that the committee report its findings to the House.

Global Affairs Canada is providing, in both official languages, an initial package of documents that includes relevant Global Affairs Canada briefing notes and memorandums and Privy Council Office email correspondence. Two documents that fall within the scope of the motion have not been included because they are Cabinet confidences.

As Global Affairs Canada advised on December 3, 2020, our search has also yielded over 3,000 pages of additional materials, largely Global Affairs Canada email correspondence, that fall within the scope of this motion. The translation time required for these remaining documents is currently being assessed, and we will be in touch soon to confirm the anticipated submission timeline for these materials.

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In responding to the committee's request, Global Affairs Canada has applied the principle of transparency to the greatest extent possible. Redactions include only information for which disclosure would be injurious to the conduct of international affairs, defence, and third-party competitive positions. Global Affairs Canada has waived most solicitor-client privilege. As well, the department conducted extensive third-party consultations and encouraged companies to permit the department to release to the Committee as much information as possible. As a result, only information that would prejudice their finances, competitive position and negotiations has been redacted.

Should you have any question about these materials, please do not hesitate to reach out to Ms. Colleen Calvert, Executive Director and Deputy Corporate Secretary, Cabinet and Parliamentary Affairs, at 613-291-4568.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marta Morgan

Enclosures