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13 February 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO RECORDS IN TERMS OF THE PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT, 2000 ("PAIA") FROM ANIMAL LAW REFORM SOUTH AFRICA NPC

1. We refer to the request in terms of PAIA submitted to Quantum Foods Proprietary Limited ("**Quantum Foods**"), dated 11 December 2023, by Animal Law Reform South Africa ("**ALRSA**") for the information specified in paragraph 7 of your letter ("**your request**"); and our letter of 21 December 2023, in which we informed you of Quantum Foods' extension of the period within which it is required to deal with your request by a further 30 days until 12 February 2024.
2. Given the sheer volume of documents requested, we have compiled an excel spreadsheet, together with an index containing details of the records or information in respect of which: (i) access is granted; (ii) access is refused, and the grounds or reasons for such refusal; and (iii) records are not available or do not exist. The index and bundle of disclosed documents, and excel spreadsheet are attached to this letter marked **Annexure "A"**. and **Annexure "B"**, respectively.
3. Please note that where access has been granted to record and information, this is done with a full reservation of Quantum Foods' rights.
4. Where Quantum Foods has refused access to records, the grounds and reasons for doing so are principally as follows:



- 4.1 the requester's explanation of why the requested record is required for the exercise or protection of its right, as is required by 53(1)(d) of PAIA, is inadequate;
 - 4.2 the record contains financial, commercial, scientific or technical information, other than trade secrets, of the private body, the disclosure of which would be likely to cause harm to the commercial or financial interests of the body and access is denied on the basis of section 68(1)(b) of PAIA; and
 - 4.3 the record contains information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected (i) to put the private body at a disadvantage in contractual or other negotiations; or (ii) to prejudice the body in commercial competition and access is denied on the basis of section 68(1)(c) of PAIA.
5. We note that where ALRSA requested documents and/or information from Quantum Food's suppliers ("third parties") we have not granted this request as these documents should be requested directly from those third parties. In any event, it is not evident from your request which third parties are being referred to.
 6. While an access fee is payable in terms of section 54(6) of PAIA, Quantum Foods is prepared to waive the fee in this instance.
 7. Please note that you are entitled to lodge:
 - 7.1 a written complaint to the Information Regulator against the decision to refuse certain records and information in terms of section 77A of PAIA. The complaint must be lodged in writing within 180 days from the date of this letter.
 - 7.2 *alternatively*, may lodge an application with a court against the refusal of access to certain of the records. In terms of section 78(2) of PAIA, such application must be made within 180 days from the date of this letter.

We trust that the above is in order.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]