



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Date **15** September 2013  
Re Final Statement by Dutch NCP on OECD Guidelines 'Posco' Procedure

Dear Mr Evers,

I have taken note of the Final Statement of the Dutch National Contact Point (NCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on the specific instance notified by Lok Shakti Abhiyan, KTNC Watch, the Fair, Green and Global Alliance and ForUM concerning an alleged breach of the OECD Guidelines by the Dutch pension fund ABP and its pension administrator, APG.

I appreciate the constructive and forward-looking way in which parties have engaged in dialogue with one another. I am pleased that under the NCP's leadership, the dialogue has brought the parties to an agreement on the issues raised in the notification.

As you are aware, the Dutch government views the OECD Guidelines as the normative framework for international corporate social responsibility. The importance of the guidelines, which state that enterprises should avoid causing or contributing through their activities to any breach, cannot be overemphasised.

I would like to underline that enterprises bear responsibility even for adverse impacts to which they have not contributed when that impact is directly linked to them through a business relationship. I would also like to reiterate that the government expects all Dutch enterprises to comply with the OECD Guidelines, irrespective of the country in which they operate.

I hope that the NCP's balanced statement and observations will offer the parties opportunities to continue their dialogue, thus strengthening the authority and observance of the OECD Guidelines.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lilianne Ploumen', with a large, stylized initial 'L'.

Lilianne Ploumen  
Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands