

an investment worth at least \$5 billion that plaintiffs lawfully held to mine some of the world's most valuable deposits of iron ore located in the Simandou mountain range in the African nation of Guinea. Through fraud, illegality, defamation, and criminal misconduct, Soros interfered with and induced the breach of plaintiffs' contractual iron ore concession and agreement, denominated a "Basic Convention" Agreement (together with related agreements, permits, and concessions, the "Convention"). The Convention was negotiated, finalized, and ratified over the course of many years by and with three independent governments of Guinea. Before the 2014 breach of the Convention induced by Soros, plaintiffs had invested close to \$1 billion in the socially constructive project, which would have brought jobs and wealth to Guinea, one of the world's poorest countries, as well as a nearly \$1 billion consumer rail system. Soros's mendacious and illegal conduct destroyed plaintiffs' Guinea investment. Nothing has been done to develop the resource. Guinean workers, consumers, and population are the losers.

b. Second, having delayed, damaged, and destroyed plaintiffs' investment in Guinea, Soros and his coconspirators trained Soros's unbridled animus towards plaintiffs (and an adviser to plaintiffs whose name is associated with these companies, Israeli Beny Steinmetz), to damage plaintiffs' reputation worldwide, destroying other of plaintiffs' business opportunities and those of its affiliates in the process. Plaintiffs' damage from these other losses similarly runs into the billions.

3. Soros and his controlled entities (summarized in Exhibit A hereto) used four categories of predicate illegality to devastate plaintiffs' business and reputation, each set forth in detail in this Complaint:

- **Soros’s Actual and Threatened Extortion of Plaintiffs and Others.** Soros and his controlled entities sought to extort billions of dollars from plaintiffs and others wanting to do business in Guinea. Plaintiffs refused Soros’s illegal inducements. In punishment for plaintiffs’ refusal to be shaken down, Soros ratcheted up the illegal conduct against them.
- **Soros Grossly Manipulated Otherwise Valid and Lawful Processes.** Soros and his controlled entities puppeteered the government of Guinea, misled other elected officials and governmental entities including President Obama (para. 139 below) as well as the OECD (para. 142 below), misused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), distorted and violated the law, tampered with witnesses, manipulated the press – anything and everything he could control to attack plaintiffs and falsely accuse them of corruption in securing the Convention. Soros’s scheme included his plan to “shake up the mining license regime” and “rework[]” all existing mining contracts in Guinea. Masquerading as a legitimate public initiative, thereby defrauding various Guinean officials as well, Soros’s shake up and rework constituted brutish and insolent interference with plaintiffs’ valid contract rights. Soros’s shake up and rework plan, supposedly directed at the industry as a whole, was in reality a witch hunt directed solely at plaintiffs. Soros trumped up new and onerous contract terms as well as new and onerous extra-contractual obligations – all with the purpose and effect of killing plaintiffs’ contracts and expropriating their value.
- **Soros Fabricated, Uttered, and Repeated Savagely False Accusations About Plaintiffs.** Soros and his controlled entities are grandmasters of **The Big Lie** –

taking false or unsubstantiated allegations of wrongdoing and circulating, recirculating, and repeating them until they go viral and pass for something substantiated. The illegal Soros enterprise was pressed into overtime to attack and damage plaintiffs. Soros funded a private investigator, one Fox, whose fabrication talents were exposed and condemned by a neutral arbitral tribunal in 2016. Yet despite Fox's total incredibility, Soros-funded law firm DLA Piper – a different firm hired to review the same issues found nothing illegal – further embellished Fox's lies, knowingly and intentionally repeating them to a Soros-funded panel in Guinea, which repeated and further embellished the lies in a report, which a Soros-induced government administrative body was then duped to repeat and rely on to terminate the Convention. Defendants began with groundless asseverations and then piled on layer upon layer of additional falsity and distortion. What resulted, an outrageous display of Fake News worsening the reputational harm by the equivalent of the children's game of Telephone, allowed the false information to gain both traction and momentum from Soros-funded or fed press publishing leaked snippets of the falsehoods.

- **Soros Spread His Destruction of Plaintiffs' Reputation and Business Still**

Further. Soros's hatred of plaintiffs did not stop in Guinea. Having killed plaintiffs' investment in Guinea, Soros stalked plaintiffs around the world. The illegal Soros enterprise, having fabricated and spread lies, infiltrated other venues and governments, including in the United States, Switzerland, and Israel. Soros's continued illegality led to further harm to plaintiffs' reputation, and plaintiffs' loss

of other profitable business opportunities worth at least as much in the aggregate as the Guinea investment.

4. Plaintiffs' losses at the hand of Soros measure at least \$10 billion. It is time for Soros to pay for that damage. It is also time to dismember the illegal Soros enterprise.

THE PARTIES

5. Plaintiff BSG Resources (Guinea) Limited ("BSGR Guernsey") is registered under the laws of the Bailiwick of Guernsey, registration number 50001. Its principal place of business is the West Wing, Frances House, Sir William Place, St. Peter Port, Guernsey. Between April 2010 and March 13, 2015, BSGR Guernsey was named VBG-Vale BSGR (Guinea) Guernsey and BSGR Guinea was named VBG-Vale BSGR Sàrl. References to BSGR Guernsey and BSGR in this complaint, including as part of "plaintiffs" as defined herein, include the period between April 2010 and March 13, 2015 and refer to the joint venture during that period. BSGR Guernsey is wholly owned by plaintiff BSG Resources Limited.

6. Plaintiff BSG Resources (Guinea) Sàrl ("BSGR Guinea") is registered under the laws of the Republic of Guinea with registered offices at Immeuble Bleu, 5ème étage Résidence 2000, Moussoudougou-C/Matam, Conakry, Republic of Guinea, Post Box 6389. BSGR Guinea is a wholly owned subsidiary of BSGR Guernsey.

7. Plaintiff BSG Resources Limited ("BSGRL") is a company registered under the laws of the Bailiwick of Guernsey, registration number 46565. Its principal office is in West Wing, Frances House, Sir William Place, St Peter Port, Guernsey. BSGRL was incorporated in 2003 as a limited company in Jersey and migrated in March 2007 to Guernsey.

8. Defendant George Soros is a financier who resides and is domiciled in the State of New York. Soros is a Hungarian-American businessman and multi-billionaire, among the

world's wealthiest individuals. He serves as chairman of the Soros Fund Management LLC (a for-profit hedge fund), and related for-profit entities, as well as for OSF, all of which are based and do business in New York City. Soros controls a huge network of organizations and individuals to carry out his instructions. As reported in the press, "**Soros is a convicted felon.** Soros was convicted of insider trading in France" (dailywire.com).

9. Defendant OSF is a purported not-for-profit organization with its principal place of business at 224 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019. OSF describes itself as a "network of foundations, partners, and projects in more than 100 countries" (<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/people/george-soros>). Soros is the founder and chairman of OSF. OSF in turn funds a number of NGOs controlled or influenced by Soros, including Global Witness, the Natural Resource Governance Institute (formerly Revenue Watch Institute), Publish What You Pay, and Human Rights Watch. Its budget is set annually by George Soros (INSIDE PHILANTHROPY, *Philanthropy v. Tyranny: Inside the Open Society Foundations' Biggest Battle Yet*, 9/14/2015).

