

2 July 2021

Ms. Beatriz Balbin
Chief, Special Procedures Branch
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Des Nations
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
registry@ohchr.org

**Letter Regarding Joint Communication of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls;
Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business
enterprises; Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable
standard of physical and mental health**
Ref. AL OTH 197/2021 (dated 7 June 2021)

Dear Ms. Balbin:

We have received your Joint Communication dated 7 June 2021, requesting information on contraceptive pills delivered and marketed in Chile. Organon & Co. (“Organon”) is a global healthcare company focused on improving the health of women throughout their lives. Organon was spun off from Merck & Co., Inc. in June 2021 and, as part of that spinoff, now owns the MARVELON™ (ethinylestradiol and desogestrel) tablet products.

Organon is committed to conducting all of its business activities ethically, and consistent with the principles of responsible business conduct. It strives for alignment with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (“UNGPs”) and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (“Guidelines”) and has in place a robust governance and policy framework that is consistent with the UNGPs and the Guidelines.

Organon appreciates the opportunity to engage with the OHCHR about the important issues identified in the Joint Communication. It will endeavor to provide a fulsome response to the Joint Communication by 7 August 2021, consistent with the 60-day time period it references. We do request that the OHCHR refrains from publishing the Joint Communication or other statements related to these matters at least until Organon has had the opportunity provide its response, which we hope would be included if the Joint Communication or other statements are made public.



We look forward to engaging with you further, and if you have any questions, please do let us know.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geralyn Ritter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Geralyn Ritter
Executive Vice President,
External Affairs and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

Organon & Co.
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