In 2016, ThyssenKrupp took over the contract for the construction of the CIMSUD cement plant near El Aaiun, the capital of Western Sahara.

1. Has the construction of the CIMSUD plant been completed and since when has it been in operation?

*In 2016, ThyssenKrupp received the order to design and supply a cement mill and a packaging plant. The construction of the plant was the responsibility of the customer. Construction completion and commissioning were in 2019, the order volume was €5.9 million.*

2. Are further projects involving ThyssenKrupp planned in the occupied territories of Western Sahara? If so, what are they?

*ThyssenKrupp is not currently carrying out any projects in Western Sahara and no more are planned.*

3. Is the Executive Board aware that Western Sahara is occupied and that Morocco is the occupying power there?

*We, ThyssenKrupp, are aware of the difficult political situation in Northwest Africa and are also following developments very closely. Overall, we believe that political efforts, diplomatic efforts and economic developments can contribute to easing tensions in this region.*

4. According to international law, the explicit consent of the Sahrawi people is required for economic activities in Western Sahara, which is classified by the UN as a non-self-governing territory. Contracts with authorities of the Moroccan occupying power are inadmissible for this purpose. How did ThyssenKrupp obtain the consent of the Sahrawi people for the construction of the CIMSUD plant?

*This project involved the supply of components for a cement plant for a private sector customer. ThyssenKrupp supplied a cement mill and a packaging plant for this purpose. The cement plant serves the local demand. The construction of the plant was carried out by the customer. We have no information about any arrangements with third parties by our customer.*

5. The settlement policy of the Moroccan state in occupied Western Sahara substantiates a violation of the Geneva Convention according to the Research services of the German Bundestag and thus constitutes a war crime: can ThyssenKrupp rule out the possibility that the products manufactured in the CIMSUD plant are used for construction projects within the framework of the settlement policy?

*We are not aware of any connections with the Moroccan government. To our knowledge, the cement plant primarily has a local customer base and is also seen as a stimulus for the regional economy. Ultimately, however, this is also a matter that concerns the owner of the plant.*
6. Does ThyssenKrupp see the construction of the CIMSUD plant in accordance with international law?

We have no contrary findings. There were no embargoes or other export restrictions on the EU for deliveries to the Western Sahara region at the time and there are still none.

7. The Polisario Front, recognised by the UN as the representative of the Sahrawi people, on 18 November 2020 declared the entire Western Sahara to be a war zone on: how does ThyssenKrupp assess the risks of its involvement in Western Sahara against this background?

As stated earlier, ThyssenKrupp has already finished its work in Western Sahara in 2019; consequently, we do not see any risk for ThyssenKrupp here.

8. Have you had audits carried out on your projects in Western Sahara and Morocco? If so, what are the results, in particular with regard to respect for the rights of the Sahrawi population?

ThyssenKrupp has carried out regular audits at the client OCP. There were no indications of any disregard for the rights of the Sahrawi population.