10. At all relevant times, Soros and OSF, their agents, and other Soros related entities identified herein acted in concert with the same purpose and goal of harming BSGR. As such, the acts of each are, for purposes of this Complaint, the acts of all.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(2) because there is complete diversity of citizenship between the parties and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 exclusive of interest and costs.

12. Venue is properly placed in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (2). A substantial part of the events giving rise to BSGR's claims occurred in this district, and Soros and OSF each reside and do business in this district.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. Background

A. Plaintiffs' Mining Background

13. BSGR is an international, diversified mining group that, at all relevant times, employed several thousand people in many different countries. Over the past fifteen years, BSGR has invested hundreds of millions of dollars developing and successfully operating mines and related businesses worldwide. By and through its in-house technical and financial expertise, BSGR had or has created value for its international stakeholders in numerous countries, including the Balkans and former Soviet Union, South Africa, Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Guinea.

14. Through this expertise, BSGR has grown rapidly into one of the largest private investors in Africa. Prior to Soros's wrongdoing in Guinea, BSGR had completed expansion, exploitation, prospecting, and development projects in the areas of metals and mining, oil, gas, and power. Its track record of operating and executing successful projects in these fields was driven by, among other things, strong engineering capabilities derived from its affiliates, global companies specializing in processing solutions and engineering, procurement, and construction contracting for the mining, minerals and metals, oil and gas, and chemical industries.

B. Prospecting in the Simandou Region of Guinea

15. In 2005 BSGR (through its subsidiary BSGR Guinea BVI) submitted an application for prospecting permits over available areas in the north and south regions of

Simandou. If awarded, the prospecting permits would confer on BSGR the exclusive right to conduct exploratory work in both regions, in an effort to locate and unearth iron ore deposits.

16. BSGR was not the only mining company that submitted an application seeking prospecting permits over those regions. Applications were also submitted by Rio Tinto, Vale, Mitsubishi Corporation, and BHP Billiton Ltd. Each company was summoned separately for meetings with representatives of the Guinean Ministry of Mines and the Guinean Agency for the Promotion and Development of Mining (the “CPDM”), an entity acting for the Ministry of Mines.

17. On February 6, 2006, the Guinean Minister of Mines granted BSGR’s application in two orders. The first granted BSGR Guinea BVI four prospecting permits, covering 2,047 square kilometers in the Guinean region of Beyla, Macenta, Nzérékoré, and Yomou (“Simandou South”). The second granted BSGR Guinea BVI three prospecting permits, covering 1,286 square kilometers in the region of Kérouané (“Simandou North”). Pursuant to those permits, BSGR was required to submit monthly activity reports and quarterly financial reports to the CPDM and to remit certain administration fees, stamp duties, and land taxes to the government of Guinea. BSGR complied with these requirements.

18. On February 20, 2006, BSGR Guinea BVI entered into a memorandum of understanding with Guinea, which set forth a framework for cooperation regarding future iron ore mining in both regions. Under that memorandum, and as required by the Mining Code then in existence, before a concession could be granted, BSGR agreed to conduct a feasibility study to determine the commercial viability of mining iron ore in those regions, including an assessment of what infrastructure would be required to extract any iron ore. Completion of a feasibility study typically entails detailed geological, mining, hydrogeological, metallurgical,

environmental, infrastructural, and financial assessments regarding the extent to which mining projects are physically possible and economically feasible.

19. BSGR began prospecting work in these regions as soon as it was possible. In November 2006, BSGR Guinea established exploration camps in Simandou North and Simandou South to begin geological mapping and prospective drilling.

20. The international mining company, Rio Tinto, had been responsible for conducting similar exploratory work in an area referred to as Simandou Blocks 1-4, where it had held mining rights since 1997. Rio Tinto failed to do any significant exploratory work in these regions, particularly with regard to Blocks 1 and 2, which were located near Simandou North. As a result of Rio Tinto's failure adequately to prospect these blocks, and on the basis that its delay in conducting exploratory work breached the Mining Code, the Guinean government required Rio Tinto to relinquish its rights in Blocks 1 and 2 altogether.

21. In 2008, the Government of Guinea decided to auction Blocks 1 and 2. BSGR thereafter applied for a prospecting permit for Simandou Blocks 1, 2, and 3. On December 9, 2008, that application was granted as to Simandou Blocks 1 and 2 (the "Blocks 1 and 2 Permit") by the then-Minister of Mines Louceny Nabé.

22. Guinean President Lansana Conté died two weeks later, on December 22, 2008. And although his death created some political instability – marked by military coups and a transitional government – the legitimacy of the Blocks 1 and 2 Permit was confirmed after a thorough examination by the Minister of Mines in the successor government and the Interim President, Moussa Dadis Camara.

23. BSGR Guinea began exploratory drilling in Blocks 1 and 2 in April 2009.

C. The Basic Convention Agreement

24. On November 16, 2009 – after drilling for over three years and investing over \$160 million – BSGR completed and submitted to the CPDM a 450-page feasibility study of the highest international standards with over 1,000 pages of annexes regarding the viability of mining operations in Simandou South, also called Zogota. Based on BSGR’s lengthy assessment and willingness to invest capital in the region, the CPDM recommended to the Ministry of Mines that BSGR be invited to negotiate a mining and infrastructure agreement.

25. Thereafter, the parties entered into intense, arms-length negotiations, which resulted in the signing of the Basic Convention Agreement (defined above as part of, along with other relevant agreements, including the Blocks 1 and 2 Permit and Zogota Mining Concession, the “Convention”) on December 16, 2009.

26. In exchange for the right commercially to mine iron ore found in Simandou South, BSGR agreed among other things to invest billions of dollars in capital investments in Guinea. Apart from the infrastructure necessary to mine and export iron ore, BSGR agreed to invest capital that was not directly related to developing, mining, or exporting iron ore, but instead was intended to benefit the Guinean people.

27. For example, BSGR agreed to reconstruct a 600-kilometer trans-Guinean passenger railway between the Guinean cities of Conakry and Kankan, and extend the railway another 200 kilometers to the Guinean area of Kérouané as a show of good will to the Guinean people.

28. Additionally, BSGR was required to undertake costly capital improvements to certain existing infrastructure in Guinea necessary to export iron ore from Simandou South and Blocks 1 and 2. Specifically, BSGR agreed to (1) construct a heavy cargo railway between the mine in Simandou South and the village of Sanniequellie on the border with Liberia, (2)

construct a second heavy cargo railway between Blocks 1 and 2 and Sanniequellie, (3) construct a third heavy cargo railway between Sanniequellie and the port of Buchanan, (4) renovate the existing cargo railway between Sanniequellie and the port of Buchanan on the Liberian coast, (5) renovate the port of Buchanan itself, and (6) construct a new deep-sea port southeast of Buchanan.

29. The Convention was a legal, valid, and binding agreement. Under the Convention, BSGR was granted the exclusive right to conduct commercial mining activities in the Simandou South region of Guinea and to export and sell on the international market all iron ore located therein. The Convention also specified the terms under which BSGR Guinea was entitled to develop within Blocks 1 and 2 if and when it was awarded a mining concession for those areas. BSGR Guinea was also required to submit a feasibility study with respect to Simandou Blocks 1 and 2 within twenty-four months after the Basic Convention was executed. The conclusions and terms of that feasibility study would facilitate the negotiations for the grant of a mining concession over Blocks 1 and 2.

