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Public Eye

Michael Mesaric
CEO
Valcambi SA
Via Passeggiata 3
6828 Balerna

September 12, 2016

Public Eye: Marc Guéniat **Phone:** +41 (0)21 620 03 02 **E-mail:** marc.gueniat@publiceye.ch

Somo: Irene Schipper **Phone:** +31 (0)20 535 60 67 **E-mail:** I.Schipper@somo.nl

RE: Valcambi statement of 26th November 2015 on reports by Public Eye and SOMO

Dear Mr. Mesaric,

We are writing you with regard to the statement issued by Valcambi on 26 November 2015, titled "Valcambi statement on reports by the Berne Declaration and SOMO on responsible sourcing practices from Burkina Faso", which refers to the respective reports published by Public Eye (formerly the Berne Declaration) in September 2015 and by SOMO in November 2015. Nine months have passed and we would like to enquire about the follow-up to the announcements made in this statement.

In the statement, Valcambi wrote that it "immediately suspended all refining activities regarding imports of gold from Togo," "began an investigation into the allegations made in the report" and that it would "make a decision about continuing to source from Burkina Faso pending the findings of this investigation." Has this decision been made and, if so, what did Valcambi decide?

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Avenue Charles-Dickens 4, CH-1006 Lausanne, tél. +41 (0)21 620 03 03, fax +41 (0) 21 620 03 00
www.publiceye.ch, contact@publiceye.ch, compte postal 10-10813-5

Valcambi also wrote that it was “taking measures to improve its management systems for due diligence on ASM sources.” What are these measures?

Similarly, what is the state of affairs of the project to develop a “Framework for Responsible Sourcing from ASM”?

Finally, in the statement Valcambi referred to its intention to “release a report to stakeholders of the findings of its investigations and due diligence improvements.” Has this report been released and, if so, which stakeholders did Valcambi share it with?

Valcambi refers to itself as “one of the leading refineries implementing the OECD Due Diligence Guidance across its supply chains.” We look forward to hear about the materialization of these commitments.

Best regards,



Irene Schipper



Marc Guéniat