

Nutrien Ltd  
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Canada

Brussels  
28 May 2018

To the attention of Mr Chuck Magro  
President and Chief Executive Officer of Nutrien Ltd

**Re: Ongoing shipments of Western Sahara phosphate to Nutrien Ltd, in spite of stated intention to end such imports.**

Dear Mr Magro,

We are privileged to write to you. Our letter concerns Nutrien's continued imports from Western Sahara, in spite of your statement at the investor conference in Whistler of 25 January 2018 announcing the firm's intention to end imports to its Agrium legacy by the end of this year, and the long-term goal "not to have a Western Sahara issue as part of the new company going forward".

At present, two bulk carriers – the *Ultra Agility* (IMO: 9758741) and the *Desert Osprey* (IMO: 9712955) – are heading to Vancouver, transporting a combined cargo of over 100,000 tonnes of phosphate rock exploited by Morocco's state-owned phosphate company OCP in the territory held under military occupation by Morocco: Western Sahara. In addition, the *Mackenzie* (IMO: 9703588) is *en route* for Baton Rouge, the port used by the PotashCorp legacy firm, carrying around 60,000 tonnes of the conflict mineral.

That adds up to five shipments to Nutrien this year, to the tune of an estimated 294,000 tonnes. As such, the company is on a similar import-track to last year's, and nothing indicates that the company has an intention to end, or even reduce, its imports from Western Sahara.

Our views on the questionable legal and ethical framework of such imports have been communicated to you before, and thus do not need repeating. However, we would be grateful for your response to the questions below, sent to you on 21 February 2018, but to which we have not received any answers.

1. Has Nutrien sought the consent of the people of Western Sahara, through their UN-recognised representative the Polisario Front, prior to importing from their territory?
2. When exactly does the Agrium legacy contract covering phosphate rock imports from Western Sahara end? Until that time, will more shipments be received in Vancouver?
3. Upon termination of the contract, will Nutrien consider informing the UN Secretary-General's Personal Envoy for Western Sahara, Mr Horst Köhler, and with the Saharawi liberation movement, the Polisario Front?

4. Has Nutrien come any closer to a decision on how to proceed with the imports to its PotashCorp legacy?
5. It is argued that the PotashCorp imports from Western Sahara are related to the production of specialty products. What share of Nutrien's total earnings or product range is dependent on the continued imports from the last colony in Africa? Do these outweigh the potential risk of legal proceedings brought by the Polisario Front (which is at present initiating cases against private companies in European courts)?

Finally, we would appreciate confirmation that the above-mentioned shipments are destined for Nutrien.

We are convinced that it will be in Nutrien's interest to terminate imports from Western Sahara, not only over reputational concerns connected to taking in conflict minerals from a conflict area that is a veritable human rights dark spot, but also in view of increased legal and financial risks. We expect to see a clear statement from the company in the coming weeks, announcing that it will halt all imports from Western Sahara.

Best regards,

Sara Eyckmans  
Coordinator  
Western Sahara Resource Watch  
[coordinator@wsrw.org](mailto:coordinator@wsrw.org)

A copy of this letter was sent to:

- Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister, Ms Chrystia Freeland
- Canada's United Church leader, Mr Jordan Cantwell
- United for Mining Justice social action network, Mr Erik Mathiesen
- SHARE, Mr Peter Chapman
- Mining Watch Canada, Mr Jamie Kneen
- UN Special Representative for Western Sahara and Head of UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, Mr Colin Stewart
- Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary General for Western Sahara, Mr Horst Köhler