



Cognis GmbH · D-40766 Monheim

Mr. Ronny Hansen

Støttekomiteen for Vest-Sahara

Postanschrift / mailing address:

Cognis GmbH
Postfach 10 02 63
D-40766 Monheim

Lieferanschrift / delivery address:

Rheinpromenade 1
D-40789 Monheim
Telefon (+49) 2 173/49 95-0
www.cognis.com

Monheim, March 15, 2010

Sourcing of fish oil from Western Sahara: your open letter / our measures taken

Dear Ronny Hansen,

Thank you very much for your letter and the information given on the political situation of Western Sahara.

Please let us explain the position of our company on the sourcing of fish oil from Western Sahara and also inform you about the actions we have taken in reaction to the recent information.

We incorporate sustainable values and practices into our purchasing procedures and expect all our suppliers and service providers to adopt a similar approach. We mainly source fish oil from Peru and Chile. Up until now a minor part of our fish oil supply also came from Morocco.

With the information gained from the Swedish TV program "Uppdrag Granskning" we contacted our supplier in order to make sure that the fish oil provided to us does not originate from Western Sahara. The respective supplier confirmed that the fish oil we receive from Morocco does not come from Western Sahara, but is made from fish caught in the area of Tan Tan and Agadir, by local fishermen.

Based on the report on SVT 1 of Wednesday, March 10, we inquired once again and this time were told that it can not be guaranteed to 100 percent that we do not get fish oil from Western Sahara as well.

In the light of this new information we requested our supplier

- to provide us with detailed documentation on the origin of the fish oil we received within the last 12 months.
- to ensure that the fish oil provided to us in the future will not originate from Western Sahara.

Kommanditgesellschaft
Sitz: Monheim
Handelsregister:
Düsseldorf HRA 15068
Rheinpromenade 1
40789 Monheim am Rhein

Persönlich haftende Gesellschafterin:
Cognis Verwaltungs-GmbH
Sitz: Monheim
Handelsregister: Düsseldorf HRB 41740
Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats der
persönlich haftenden Gesellschafterin:
Dr. Harald Wulff

Geschäftsführer der persönlich
haftenden Gesellschafterin:
Dr. Antonio Trius
Dr. Hans-Helmut Heymann
Richard Ridinger
Paul Allen
Stephane Baseden
Marco Panichi

Deutsche Bank AG, Düsseldorf
Konto 227 2474 (BLZ 300 700 10)
Commerzbank AG, Düsseldorf
Konto 1140 540 (BLZ 300 400 00)



I hope that this information shows you that our company takes this topic very seriously and is committed to stop imports of fish oil from Western Sahara.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Antonio Trius", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Antonio Trius
Chief Executive Officer Cognis

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Baseden", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephane Baseden
Executive Vice President Nutrition & Health