30. In the Convention, the parties agreed that plaintiffs' rights and entitlements were secured even as against subsequent changes in law. The government of Guinea further warranted among other things that:

- Prior to the signature of this Agreement, the Government satisfied itself that the Company has all the qualifications necessary, as defined in the Mining Code, and that there is nothing to prevent the granting of a Concession and the signature of this Agreement.
- Signature by the Government on this Agreement and the execution of the obligations arising, are not in violation of any law, regulation, decree or order of any national or local authority or of any ruling handed down by a Guinean court.

31. On March 19, 2010, Guinea's new president Sékouba Konaté ratified the Convention by Presidential Decree and granted to BSGR Guinea a mining concession for the Zogota deposit ("Zogota Mining Concession") – an area covering 1,024 square kilometers of Simandou South.

D. BSGR's Joint Venture With Vale

32. In April 2010, BSGR entered into a joint venture agreement with Vale related to the development and operation of BSGR's mining rights in Simandou and particularly to help BSGR with the massive investment that was necessary to enter into the Convention.

33. Pursuant to the agreement with Vale, BSGR sold 51% of BSGR Guernsey to Vale for \$2.5 billion, with \$500 million paid up-front and the remainder to be paid by Vale according to milestones. Vale agreed to commit capital expenditures in Guinea of around \$10 billion. It was highly valuable for the joint-venture to receive such a capital commitment since external financing was complicated and difficult to obtain given the economic and political risks associated with the project and the region at the time.

34. BSGR kept the government of Guinea fully informed during the negotiations with Vale. The government of Guinea confirmed that it had no objection to the joint venture; indeed, in a March 19, 2010 letter, the Minister of Mines welcomed the proposed joint venture. By letter dated April 16, 2010, BSGR formally notified Guinea of the contemplated joint venture, explaining in detail its structure and purpose. This was followed by a meeting with the senior ministers of the Government of Guinea including the Prime Minister and the President and representatives of BSGR and Vale. The letter also explained that, even though no formal governmental approval was required under the terms of the Mining Code or the Convention, both

BSGR and Vale believed such approval would be prudent. That same day, Guinea counter-signed BSGR's letter, again confirming that it had no objection to the joint venture.

35. Two months later, BSGR Guinea formally changed its name to VBG-Vale BSGR Guinea ("VBG" or "BSGR").

36. Work in Zogota progressed quickly thereafter. Substantial progress was made on certain projects; camps and roads were constructed; and a project to link the sites of Zogota and Blocks 1 and 2 was undertaken.

37. In all, prior to Soros's interference inducing the termination of the Convention in April 2014, as described in greater detail below, the joint venture spent in excess of \$800 million related to this project (an amount equal to more than 15% of Guinea's 2010 gross domestic product) and committed to spending an additional \$10 billion on the project and on Guinean infrastructure (an amount which is more than double Guinea's gross domestic product over the preceding three years). BSGR has not been repaid or received any compensation for this investment.

38. In March 2015, BSGR, having lost the value and benefits of the Vale joint venture because of defendants' misconduct, purchased Vale's portion of VBG along with all rights and interests that Vale had in the joint venture.

E. The 2010 Presidential Election

39. There were elections for a new president of Guinea in 2010. Alpha Condé, who previously had twice failed to win the presidential election – first in 1993 and then in 1998 – announced his bid to run once again for president in the 2010 election.

40. Recent United States enforcement activities have targeted corruption in Guinea during periods before and after the 2010 election. For example, in 2016, Samuel Mebiame, an

influential Gabonese national and “fixer,” was arrested by U.S. federal authorities in New York for, among other things, the payment of bribes to senior Guinean government officials involving mining rights. In a related development, the hedge fund Och-Ziff Capital Management Group LLC and its subsidiary, OZ Management LP, agreed to pay a criminal penalty of \$213 million for “corruption of a foreign public official” and almost \$200 million by way of disgorgement for its involvement in, among other matters, a criminal conspiracy in order to obtain mining business in Africa, including in Guinea.

F. Defendants’ Hatred of Plaintiffs

41. Soros has a long standing antipathy toward Beny Steinmetz – dating as far back as 1998 when Soros falsely concluded that Steinmetz was responsible for a significant Soros business loss in Russia. In his personal capacity, Beny Steinmetz supports many charities, including youth and education programs both inside and outside of Israel, while almost all of the Soros-founded NGOs are aggressive in opposition to the Israeli army and its activities. To Soros, Steinmetz’s success, as well as his active, passionate promotion of Israeli life, business, and culture, are anathema.

42. Soros is also well known for his long-standing animus toward the State of Israel, and plaintiffs (as well as Steinmetz) are seen as Israeli (*see, e.g., JewishPress.com, DC Leaks Publishes George Soros’ Files Showing Millions Contributed to Anti-Israel Causes, 8/14/2016; THE ALGEMEINER, George Soros’ Israel-Hatred Spills Out into the Open, 9/28/2016*).

43. Soros set up OSF in 1979. The majority of OSF’s activities remain covert (*see D. Horowitz and R. Poe, “The Shadow Party” (Thomas Nelson 2007)*), and Soros has used the organization to exert tremendous influence on international politics, particularly through funding organizations adverse to Israel. OSF funds many of the NGOs Soros supports, including Global

Witness, Revenue Watch Institute (“RWI”) (now called Natural Resource Governance Institute (“NRGI”)), and Human Rights Watch (“HRW”). In 2016, OSF provided RWI with \$4.5 million in donations, about 70% of its overall funding, and, on average, OSF provided 50% of the funding for Global Witness for the years 2014 and 2015. Since 2010, Soros has provided significant annual funding to HRW. Soros and OSF – and as a result, almost all of the NGOs funded by OSF and influenced by Soros – have expressly anti-Israel positions and policies.

44. In 2012, John Waples of FTI Consulting LLP (“FTI”) (whose independent contract with plaintiffs Soros also interfered with and induced the breach of – *see infra* ¶¶ 110-115) stated that “Mr. Soros had a personal obsession about BSGR and is determined to ensure that VBG’s mining license is withdrawn/cancelled.”

II. **Predicate Illegality 1: Soros and OSF Interfere With Plaintiffs’ Contract Rights Through Actual and Attempted Extortion**

A. **Soros and OSF Conspire to Influence Others to Interfere With or Breach the Convention**

45. Soros knows Guinea President Condé. Soros became involved in Guinea during the 2010 election. *Insiders Mining*, by AFRICA MINING INTELLIGENCE, says of Soros: “One of Alpha Condé’s key outside supporters before his election to the presidency, the American billionaire philanthropist George Soros was quick to take an interest in Guinea’s energy and mining industries.” Soros has acknowledged meeting with Condé prior to the election.

46. One company stood out as a target for Soros in Guinea from the start: BSGR.

47. Defendants importuned Condé, duping him to make sure that the government of Guinea would force BSGR improperly to pay significantly more money to the government than was called for by the Convention or lose its contracts altogether.

