

Thumeka Magwangqana BASF AGM 2018

BASF Shareholder meeting, Rosengarten Mannheim, 4 May 2018

My name is Thumeka Magwangqana. I am a South African civil rights activist and chairperson of the women's organization Sikhala Sonke from Marikana. Sikhala Sonke means "We cry together". Since the massacre of 16 August 2012, Sikhala Sonke campaigns for better working and living conditions in the mining affected communities.

Ladies and Gentleman! I took the long way from the informal settlement of Marikana which lies in the heart of the South African Platinum Belt to come here, to Mannheim. I made this effort to speak to you at the BASF Annual General Meeting. I really do hope that you, the board, the management and the shareholders of BASF, listen carefully.

In 2012, our husbands went on strike, asking for an increase of their wages. They were sitting on the mountain in Wonderkop, waiting for their mine management to respond to their plea.

But Lonmin refused to do so, instead of them to come, the police came. shot at with live ammunition, as if they were criminals.

I did not know that asking for a pay raise is a crime in a post-apartheid South Africa led by the African National Congress. Why is our black brothers' blood so cheap?

Ladies and Gentleman, the management of the mine, Lonmin is also accountable for what has happened in Marikana. Lonmin is a perpetrator in the most large massacre in our younger history. We never said that BASF itself is responsible for that massacre – so please do not reduce us on that, like you did last year. All what we have said is: you can not turn a blind eye on the fact that your major platinum producer is responsible for a massacre. And also you, the shareholders of BASF should not look aside.

Let me speak about the situation as it is now: I can't believe that five and a half years after the massacre, there is no one held accountable, neither politicians, the police nor the management of Lonmin. Neither did BASF fulfil its responsibilities in the supply chain.

How is it possible that politicians remain in power although they have blood on their hands? How it is possible that business as usual is still going on?

As the Widows of Marikana said two years ago here, and also last year one of the injured mine workers: There is no change in Marikana. The people are living in shacks that are leaking, there is no sanitation, no running water, no electricity. And there are no roads. Where is the better life for all? All we have is gender-based violence, domestic violence, rapes; the situation is very bad; also the poverty is driving these things to happen.

Mr. Hambrecht and Mr. Bruder Müller, as representative of a women's organization living in the community of Marikana I do have the following questions:

1. Due to activities of Lonmin our community is faced with massive environmental pollution. It makes us sick – us, our children and our animals. As a member of the UN Global Compact you – BASF - committed yourself in your self-commitments

to compliance with environmental standards, amongst others. What are you intending to do to match your self-commitments with deeds in your relationship to Lonmin?

2. Which means of pressure did you exert on Lonmin the past year to drive them taking concrete steps to ensure that people of Marikana have sufficient water, proper sanitation and electricity?

3. As a community we are worried about speculations on a possible takeover of Lonmin by Sibanye-Stillwater. We learnt from the media that this year already five workers lost their lives in the mines and several Hundreds of them were locked up in the shaft for more than 2 days while the public and their relatives were inadequately informed about. BASF being the main customer of platinum from Marikana, what are you going to do that there will be a new start in the relationship of the company with the community? Which scopes for action will you use to drive the new business partner to exercise good communication policy?

4. You commit yourself in the UN Global compact to environmental protection and the observance of human rights. While buying platinum at Lonmin do you use your market power only to maximize your profits or do you also make a point in negotiating prices that take into account the commitments of Lonmin which are applying environmental standards and not destroying the communities.

Ladies and Gentlemen, people of the board and management, when I get home to Marikana, to my community, to the workers and their families, I wish that I can bring them good news. I want to tell them that BASF is no longer part of the problem

and part of this conflict but part of the solution. I would like to tell them:

'Those shareholders in Germany do believe in justice and do take concrete steps for us in Marikana to participate as well.' Please, enable me to tell this to the people in Marikana.

Amandla! Awethu! Power – to the People!