



Delek Group  
19 Abba Eban Blvd.  
POB 2054, Herzlia 4612001  
Israel

Brussels, 24.12.2022

Att: Idan Wallace, CEO

## REGARDING PETROLEUM AGREEMENT IN OCCUPIED WESTERN SAHARA

Dear Mr. Wallace

Western Sahara Resource Watch (WSRW) is privileged to write to you. We are writing with regard to the announcement of your subsidiary NewMed Energy of having “signed agreements concerning oil and/or natural gas exploration and production activities in the Boujdour Atlantique exploration license, which is situated in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Morocco”.

<https://newmedenergy.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Immediate-Report-Re-Morocco-Dec-6-2022-FINAL.pdf>

We take it for granted that you are well aware that the Boujdour Atlantique licence is not located offshore Morocco. The baseless Moroccan claims to the territory are not recognized by the UN, the EU, the ECJ, the ICJ or the African Court of Human and Peoples Rights.

As you probably know, Morocco illegally annexed part of Western Sahara by military force in 1975 in violation of the basic right to self-determination of the people of Western Sahara. This military invasion was condemned by the United Nations General Assembly and to this day, Western Sahara remains listed by the UN as a Non-Self-Governing Territory, pending a decolonization process. On international rankings, such as by Freedom House, Western Sahara scores lowest in the world on political freedoms. Leading human rights defenders from Western Sahara, including the general-secretary of the association that would normally take part in monitoring foreign controversial business operations on their land, are currently serving life-time sentences in Moroccan jails.

In line with the International Court of Justice, the Court of Justice of the European Union has outlined, in five separate rulings, that the Government of Morocco does not have any legal basis, sovereignty or international mandate to administer the territory. The recent court rulings of the Court of Justice of the European Union have also made it clear that in the event of an entity undertaking

business in Western Sahara, consent must be obtained from the people of Western Sahara. It stated that the two territories of Morocco and Western Sahara are 'separate and distinct'.

Signing of a licence for exploration and production of hydrocarbons with ONHYM in Western Sahara fundamentally contribute to entrenching the illegal Moroccan occupation.

We would appreciate a response to the following questions:

1. Will Delek Group take initiatives for the immediate termination of this contract, signed with the Moroccan government on occupied land?
2. In the meantime, will Delek Group ensure the immediate correction of the false information on NewMed's website, suggesting that the agreement was signed offshore "Morocco"?
3. Why has Delek Group chosen to ignore the legal status of Western Sahara as separate and distinct from Morocco, and the right to self-determination of the Saharawi people?

Western Sahara Resource Watch is convinced that it is not in the interest of Delek Group and NewMed Energy to become associated with continued occupation and war in Western Sahara, and we urge your company to immediately halt further plans to engage in such activity.

We strongly condemn your company's lack of respect of the very elementary right to self-determination of the Saharawi people.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Erik Hagen

Western Sahara Resource Watch

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