B. The Shake Down of BSGR Induced by Defendants

48. The first stage of implementing the scheme was an attempt to force mining companies either to make huge payments to keep their rights or to force the expropriation of stakes in their assets by government controlled entities.

49. In early 2011, Asher Avidan (then-president of BSGR Guinea's parent entity), Ricardo Saad (then-CEO of VBG), and Ibrahima Touré (a BSGR employee) attended meetings with Condé. At those meetings, Condé, pursuing defendants' unlawful scheme, demanded without justification that BSGR pay \$1.25 billion to maintain its contractual mining rights.

50. BSGR refused to acquiesce to this extortionist demand and instead attempted to work with Condé in a constructive manner. To do so, on March 14, 2011, Avidan sent a letter to Condé, explaining, among other things, the work going forward in Zogota and Blocks 1 and 2, and reiterating BSGR's commitment to Guinean infrastructure projects.

51. As reported by MEDIAPART, a French investigative and opinion journal, subsequent investigations into BSGR by the Guinean government were a direct result of its refusal to pay the \$1.25 billion demanded pursuant to defendants' unlawful conspiracy:

The Steinmetz Group [BSGR] is certainly in trouble since it refused to put its hand in its pocket to preserve its rights in Simandou. Rio Tinto, which still owns half (but originally owned it in its entirety), has agreed to pay an additional 700 million dollars. It was when BSGR refused, that investigations into its dealings began . . . [by] *the battalions of lawyers and private investigators funded by George Soros, Alpha Condé's chief supporter* (emphasis added).

52. Soros and OSF masterminded and orchestrated the attempted extortion of BSGR. In fact, soon after the failed attempt to shake down BSGR. Soros and OSF engaged in secret negotiations with Vale seeking payment of \$500 million. This is reflected in a March 3, 2011 email between Chris Canavan (the Director of Global Policy Development at Soros Fund

Management LLC, a for-profit entity founded and run by Soros), based in New York, and Daniela Chimisso (Vale's Deputy General Counsel). Attached to that email was a draft memorandum of understanding between OSF and VBG (the joint venture between BSGR and Vale), entitled "Regarding a Possible Advance Payment of Tax on Mining Substances from Projects in the Republic of Guinea." The terms of the draft agreement provided that the joint venture would be required to pay the government of Guinea \$500 million, which was falsely characterized as a supposed advance payment on taxes.

53. This document demonstrates the direct involvement from New York of Soros and OSF in attempting to extort mining companies. Further, the draft memorandum of understanding states: "The Company has been approached by the [Open Society Foundation], acting on behalf of the Republic, in order to discuss possibilities of aiding the Republic in meeting a portion of its current and anticipated revenue shortfalls".

54. The draft memorandum of understanding also shows how Soros and OSF were bent on causing the Guinean government to revoke BSGR's rights. For example, the memorandum states in the second whereas clause that "the Parties are dedicated to ensuring *Vale's* successful long term investment in the country" (emphasis added). Furthermore, the only parties to the transmittal e-mail are affiliated with either Vale or Soros; there is no reference to the fact that BSGR still held substantial mining rights in Simandou. This clear evidence of Soros's intent predates the purported "process" later used to justify cancelling the Convention. The conclusion was foregone before any "process" even started.

55. In an email in June 2011. Murilo Ferreira (then the CEO of Vale) explained:

Soros called me at 6:00PM. . . . I said that we are ready to continue the project and share the Brazilian experience in mining. He said that it is the **President Alpha Condé that does not recognize the agreement with the negotiator [dealer- translation error]**

Steinmetz. An ongoing investigation is being held. **However, the relationship with Vale should not be affected by the result of this investigation.** In this context it is necessary to open a **parallel channel of negotiation** (emphasis added) .

56. In a later email that same day, Ferriera stated:

I don't know if I commented to you that in the first week of March Roger and I were in London with Soros, where he suggested that Vale should anticipate US\$250m to the government and as counterpart would get the agreement signed with BSGR guaranteed. One week later, after the draft agreement was ready, he changed position saying that we should pay US\$250m to have the right to sit with the government and discuss the agreement again??? (*Id.*)

57. BSGR rejected these proposed terms. Thereafter Soros, OSF, and their agents employed other illegal means to destroy BSGR's mining rights.

III. Predicate Illegality 2: Soros and OSF Conspire to Corrupt and Manipulate Lawful Processes to Delay, Damage, and Destroy Plaintiffs' Investment in Guinea

A. Soros and OSF Conspire to Alter the Mining Code to Interfere With Plaintiffs' Valid Convention and Harm BSGR

58. In January 2011, shortly after his election was ratified, Condé officially "requested" Soros's assistance to "reform" the mining industry. In response to this request, Soros called upon his OSF funded NGO empire and sent a "first team" to Guinea, comprising Patrick Heller, a lawyer from RWI (an NGO initiated by, and previously part of OSF, which today is still dominated by OSF), and Paul Collier, an economist who had worked on many studies financed by Soros (AFRICA INTELLIGENCE, *How Soros is backing new leader*, 1/19/2011), who under the directive of Karin Lissaker of OSF and together with others, initiated the Natural Resources Charter (NRC) which later merged with RWI to form NRGI. Paul and other members of NRC are today on the advisory council of NRGI. Following this visit to Guinea, later in January 2011 RWI published "*Preliminary Recommendations for the mining concessions' review*

process”, for the expressed purpose of assisting Guinea in “renegotiating” better terms for the mining agreements. RWI was specifically tasked with reviewing BSGR’s mining rights first.

59. Following RWI’s recommendations, in late February and early March 2011 Soros and his agents, including various OSF representatives, met with Condé for four days, supposedly to discuss a comprehensive review of all Guinean mining licenses and contracts currently in place. However, the true purpose of those meetings was to devise a scheme to strip the rights of companies – specifically plaintiffs – who refused to acquiesce to the extortionist demands masterminded by Soros and his agents. According to AFRICA INTELLIGENCE, this was “Soros’ initiative” for Guinea (AFRICA INTELLIGENCE, *How Soros is backing new leader*, 1/19/2011).

60. A March 1, 2011 article stated that Guinea had enlisted the help of Soros to review the mining code and that “the country was turning to Soros because Guinea could not afford to pay international consultants” (REUTERS, *Guinea’s Condé enlists Soros aid with mining code*, 3/2/2011). Soros’s financial clout gave him power over Guinea’s processes of government, which he then thoroughly abused.

61. Condé and Soros held a joint press conference at which they announced more formally that all existing mining contracts in Guinea would be re-examined and a new Mining Code would be enacted. Thereafter, OSF and the special advisor to President Alpha Condé Mamoudou Kouyaté issued joint press releases on March 2, 2011, announcing the future enactment of a new Mining Code and the review of all mining contracts. This press release stated that:

All existing contracts will be re-examined. **Contract holders and the countries to whose jurisdictions they belong will have to comply with the principles of EITI** [the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative] and a code of conduct which will include a willingness to cooperate in criminal investigations. Guinea will

retain the Revenue Watch Institute and the International Senior Lawyers Project to provide legal advice (emphasis added).

62. This initiative was said to be supported by “George Soros and his Open Society Foundations”. It was just one of the clear cases of Soros’s contractual interference and illegal racketeering behavior, since nothing permitted Guinea much less Soros to impose post-contractual terms on plaintiffs, especially since the Convention itself called for its terms to continue to govern even if Guinea law changed after the Convention was entered into.

