



March 17, 2023

Mr Bristow:

Re: Response to your letter of March 2, 2023

As set out in the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#), corporations have a responsibility to respect human rights and must assure themselves that their operations are not causing or contributing to human rights abuses. Corporations must prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations by carrying out due diligence.

In our [report](#) and letters to you ([October 22, 2022](#); [January 27, 2023](#); [February 24, 2023](#)) we have provided you with information based on our field investigation and information provided to us. We have raised concerns with you regarding, among others, alleged coercion in the land and property evaluation process and in the process by which some Indigenous Kuria villagers of Komarera signed off on these evaluations. We noted that the compensation offered is not in accordance with international best practice or [UN standards](#) and we noted that our findings fit the definition of forced eviction as set out by, among others, the [ICMM](#) of which Barrick is a member.

We have also made recommendations, including for an independent investigation of these issues.

We note that in your letter of March 2, 2023 you reject the recommendations we have made. You also deny the concerns we have raised. As Barrick sees 'little point in discussing details regarding [your] safeguarding of information' we will not consider providing additional information at this point, but we submit that the information and documentation we have already provided should, at the very least, cause Barrick to implement and report on its due diligence procedures in regard to the Komarera evictions. We agree that further letter exchanges on this issue are not likely to be useful at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Coumans".

Catherine Coumans, Ph.D.
MiningWatch Canada

cc:

Mr. Balakrishnan Rajagopal, UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Email: hrc-sr-housing@un.org

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Others