

Australian National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

Canberra, April 2010

The Australian National Contact Point (ANCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (Guidelines) promotes the principles of the Guidelines and provides a forum for the parties concerned to discuss all relevant issues to any specific issues which may arise.

On 12 September 2010 the ANCP received a specific instance complaint from Justiça Ambiental, an NGO from Mozambique, as the lead for a number of interested parties against BHP Billiton PLC with regard to a subsidiary's (Mozal SARL) operating repair plans. These plans specifically relate to the repair of two fume treatment centres at Mozal's alumina refinery near Maputo in Mozambique.

At the same time, Justiça Ambiental lodged a similar complaint with the United Kingdom National Contact Point (UKNCP), as BHP Billiton PLC is a dual listed company (Australian Stock Exchange and London Stock Exchange).

Following discussions between the ANCP and the UKNCP it was determined that the UKNCP would have carriage of this complaint as BHP Billiton PLC's alumina group is located in the United Kingdom.

The UKNCP has released a statement, dated 2 February 2011, accepting the complaint for further consideration but suspending the complaint process in order to take into account the parties' decision to participate in conciliation/mediation outside of the UKNCP's process. A copy of this statement can be found on the UKNCP website (under the section "Initial Assessments"): www.bis.gov.uk/nationalcontactpoint/cases