63. In addition, the press release confirmed that Guinea would retain the Soros and OSF backed RWI to provide legal advice in relation to the mining review and re-writing of the Mining Code, and that OSF was to provide \$5 million in outright grants to Guinea to support the process. It was through RWI and OSF’s grants that Soros was able to control the plan to remove BSGR from Guinea.

64. On March 3, 2011, Soros spoke at the fifth conference of EITI in Paris, France. In that speech, he said that Condé “turned to me for assistance even before he was elected” He also repeated that Condé would be “introducing a new mining code . . . and all the mining claims are going to be re-examined and **those who want to validate those claims will have to subscribe to the principles of EITI . . .**” (emphasis added). This is yet another example of Soros’s contractual interference and illegal racketeering behavior.

65. In an article dated March 4, 2011, the FINANCIAL TIMES reported on the press conference and confirmed Soros’s wrongdoing, the breach of the Convention, and the pretextual nature of the “investigation” that followed. The article included a quote from Condé, stating that Soros had been invited by him “to help shake up the mining license regime.” The article also quoted a senior official from Guinea’s Ministry of Mines, who stated that “[a]ll [mining] contracts [would] be reviewed and reworked . . . [t]he government will become a minority

shareholder in all mining contracts.” (FINANCIAL TIMES, *Guinea to review mining licenses*, 3/4/2011).

66. Although the government represented that it would review “all mining contracts”, this was disingenuous. As RWI had been directed, Guinea’s review was principally concerned with the mining rights of BSGR. In fact, BSGR was the only entity whose mining contracts were subject to an extreme level of scrutiny. Not surprisingly, as BSGR was the only entity that refused to “pay to play,” BSGR was also the only entity to have its mining rights revoked, under the guise of bribery allegations. No other mining company’s reviews were leaked to the press. Significantly, the current Minister of Mines, Abdoulaye Magassouba, recently urged the Technical Committee (the panel purportedly in charge of the review, *see* ¶¶ 93-109) to wind up its review process – a move which “gave the impression that the panel’s unique objective had been to cancel the mining rights of VBG” AFRICA MINING INTELLIGENCE, *Review panel to close in March*, 3/1/2016).

67. In April 2011, a small working group, close to President Condé, was formed around Ahmed Kanté, the Minister-Advisor to the Presidency on mining matters. This working group circulated a “presidential draft” of a new Mining Code, which included major modifications and new strategies for the Guinean mining industry, to the Soros supported and OSF funded RWI for its review. RWI submitted its comments and a new version of the draft circulated during the summer of 2011. However, this “revision” of the Mining Code was merely a pretext for improperly expropriating mining assets contracted away or for receiving large payments.

68. The complaint issued in the U.S. criminal proceedings against Mr. Mebiame (“Mebiame Complaint”) shows that the new Mining Code was part of a scheme to get money or

assets from the mining companies who had existing agreements with the government of Guinea.

The complaint explains that:

40. . . . MEBIAME sent e-mail messages to Coconspirator #1, which stated that he (MEBIAME) had “exclusivity” over such opportunities in Guinea. According to MEBIAME, a senior Guinean government official (“Guinea Official # 1”), an individual whose identity is known to your deponent, requested MEBIAME’s assistance in setting up the SOMC [state owned mining company].

41. E-mail records show that in or about and between February and March 2011, Coconspirator #1 and MEBIAME, among others, were involved in re-writing the Guinean mining code. Coconspirator #1 and MEBIAME prepared and transmitted draft correspondence, to be printed on “Republic of Guinea Conakry Letterhead” and signed by a Guinean minister, which would be used to notify existing permit holders of legal issues with their mining permits.

69. The new Mining Code was presented by Soros as a step taken by President Condé to increase transparency and legitimacy in the state mining industry. Yet the Mebiame Complaint (supported by email records seen and examined by U.S. federal agents) puts the lie to that ruse. The new Guinean Mining Code determined what share of the mining operations would be taken by SOGIUPAMI, the state owned mining company, and provided for a “systematic review of all mining conventions,” all part of the scheme to either extort money or take mining assets from their contractual partners including and specifically BSGR.

70. Indeed it was in purported compliance with the new Mining Code that the actions of the Technical Committee (of the National Mining Committee of Guinea) against BSGR were founded (*infra* ¶¶ 93-109).

71. The final new Mining Code was heavily criticized, including by SOFRECO, the organization retained by Guinea in 2009 specifically for its experience in the reform of mining legislation. In its final report, SOFRECO expressed major reservations about the new Mining

Code, including that the creation of SOGUIPAMI to manage the government's stakes in mining projects has "potentiel de conflit" (potential for conflict), and that the 15% free carry to Guinea, with the addition that Guinea could acquire an additional participation of 35%, was not in line with mining legislation in other countries, and was counter-productive to Guinea's interests. That Soros and OSF controlled the drafting of the new Mining Code – through their agents RWI – shows their intent to cause the government of Guinea to breach its commitments to BSGR.

72. In fact, these changes completely changed the royalties and tax structure. As such, the application of the new Mining Code to BSGR would be a blatant violation of the Convention, which specifically protected BSGR against post-contractual changes in Guinean law. As the Convention says: "[I]n the event of a contradiction and/or difference between Current Legislation and the provisions of this Agreement, the latter shall take precedence".

73. In turn, "Current Legislation" is defined to mean "all the valid legislative and regulatory texts of the Republic of Guinea (laws, Regulations, Decrees, Orders, Decisions, Instructions, jurisprudence etc)", to include not just legislation then in force but any subsequent legislation as well.

74. It was during this time period that Guinea had hired the established law firm of Heenan Blaikie, specifically the qualified lawyer Jean-Francois Mercadier in Paris, to investigate the issues concerning BSGR's securing of the Convention as well as BSGR's compliance with both law and contract. The conclusions reached by this firm, set forth in a detailed, 47-page report issued December 20, 2011, included (i) no finding or recommendation of action based on any actual or alleged illegality by BSGR in obtaining the Convention, (ii) a smattering of trivial arguments claiming noncompliance by BSGR with technical requirements, and (iii) advice that Guinea be very cautious in even trying to revoke BSGR's rights – which, the report

euphemistically said, presented “a delicate action of implementation and might lead to the involvement of the State’s responsibility”. That is where matters would have lain but for defendants’ illegal acts.

B. Mining Companies Who Acquiesced to Defendants’ Illegal Demands for Payment Maintained Their Rights

75. The illegal scheme to strip BSGR of its rights stands in stark contrast to how those mining companies who acquiesced to the extortionist demands were treated. For example, a competitor, Rio Tinto entered into a “settlement” with Guinea whereby it agreed to pay Guinea \$700 million as a supposed pre-payment of taxes. In exchange, Rio Tinto was able to maintain its rights in Blocks 3 and 4, which were not made subject to review by the Technical Committee, and its rights would not be affected by any changes to the Mining Code. This agreement also was intended to better position Rio Tinto to obtain rights in Blocks 1 and 2. Soros, OSF, and their agents were directly involved in discussions with Rio Tinto that led to this agreement. It is noteworthy that Rio Tinto left the country after 20 years sitting on unexploited rights.

