

From: Aliou Diouf [*omissis*]
Sent: 09 October 2015 17:06
To: [*omissis*]
Cc: [*omissis*]
Subject: Valcambi in our Weekly Update - Invitation to respond

To: Michael Mesaric, CEO Valcambi

From: Aliou Diouf & Gregory Regaignon – Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Dear Michael Mesaric,

Greetings; we are writing from Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to invite Valcambi to respond to Berne Declaration's comments in reaction to your statement relatively to its report "A Golden Racket". We would like to give you the opportunity to respond before we draw international attention to these concerns in our international Weekly Update e-newsletter on Wednesday, 14 October. Further information about this is in point 2 below.

1. About the Resource Centre

[Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](#) is an independent non-profit organization that promotes greater awareness and informed discussion about human rights issues relating to business. The Resource Centre was founded by a group of former business people, human rights, development & environmental advocates and academics, now our board members.

Our website covers over 6000 companies worldwide. Heavy traffic on our site comes from over 195 countries and territories. It links to reports about positive initiatives by companies as well as reports about concerns that have been raised by civil society. It features a portal on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. These Principles provide a set of norms on the corporate responsibility to respect human rights that have been endorsed by all countries on the UN Human Rights Council and by major business associations. Mary Robinson, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and President of Ireland, is Chair of our International Advisory Network. For further details, please see the "[About us](#)" section of our website.

2. Invitation to respond

Our free Weekly Update is sent via email to over 17,000 opinion leaders worldwide, including people in the media, business, investment firms, the United Nations and other international organizations, governments and NGOs. In our Weekly Update on Wednesday, 14 October, we plan to include link to the following comments:

- « BD comments on Valcambi statement », Berne Declaration, 16th September 2015 (Please see the PDF attached).

We believe that it is important to give companies the opportunity to respond when concerns are raised about their operations, so that our readers have access to the company's perspective. We would therefore like to invite Valcambi to respond to the concerns raised in the comments. Please note that we are not affiliated with the authors of the comments.

We will send out the update on Wednesday 14 October, so would be able to add your full response alongside the material above if we receive it by 6 PM Dakar time Monday, 12 October. We can link to a response in the form of a PDF, Word document or web-link, and

would be grateful if the date is clearly indicated on it. If Valcambi does not provide a response, we will indicate in the Weekly Update that we invited Valcambi to respond, but that you did not do so. Your response or non-response will be permanently registered in all relevant sections of our website.

A chart featuring past company responses in our Weekly Updates can be accessed [here](#). As you can see, over 70% of the companies invited to respond have done so. We indicate at the top of each company section on our website the company's [response rate](#) to human rights concerns – your company's response or non-response to this invitation will be included in calculating this rate.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any further information – we can be reached by email or telephone (see contact details below).

Yours sincerely,

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Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

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