

Hannes Friederichsen  
Executive Vice President  
Head of ContiTech Conveying Solutions  
Sent via e-mail

25 March 2020  
Brussels

Dear Mr. Friederichsen,

Thank you very much for your reply of 10 January 2020 to our letter of 8 December 2019, enquiring about the status of Continental's contract with OCP.

We understand and respect that you are not in a position to comment on the content of ongoing negotiations. But the question remains whether the contract as such will apply to Western Sahara or not. In other words, is Continental renegotiating a contract with the Moroccan state-owned company OCP that will limit Continental's engagement to Morocco proper, or will it also be applied extra-territorially to the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Western Sahara?

In addition, we would be grateful if you could elaborate on one point mentioned in your letter: that ContiTech and Continental do not directly operate on the territory. We notice that this is also mentioned in your response to *Freiheit für die Westsahara e.V.* of 17 March 2020, with the further addition that Continental has a supply contract with OCP, not a maintenance contract. That is a bit confusing, since you stated to us in your letter of 10 January that "we are currently negotiating the renewal of the maintenance contract" in relation to "our conveyor belt maintenance activities".

We'd be grateful if you could offer clarifications on the following matters:

1. Does Continental have a maintenance or a supply contract with OCP?
2. If the latter, does the supply contract contain obligations of maintenance?
3. Can Continental rule out the possibility that its contractual obligations with OCP will facilitate OCP's operations in Western Sahara?

Thank you beforehand for your consideration of our letter, and we look forward to continuing this exchange of views. As always, we remain at your disposal to offer any additional information that you may require.

Finally, let me also take this opportunity to wish you good luck and good health in these disturbing times. Stay safe, and take care.

Sincerely,

Sara Eyckmans  
Coordinator  
Western Sahara Resource Watch  
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