BLOOMBERG, reporting on an interview with President Condé, recounted that Condé said “that the only adviser to the government at the time was the George Soros backed Revenue Watch Institute. ‘I have many friends in France. They come some time to Guinea and we talk. None of them has a role, not adviser anything’” (BLOOMBERG, *Rio Executive Firing Linked to Internal CEO Feud. Says Condé*, 1/20/2017).

76. In connection with the Rio Tinto agreement, Rio Tinto paid a \$10.5 million bribe to Francois de Combret, a “fixer” for Rio Tinto under the watch and knowledge of the former CEO, Tom Albanese, as well as the head of iron ore, Sam Walsh (to become the CEO). Rio Tinto’s payment to de Combret and to people connected with the President of Guinea remained a well-kept secret until internal emails were leaked on the internet on August 29, 2016, forcing Rio

Tinto to conduct both an internal investigation and an external one. These investigations led to the firing of Mr. Alan Davies (Energy and Minerals chief executive), the suspension of Sam Walsh's retirement payment, the suspension of Debra Valentine (Legal & Regulatory Affairs Group executive), and more importantly to Rio Tinto reporting itself to the UK, Australian, and U.S. anti-corruption authorities (Press Release, Rio Tinto, *Rio Tinto contacts regulatory authorities*, 11/9/2016).

77. A couple of days after the dismissal of Rio Tinto's top executives, the news agency France 24 broke the news that it had a recording of a conversation with Mr. de Combret in which he gave the following account of a conversation he had with the Guinean president: "Rio Tinto is a huge company But the president told them, 'Listen, if there's no downpayment, I'll cancel the concession.' And he would have done it." (FRANCE 24, *Audio recordings drag Guinea president into mine bribery scandal*, 12/1/2016).

78. At least one company decided to leave Guinea altogether. In July 2012, shortly after the new Mining Code's free carry provision was introduced, BHP Billiton, the world's largest mining company, announced its intention to pull out of its Mount Nimba iron ore project, which was then one of the country's largest. Media reports speculated that BHP Billiton's decision to leave was motivated, at least in part, by concerns over "whether Guinea should be able to have a 15 percent free stake in projects" (REUTERS, *Analysis: Investor cheers fade as Guinea tightens grip on mining*, 9/18/2012). The Soros-driven confiscation and bullying efforts have led not only to plaintiffs' harm but to leaving Guinea bereft of any significant development or monetization of its valuable resources.

C. Defendants Conspire to Increase the Pressure on BSGR

79. Upon the advice of defendants, the government of Guinea then established a National Mining Commission (“NMC”) on or about March 26, 2012. The NMC was granted the power to examine the “extension, renewal, lease and cancellation applications for mining titles on the basis of the [2011] Mining Code.” The NMC’s responsibilities were divided among two subcommittees: a Strategic Committee and a Technical Committee.

80. The Technical Committee, “backed” by Soros, and his lawyer, Scott Horton, was designed to serve as “the operational arm of the [NMC] concerning the overall continuation, redevelopment or *withdrawal*” of mining licenses (FINANCIAL TIMES, *Guinea’s first freely elected government reignites \$2.5bn mining tussle*, 11/2/2012). Despite being the supposed “operational arm” of the NMC, the Technical Committee was entirely lacking in the resources to handle this role. Indeed, Nava Touré, a former professor of engineering, was tasked with running the Technical Committee, even though he had no staff, let alone trained inspectors. As THE NEW YORKER reported, “when he [Touré] turned his focus on Simandou he had no staff of trained inspectors, so he relied on D.L.A. Piper, the law firm, and Steven Fox, the investigator. ‘It was outsourced,’ Touré told me”. Veracity and DLA Piper were funded by Soros or entities controlled by Soros (THE NEW YORKER, *Buried Secrets*, 7/8/2013).

81. An internal memorandum discussing the procedural calendar of the Technical Committee review reveals that, in February 2012, it was Soros’s organization, RWI, which was tasked with setting the order of the contracts to be renegotiated as well as drafting the questionnaires to be answered by the mining rights’ holders. The memorandum also confirms the involvement of Scott Horton and Chris Canavan (of Soros Fund Management LLC) in the Technical Committee process, specifically providing for consultations by both individuals. Later

correspondence from the Technical Committee to VBG was copied to Scott Horton, further evidencing the central role of Horton in the process, as an agent to Soros and OSF.

82. Pursuant to the conspiracy to delay and destroy BSGR's investment under the Convention, Soros held a meeting at his New York City apartment in or about September 2011 to discuss the future of Guinean mining. In attendance were, among others, Soros, Canavan, Karin Lissaker, Condé, Condé's son, and executives from each of the mining companies with interests in Guinea (including Vale and Rio Tinto), with the notable exception of BSGR. Soros did not invite BSGR to attend this meeting. The representative of Vale, Pedro Rodrigues, told BSGR that Soros spoke very negatively against BSGR and Beny Steinmetz.

83. Less than a month after the meeting in New York City, and pursuant to the conspiracy, Guinea improperly challenged the validity of BSGR's joint venture with Vale, notwithstanding the government's prior approval of the transaction.

84. On November 17, 2011, BSGR received a letter from the Minister of Mines and Geology, which claimed that there were supposed issues with BSGR's mining permits, set forth a lengthy list of information requests and questioned why Vale was supposedly working in Simandou without authorization, despite the government's prior acknowledgment and consent to the Vale/BSGR joint venture.

85. On November 28, 2011 BSGR, believing the process legitimate and without the pressured and overriding interference of defendants, wrote to the Minister explaining its activities in Guinea and provided access to a data room containing a vast number of supporting documents.

86. On February 3, 2012, BSGR submitted to the Minister of Mines four copies of 15 lever arch files containing numerous supporting documents comprising 50,000 pages. Yet, there

is no indication that these documents were ever considered. Ultimately, plaintiffs became concerned about procedural irregularities in the Technical Committee proceedings, but defendants never disclosed their corruption of the Committee or the fact that any conclusion was foregone, having been dictated by Soros in advance.

IV. Predicate Illegality 3: Soros and OSF Fabricate and Spread Unfounded and Untrue Accusations Of and Concerning Plaintiffs

A. Commissioning the Misleading and Untruthful “Veracity” and DLA Piper Reports

87. Soros needed the camouflage of a veneer of legitimacy in carrying out his smear campaign. He plainly could not use the untainted work done by Heenan Blaikie, the law firm who investigated the matter and found no cause for any accusation of illegal conduct by BSGR and no cause to pull the concession or terminate the Convention. Instead he caused the government and later the Technical Committee to retain his long-time counsel at DLA Piper, Scott Horton (who is located in New York), to conduct an “investigation” of BSGR. According to DLA Piper’s website, among Horton’s “significant clients” are “the governments of . . . Guinea . . . and financier George Soros.” As reported by BLOOMBERG, not only did Soros fund DLA Piper’s investigation; he strongly recommended that Horton and DLA Piper be retained in the first instance (BLOOMBERG, *Guinea Bribe-Probe Defendant Pleads Not Guilty in NYC*, 5/16/2013).

