

**From:** Paolo Solano, Director, Legal Affairs and SEM Unit, CEC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** General Standing Committee (GSC) and SEM points of contact  
**Subject:** DFR Loggerhead Turtle

Dear GSC and SEM points of contact,

I am updating you on the status of the preparation of the draft factual record (DFR) concerning SEM-20-001 (*Loggerhead Turtle*).

The Secretariat sent information requests in June to various federal agencies in Mexico responsible for the implementation of legal provisions listed in the instructions and relevant to the factual record, as well as agencies in possession of pertinent information. To date, the Secretariat has not received responses to these requests. The Secretariat has been made aware that information would only be provided if requests were filed through the National Transparency Platform. Filing information requests through domestic mechanisms will be subject to their respective timelines and exemptions.

In accordance with past practice and considering the aforementioned challenges in accessing information, we are hereby requesting a 120-day extension to deliver the Draft Factual Record, with a deadline no later than December 1, 2023. This request would not depart from past practice in implementing the SEM process. I am confident that the Secretariat will gather critical information to ultimately deliver a factual record in accordance with the Council members' instructions.

The Secretariat will inform the submitter of this delay.

## **Paolo Solano**

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