

CC: Atlas Copco

cr@epiroc.com

Stockholm/Brussels, 26 November 2019

Epiroc AB  
P.O. Box 4015  
SE - 131 04 Nacka  
Sweden

To the attention of Mr. Per Lindberg,  
Chief Executive Officer and President

### **Re. Epiroc's potential services agreement in occupied Western Sahara**

Dear Mr. Lindberg,

Emmaus Stockholm and Western Sahara Resource Watch are privileged to present you with our compliments. We are writing to enquire about Epiroc's possible agreement of maintenance – and possibly supplies – of drilling equipment to the Boucraa mine in Western Sahara.

Our two organizations have for several years followed the production and exports of phosphate rock from occupied Western Sahara, undertaken by OCP, a state-owned Moroccan company.

Taking into account the requests that Epiroc has had over this matter so far, we expect that your company has studied the aspects of international law, human rights and ethics related to such operations undertaken by the government of Morocco outside of its internationally recognized borders. Near all Nordic institutional investors, including the AP-fonderna and the Norwegian Government Pension Fund have excluded the importers of the rock produced in this mine, as they are seen to contribute to the violation of the rights of the Saharawi people.

In our opinion, it is not less ethical for a company to operate as a long-term strategic importer of the contentious commodity, than it is to contribute with key equipment for the mine to actually function.

Since the creation and listing of Epiroc AB as a separate company in 2018, it has been unclear for our associations whether or not your company has taken over the contractual obligations that Atlas Copco had for the mine in the occupied territory. The confusion arose when Atlas Copco in April 2019 stated on Twitter that they still have a client in the territory: <https://www.wsrw.org/a105x4501>

We write this letter with 3 questions to you.

- 1) Does Epiroc today have an agreement with OCP that includes obligations in Western Sahara?

- 2) If positive on question 1, what has Epiroc done to obtain the permission of the Saharawi people to operate in the territory?
- 3) If positive on question 1, when do Epiroc AB's contractual obligations in the territory expire?

We would be most grateful for an answer to the above questions before 20 December 2019.

Any response, or lack thereof, will also be mentioned at a seminar in Stockholm on Monday 2 December, in which the laureate of the 2019 Right Livelihood Awards, Ms. Aminatou Haidar will intervene. Haidar has served several years in jail for her activities for self-determination in Western Sahara.

To be transparent, we wish to inform you that Western Sahara Resource Watch is in the process of writing a report on the 2019 phosphate exports from Western Sahara. The upcoming publication will be published in late February 2020 and is part of a series called 'P for Plunder'. Please find previous issues of that report here: <https://www.wsrw.org/a105x4497>

Your clarification on the matter will be referred to in the report.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information on the above-raised issue. We thank you in advance for your consideration, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Sara Eyckmans  
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*PS: A copy of this email has been sent to Atlas Copco*