88. Soros conspired with the Technical Committee to perpetrate the fraud of appearing to conduct an impartial and fair investigative process. In reality, the process was intended simply to mouth the conclusion that BSGR should have its contract terminated.

89. Soros and OSF used Horton as an agent to assist in the delay and ultimate destruction of plaintiffs’ investment in Guinea by the revocation of their valid contractual rights. During a conference organized by OSF, Horton himself explained, “in some cases anti-

corruption campaigns are used as a political tool”. That is exactly what unfolded in relation to BSGR: false corruption allegations were fabricated and circulated to provide justification for removing BSGR from Guinea.

90. Horton retained Steven Fox, the New York based private investigator with the misnamed Veracity Worldwide (“Veracity”), who had previously done work for Soros. Soros, directly or via his controlled entities, funded Veracity’s work and controlled its conclusion. Fox dutifully issued a report (the “Veracity Report”) concluding that BSGR had obtained its rights through bribery and corruption.

91. The Veracity Report’s findings were based on nothing more than hearsay and innuendo, and it cited no supporting documents. Indeed, in a recent arbitration, a panel of arbitrators of the Common Court of Justice and Arbitration (“CCJA”) found that a report by Mr. Fox and Veracity, who were also in this instance retained by Guinea to conduct an investigation (in this case to investigate whether the logistics company GETMA had obtained a port concession by bribing the former government of Guinea) was worthless and totally unreliable. Specifically, the panel found that “Mr Steven Fox was neither a direct or indirect witness of corruption he relates”, “he has not made reference to any document”, and “[t]he omissions of which Mr Fox is guilty do not allow for knowledge or verification of his sources, his methods and the content of the information he relates. They do not allow for the Court to verify his allegations.” (The decision of this panel was annulled on procedural grounds without disturbing these credibility determinations.)

92. Soros’ attorneys at DLA Piper purported to prepare their own report about BSGR (the “DLA Piper Report”). Yet that report relied heavily on the bogus Veracity Report. The

DLA Piper Report admitted that it relied on certain sources whose credibility was “non-tested” (some of the same “sources” relied on by Fox in the Veracity Report).

B. The 2012 Technical Committee Allegations Letter Continues the Scheme by Repeating the Unfounded and Untrue Allegations Concerning BSGR

93. On October 30, 2012, the Technical Committee sent a letter to BSGR Guinea (the “Allegations Letter”), accusing BSGR of obtaining its mining rights through bribery and corruption.

94. The Allegations Letter was entirely unsubstantiated, as it did not provide the sources of its allegations and did not identify or attach the “evidence” from which it reached its conclusions. Nor is there any indication from the Allegations Letter that the Technical Committee conducted any of its own investigation, which is not surprising since the work of the Technical Committee was almost entirely outsourced to Soros funded agents. On the contrary, the Allegations Letter relied on and reiterated the conclusions of the unreliable DLA Piper Report that had been funded by Soros and prepared by Horton. In turn, the DLA Piper Report relied on and reiterated the conclusions of the unreliable Veracity Report, also funded by Soros and whose reporting with regard to other Guinean government contracts has been discredited.

95. For example, although the DLA Piper report did not identify its sources, it gave them codenames and assigned each source a “credibility level” from 1-4. Remarkably, the DLA Piper Report relied on sources to which DLA itself assigned the lowest credibility level of “1”. According to DLA’s Report’s own legend, a credibility level of “1” means the source is “non-tested,” and thus unreliable. Yet, the DLA Piper Report relied on the conclusions of these sources in critical aspects of its report. In turn, the Allegations Letter simply repeated the assertions of these dubious sources though it dropped any indication that the source was deemed unreliable even by DLA Piper.

96. The abuse of process and amplification of lies represented by the multistep Fox-
DLA-Technical Committee, all deliberately relying on the same untrustworthy sources to create
and republish The Big Lie is manifest proof of defendants' racketeering misconduct directed
towards plaintiffs. To give some examples:

97. The DLA Piper Report relied on a Level 1 (incredible) source for the following:
"An official of the Guinean Ministry of Mines (Source G4) reported that Mamady Touré (the
alleged fourth wife of President Conté) had played a role with Lounceny Nabé, Minister of
Mines at that time, to facilitate the transfer of the Simandou licenses from Rio Tinto to BSGR in
November or December 2008, before President Conte's death." The Allegations Letter
uncritically repeats this accusation in Allegation 12, reporting that "Ms. Touré became actively
engaged with high-level officials of the Republic of Guinea organizing meetings with key
officials and her husband ... [where] instructions for the rights to the mineral deposits in
Simandou to be stripped from the company Rio Tinto, and transferred to BSGR."

98. The sources that DLA assigned a "credibility level" of 4, the highest score and
supposedly representing a source that DLA has "tested and [has] great confidence in the source's
value," are in fact not any more trustworthy. For instance, one such source is described by DLA
in the following way:

A mining company executive based in Paris and Conakry, in charge of major
Simandou mining operations and having access to the results of an independent
inquiry carried out for his employers into transaction relating to Simandou.

99. This description leaves no doubt that the source was a Rio Tinto executive. No
other company would have allocated resources to investigate transactions relating to Simandou,
and Rio Tinto would not deny that it had carried out many "inquiries" into Simandou-related
transactions. Rio Tinto had offices in Paris and Conakry at that time. In reality, therefore, one of

the most “trusted” and “credible” sources in the DLA Piper Report was a high-level executive of BSGR’s largest competitor for the mining rights at issue with a clear motive to cause BSGR to lose its Simandou rights. And the recent scandal which led to the firing or suspension of two of Rio Tinto’s senior executives, Debra Valentine and Alan Davies, for their involvement in clandestine dealings and corrupt payments to a government official related to the Simandou mining rights in Guinea, confirms that DLA Piper were actionably complicit in treating Rio Tinto sources as capable of acting honestly or impartially.

100. As further evidence of the DLA Piper Report’s credibility scores’ lack of utility, Source 03 “a private investigator based in New York state” could not be anyone else other than Fox. Fox, whose work has been found non-credible and unreliable by a neutral arbitration panel, was scored a 3, which the DLA Piper Report describes itself as being “Tested and confident in source’s value.”

101. The DLA Piper Report also indicates that it relied on purported contracts with Madamie Touré, who is believed to have been arrested, and the information about whom was provided by Mebiame, who recently pleaded guilty to bribing the Government of Guinea, and who was after mining rights in Guinea himself (including BSGR’s rights).

102. On any objective view, the allegations made against BSGR in the DLA Piper Report, which were based in part on the Veracity Report issued by the discredited Fox, ought to have carried little to no weight. In practice, however, that report became the cornerstone of the entire pretextual “review process”.

