

14 June 2017
Brussels

Ultrabulk A/S
Camillo Eitzen House
Amerika Plads 38
2100 Copenhagen
Denmark
Att: Hans-Christian Olesen
hanschristian.olesen@ultrabulk.com

Regarding your company's participation in a transport of phosphate rock from occupied Western Sahara

Dear Mr. Olesen,

We have the honour to present our compliments. We are writing regarding your company's transports of phosphate rock from Western Sahara and the role of Ultrabulk A/S in this regard.

Western Sahara Resource Watch (WSRW) is an independent, non-governmental organization based in Brussels. Our work consists of factually and neutrally researching and commenting on matters about natural resources in Western Sahara. Western Sahara, as you may know, is often referred to as *Africa's last colony*. It was invaded by Morocco in 1975, and is divided by the world's longest fortified structure, the 'berm', which features some five million landmines, and stretches 2400 kilometres across the territory. The berm is garrisoned by an estimated 60,000 Moroccan armed forces. Across the berm, across the border to Algeria, half the Saharawi population reside in six refugee camps.

In 1991, the United Nations, by agreement of Morocco and the Polisario Front, committed to deliver a self-determination referendum for the Saharawi people, something assured for them in a decolonizing world as a basic human right. But that referendum has not yet come to pass, and all the while, phosphate mineral rock from the occupied area of Western Sahara continues to be exported. The Saharawi people, including civil society organizations and their democratically elected government, have been outspoken in protesting the mining, export and ocean transport of the phosphate commodity. The value of the cargo aboard the vessel operated by your company corresponds to a substantial part of the humanitarian aid that the refugees rely on annually.

The UN Legal Counsel commented in 2002 that any exploitation of natural resources in Western Sahara would be in violation of international law if the people do not consent to it. The Court of Justice of the EU on 21 December 2016 came to the same conclusion.

We contact you for two reasons in relation to your company's operations.

First, to protest the continuous shipments that company your company is engaged in. We ask you to not undertake such transports again in the future. This recommendation, and the mention of your company, will appear extensively in a WSRW report to be published on 16 June 2017. The report outlines the companies behind all transports of phosphate rock from the territory since 1 January 2016. Ultrabulk is currently the operator in the world most involved in such shipments. For the period of 1 January 2016 to today, the report estimates that your company has transported phosphate worth 46,3 million USD. That equals near the total value of all multilateral humanitarian aid given to the refugees over the scope of one year. These refugees are the legitimate owners of the phosphates which your company has assisted Morocco in plundering from the territory. We strongly denounce the role that your company is playing in this industry.

Second, we kindly ask your company to respond to the following question.

Has your company obtained the consent of the representatives of the Saharawi people prior to undertaking this transport?

The answer will be made available on our website www.wsrw.org.

We look forward to your reply, which can be sent to the email shipping@wsrw.org. Please let us know what information we might offer further to what we have written above.

With sincere regards,

/sign./

Erik Hagen

Board member, Western Sahara Resource Watch

shipping@wsrw.org