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Alter Trade (Negros) under threat: a letter to Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

Tuesday 20 February 2007, by [GEPA Fair Trade](#), [SPECK Thomas](#) (Date first published: 14 February 2007).

His Excellency Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

President

Republic of the Philippines

Malacanang Palaca

Manila

Philippines

E-mail: corres.op.gov.ph

14.2.2007

Security for our Trading Partner Alter Trade Corporation, Bacolod, Negros Occidental, Philippines

Dear Ms. President,

We, as a German Fair Trade Company, would kindly request you to most urgently take all necessary steps so that the Alter Trade Corporation (ATC) in Bacolod may continue their very important work for the poor sugar and banana farmers of Negros and do not need to fear being personally threatened by the CPP-NPA in Negros. They have marked the Alter Trade leaders for summary execution.

We are deeply worried and fully trust in the presidents of ATC, the management and the ATC-team in Bacolod. We would kindly ask you to support them in every possible way in order to secure their lives.

The GEPA Fair Trade Company has been in cooperation with the Alter Trade Corporation in Bacolod since 1988. We support this organization by selling the traditional Mascobado sugar of thousands of small scale farmers in Germany. Due to this long-standing cooperation, the management and staff of the organisation is very well known to us.

With kind regards,

signed

Thomas Speck

(General Manager)

CC:

Hon. Jesus Dureza, Secretary, Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, Pasig City, Philippines

Mr. Luis Jalandoni, Chairman, NDF Panel, Utrecht, The Netherlands

The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo, Norway

The Embassy of the Royal Norwegian Government, Makati City, Philippines

Ambassador Alistar Macdonald, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Philippines, Makati City, Philippines