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Malik Habayeb and Marti Flacks
Business & Human Rights Resource Centre
Online.

24 September 2018

Dear Malik and Marti,

Thank you for your email of 17 September 2018 inviting Aviva plc to respond to allegations of human rights abuse in the occupied Palestinian territories by companies we invest in, as raised by a report from War on Want from July 2017.

We are aware of the significant role the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre plays in furthering the cause of human rights in a business context. We look forward to welcoming you in November at the launch of the second report of the Corporate Human Rights Benchmark.

Aviva has a long-standing commitment to respecting human rights. We issued our first human rights policy more than 10 years ago and our current policy is available on our website. Our human rights policy is supported by a wider framework including documents such as our Business Ethics Code and Policy on Cluster Munitions. Full details can be found here: <https://www.aviva.com/social-purpose/policies/>

The War on Want report identifies a number of companies "as profiting from Israel's war crimes against the Palestinian people" and also mentions Aviva as holding shares in those companies.

We are unable to comment on specific allegations. However, as part of our commitments as a responsible investor, Aviva will engage with those companies in the report, in which we have active investments, to understand what they are doing to address the alleged human rights violations. We will then decide on next steps.

We believe that responsible investment can play a key role in ensuring that human rights are respected. As such, we will continue to apply a human rights lens to our role as investor and asset owners by avoiding investing in companies that fall within the scope of our exclusions policies (e.g. as those covered by our Policy on Cluster Munitions), on a wider basis with company engagement, and challenge through the way we vote, to improve their performance on managing human rights risks, and divesting when this is deemed a balanced and proportionate response.



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More information on our approach to human rights and responsible investment is available at <https://www.aviva.com/social-purpose/>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Z J Bentham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Zelda Bentham
Group Head of Sustainability
Aviva plc