



Committee on Development  
The Chair

Mr Eric Sottas  
Director  
World Organisation Against Torture  
8, rue du Vieux Billard  
Case Postale 21  
CH-1211 Genève

Pour action ..... Michael .....

Reçu le 16 MAI 2008

Copie à .....

A classer .....

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Dear Mr Sottas,

Thank you for your letter of 1st February 2008 and the transmission of the OMCT Action File on the Phulbari Project in Bangladesh, expressing your concerns about the environmental, social and human rights impact of the coal mine project.

We have also been informed by your organisation about the recent decision by the Asian Development Bank to no longer to support the project. I understand that due to this decision the question of whether the project will be halted or re-launched in a modified form is currently uncertain.

Our Committee has always put a great emphasis on the need to ensure respect for human rights, including economic and social rights, in all economic and development activities.

Although in this case no funding from the European Community is involved, I would therefore be grateful if you could inform our Committee should you receive further information on the future of the project. Your dossier has also been forwarded to the Secretariat of the South Asia delegation and to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Subcommittee of the European Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Josep Borrell Fontelles