



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Information Rights Unit
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www.gov.uk/fcdo

Mr Stephen Nash

request-705729-
1c2f84ab@whatdotheyknow.com

09 December 2020

Dear Mr Nash

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI2020/23861, FOI2020/23869, FOI2020/23873, FOI2020/233874, FOI2020/24165, FOI2020/24167, FOI2020/24169, FOI2020/24173, FOI2020/24175 and FOI2020/24193

Thank you for your emails of 13th and 18th November asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You have asked for the same information for all 10 requests with the exception of the country. You asked:

*I'd like to see a list of all Foreign & Commonwealth & Development Office officials and representatives that visited * after the 1st January 2020 including:*

- official job titles;
- who they met;
- detailed minutes from all meetings

*The country is noted below with the reference number relating to each request.

FOI2020/23861 - Brazil
FOI2020/23869 - Venezuela
FOI2020/23873 - Colombia
FOI2020/23874 – Guyana
FOI2020/24165 – Bolivia
FOI2020/24167 – Argentina
FOI2020/24169 – Paraguay
FOI2020/24173 – Chile
FOI2020/24175 – Peru
FOI2020/24193 - Ecuador

I can confirm that the FCDO may hold information relevant to your request. As all 10 of your requests relate to the same or similar information we are aggregating them for the purposes of Regulation 5 of the Limits and Fees Regulations 2004 and Section 12 of the

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. For central government the appropriate limit is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. Your requests as presently formulated are widely-framed and I estimate that it will take more than 3 ½ working days to locate, retrieve and extract this information. In these circumstances we are not obliged under the Act to comply with your requests. You may therefore wish to refine your requests to narrow their scope to bring them within the appropriate limit. You may wish to consider requesting a more specific range of information, for example limit your requests to a particular Minister, as currently worded we would have to search the whole of the FCDO. Please note, however, that information relevant to a narrowed request may be exempt from disclosure under one or more exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please note that any new requests will be given separate reference numbers and we will then consider whether we can provide the information requested within the appropriate cost limit. This would of course be subject to the consideration of whether any of the other exemptions under the FOI Act apply.

If you would like to request a review of our decision, or if you wish to make a complaint, please write to the Information Rights Unit at Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, or by e-mail to information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk. Please note that you have 40 working days from the date of this letter in which to submit a request for an internal review.

You can apply directly to the Information Commissioner. However, the Information Commissioner will not normally make a decision unless you have first exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCDO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, or online at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Unit

For information about how the FCDO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)