

1 December 2025

Giulia Barbos
Human Rights Researcher & Campaigner
BankTrack
giulia@banktrack.org

Dear Giulia

Thank you for your recent email regarding **Rio Tinto and the Simandou iron ore project** in Guinea. We have brought your email, the draft report and your request to the attention of our CEO, Nuno Matos. As previously explained, ANZ does not respond to questions about the specifics of customer relationships or transactions.

We assess and manage potential social and environmental impacts of our lending decisions to large business customers¹ through the application of our Social and Environmental Risk Policy and Social and Environmental Risk Standard, including specific requirements for 'sensitive sectors'.

The Social and Environmental Risk Policy outlines ANZ's approach to the management and mitigation of social and environmental risks arising from large business customer activities. The Social and Environmental Risk Standard outlines the social and environmental factors to be taken into account by our bankers. They include consideration of expectations we have in relation to human rights and land acquisition by our customers that we consider to be improper, as well as our approach to customer activities that significantly affect culturally or environmentally sensitive areas.

Through our engagement with our large business customers, we seek to identify and understand social and environmental risks posed by their activities and to understand how these are being managed. We expect our large business customers in all sectors to implement appropriate stakeholder engagement strategies and plans, and this is a matter that bankers are directed to consider through the Social and Environmental Risk screening. Screening occurs at least annually for existing large business customers.

As we have previously indicated, where customer practices are identified that may not be consistent with ANZ's expectations, we may encourage the customer to identify a specific and time-bound improvement or remediation plan. Where ANZ identifies an issue that we consider material, we may decline further financing or exit the relationship if the customer is not willing to commit to an improvement or remediation plan.

We support the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including through access to our Human Rights Grievance Mechanism (Mechanism). This Mechanism considers grievances submitted by people and communities who believe their human rights have been impacted by a current or former ANZ large business customer. The Mechanism's framework is available [here](#).

We will continue to monitor the issue and encourage you to contact the company directly.

Kind regards



Ben Walker
Head of ESG Analytics and Advisory

¹ Customers of ANZ Institutional division where ANZ has a credit exposure.