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13 June 2017

Dear Messrs. Brightwell and Missbach,

The application of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights to the banking sector, including with respect to responsibility for remediation

As the principal United Nations office mandated to promote and protect human rights for all, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) provides substantive expertise, technical assistance and other advice to relevant stakeholders on international human rights standards and principles and the protection of human rights worldwide.

On behalf of OHCHR, I hereby transmit our response to BankTrack's request of 6 March 2017 for interpretive advice on the interpretation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the context of the banking sector.

The attached advice is intended to provide clarification on aspects of the UNGPs in relation to the particular questions posed by BankTrack. It may also be a resource for other stakeholders in their efforts to implement the UNGPs.

Please do not hesitate to follow up with my Office through Ms. Lene Wendland, Chief, Human Rights and Economic and Social Issues Section (lwendland@ohchr.org), if further clarification or guidance is needed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peggy Hicks", written over a faint circular stamp.

Peggy Hicks
Director

Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures
and Right to Development Division

cc: Lene Wendland