

cometis AG • Unter den Eichen 7 • 65195 Wiesbaden

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Ms. Ella Skybenko

Eastern Europe & Central Asia Senior Researcher & Representative

via email: skybenko@business-humanrights.org

Wiesbaden,
30 September 2020

Statement on cometis' work for the export promotion agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Dear Ms. Skybenko,

Thank you for the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre's interest in cometis AG's work for the Export Promotion Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in collaboration with Xenophon Strategies, Inc. In light of the recent article published by Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty, we particularly appreciate the opportunity to comment on our work with them, and clarify any misunderstandings.

As our sister agency Xenophon Strategies pointed out in a previous statement, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's article does not consider the substantial changes and reforms that the Republic of Uzbekistan has implemented in the past four years. Since 2016, when Shavkat Mirziyoyev was elected President, he has successfully implemented a number of reforms to modernize the country and its economy.

We are working with the Government of Uzbekistan to make these reforms and their effects transparent to stakeholders. To this end, we are producing an Environmental Social and Governance Report for Uzbekistan. ESG reports are widely known and accepted as a reporting format on the most material issues of sustainability. With this report, Uzbekistan will provide a new level of transparency on the key challenges it is facing as well as its reform efforts and progress to solve them.

Thank you for your interest once more. Feel free to get in touch at any time, in case you have questions or concerns.