

**STATEMENT BY JOCHEN EIKHOLT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SIEMENS GAMESA RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**SIEMENS GAMESA RENEWABLE ENERGY – AGM – 27 MARCH 2023**

“Perhaps it is better if I answer in English. So first of all thank you very much for the questions.

We are aware that the territory of Western Sahara is disputed under international law. Siemens Gamesa does not have a mandate to take a political position on such issues or to confirm the territorial status. These matters are the responsibilities of governments and international organisations.

Siemens Gamesa always and without exception acted in compliance with applicable law. We have taken careful note of the judgement of the European Court of Justice on the 29th of September 2021 on the fishery agreement between the European Union and the kingdom of Morocco. This concerns the validity of an international agreement between actors under international law and does not directly address the question of the legality of private law contracts. In this reasoning the ECJ also stated that the decision does not have immediate repealing effects during the appeal period. The European Commission and the European Council have appealed against the judgement within the legally prescribed period. The appeal judgement is still pending and there is still legal uncertainty on that matter. We will await the appeal ruling of the European Court of Justice in order to derive conclusion for further directions by private companies like ours.

Now Siemens Gamesa will fulfil existing obligations from valid contracts and according with the legal requirements.

And with respect to potential new projects located in Western Sahara and in line with its past practice Siemens Gamesa will comply with all applicable laws and court rulings. We will carefully analyse the new legal situation at a relevant point in time and of course we will engage with the appropriate institutional stakeholders and also with focus on the creation of benefits for the local population. Ultimately the engagement of any new project will follow the relevant corporate governance processes and rules.”