103. The unreliable claims in Fox’s Veracity report went into the DLA Piper Report and from there into the formal allegations made by the government of Guinea against BSGR in

the Allegations Letter without any critical scrutiny along the way. The following paragraphs are just a few examples:

- a. Without evidence, the Veracity Report claimed that Frederic Cilins caused pharmaceuticals to be imported into Guinea and donated to the Henriette Conté Foundation (a charity of one of President Conté's wives). The report claimed these pharmaceuticals "cost between US\$3,000 to US\$4,000 per unit. However, the donated medicine had a perceived value far greater . . . The perceived value was in the tens of thousands of dollars." The DLA Piper Report restated but amplified the irresponsible statement: "Frederic Cilins procured a cargo of pharmaceutical products having a value of approximately 10,000 USD for Henriette Conté's foundation." In the Allegation Letter, Allegation 3 of the Allegations Letter simply repeated this accusation: "Mr. Cilins tried to develop a special relationship with Ms. Henriette Conté, the first wife of the former President of the Republic, Mr. Lansana Conté. He obtained pharmaceutical products with a market value of about USD10,000 and donated them to a charitable foundation headed by Ms. Conté."
- b. Similarly, the Veracity Report claimed that a BSGR employee "presented a scale model of a Formula 1 race car covered in diamonds under a Plexiglas cover to the Minister [of Mines] as a gift . . . The 'toy' car was presented during a televised ceremony. [Cilins] has no idea what became of the diamond-covered car, which was likely a 1/24 scale." The DLA Piper Report again repeats but embellishes. The DLA Piper Report says that in 2005 the Minister of Mines was delivered "a miniature reproduction of a Formula 1 racecar (1/24 scale) in gold and set with diamonds, under a protective plexiglas cover. . . The value of this gift, and what became of it, is unknown. . . The delivery of this gift was made during a public ceremony." Allegation 7 simply repeats that that employee "offered a miniature Formula 1 race car to the Ministry of Mines, this car which had been rendered at a scale of 1:24, in gold and set with diamonds, under Plexiglas." Intolerably missing by the third iteration is the fact that the whole episode, done on TV, was obviously not a bribe and was entirely anodyne.

104. Additionally, the Allegations Letter included numerous statements that the DLA Piper Report itself said had little or no support, including:

- a. The DLA Piper Report said about alleged cash payments to military leaders in Guinea in 2009-2010, that "information [...] is limited" and that there was "no clear information that would make it possible to establish a connection between cash payments [...] involving BSGR's rights to Simandou". But it was included in the Allegations Letter at Allegation 22.
- b. The DLA Piper Report concluded about an alleged delivery of a cheque by BSGR to Ms Touré for "10 or 7 million USD", which apparently bounced, that it was "unusual for payments of this type to be made [i.e. by cheque]" and "it appears strange that the

cheque was refused”. The report was unable to identify any evidential basis for this allegation. But this was included in the Allegations Letter at Allegation 10.

- c. As to one of the central allegations of bribery, the DLA Piper Report conceded: “Currently, no evidence has been found, but it is certain that monetary benefits offered during this period would have reached into the several millions of dollars.” If there is no evidence, as the report claimed, it was wholly inappropriate to make this assertion. Yet, it is included in the Allegations Letter at Allegation 23.

105. Simply put, the Technical Committee’s “investigation” was a farce, spewing the “Garbage Out” from the Soros-driven “Garbage In”; it served merely to establish the illusion of legitimacy in the illicit campaign to rid BSGR of its rights (BLOOMBERG, *Steinmetz \$9 Billion Fortune at Risk in Soros-Backed Probe*, 5/9/2013).

106. This was all part of defendants’ fraud to make the process appear to be objective and impartial. In fact, in the Allegations Letter the Technical Committee said that the purpose was for an “objective and rigorous review of all of the records . . . before making its recommendations to the Strategic Committee” Yet, in the very same letter, the Technical Committee stated that BSGR had not provided an “adequate response” to the November 17, 2011 letter from the Minister of Mines. This despite the detailed response, access to a data room, and production of over 50,000 pages of hard copy documents in response to that letter.

107. Indeed, despite being charged with investigating all of the mining companies, the Technical Committee focused only on BSGR and did not apply similar scrutiny to its investigations of any other mining companies.

108. To cause BSGR further damage, Soros and his coconspirators leaked the contents of the Allegations Letter to the press prior to its being sent to BSGR (and despite the fact that it was supposed to be confidential). Soros and his agents arranged the leak to Misha Glenny of the FINANCIAL TIMES, who then co-authored the article (*see* FINANCIAL TIMES, *Guinea’s first freely elected government reignites \$2.5bn mining tussle*, 11/2/2012). Notably, Glenny sits on the

advisory board of Global Witness, a non-governmental organization that derives approximately 50% of its income from Soros-related entities, including OSF. Global Witness was later used by Soros and his agents improperly to continue to spread the unfounded and untrue allegations concerning BSGR.

109. The publication of the Allegations Letter caused Mebiame to approach Thiam (former Minister of Mines for Guinea). According to a transcript of a December 2, 2012 conversation between Mebiame and Thiam, Mebiame admitted to Thiam that he had been directly involved in trying to take shares in Guinean state mining assets away from the companies who contractually owned those assets. Mebiame told Thiam that BSGR was the first “case” that he was given.

C. Soros and OSF Cause FTI to Cancel Its Contract With BSGR

110. Once the Allegations Letter was leaked, Soros sought to prevent BSGR from adequately responding to the media attention which followed, by pressuring its public relations firm, FTI, improperly to terminate its agreement with BSGR, and instructing his agents to continue to disseminate unfounded and untrue rumors concerning BSGR to the media.

111. BSGR had retained FTI as its communications consultant in May 2009 to defend and protect BSGR’s interests after it became aware of untrue allegations being made by a competitor, Rio Tinto. Yet, on November 14, 2012, a point at which BSGR had its greatest need for FTI’s expertise, FTI terminated the contract without notice. FTI provided little to no explanation, stating only that “circumstances have created a business conflict which cannot be allowed to continue.”

112. Those “circumstances” were precipitated by the continued pressure exerted on FTI by Soros, OSF, and their agents to cancel the contract. They did so through a close friend of

Soros, who sat on the boards of several non-governmental organizations sponsored by Soros. At the same time, that person also served as FTI's Chairman of Europe, Middle East, and Africa. At or around the same the Soros-driven Allegations Letter was leaked to the FINANCIAL TIMES, Soros or his agents frequently called and effectively forced his friend at FTI to cancel the BSGR contract. According to FTI, Soros requested that the agreement be terminated on the basis of several unspecified allegations regarding the integrity of BSGR's business practices, and even went as far as to claim to FTI that individuals affiliated with BSGR were involved in a plot to assassinate Condé in 2011 without citing any evidence for this scurrilous allegation.

113. On October 29, 2012, Mr. Brewerton, the head of the FTI account team for BSGR, told Mr. Dag Cramer of Onyx, an agent for BSGR, that "George Soros had personally requested" that FTI "cancel its contractual arrangements with BSGR." Additionally, Soros' friend at FTI, Lord Malloch Brown, informed OSF that FTI had terminated its retainer with BSGR, even before that issue had been discussed with BSGR itself. A financial advisor to BSGR was informed by a Managing Director contact at FTI, Ben. Brewerton, that "George Soros had requested directly of [Lord Malloch Brown] that [FTI] cancel its contractual arrangements with BSGR."

114. Making matters worse, Soros also caused the fact of the contract's termination to be leaked to the FINANCIAL TIMES before BSGR was notified. An individual at FTI informed BSGR that a journalist for the FINANCIAL TIMES, who had previously been involved with articles making allegations against BSGR, knew that BSGR lost its contract at least nine days before it was terminated.

115. These efforts were intentionally done by Soros, OSF, and their agents, and were strategically timed to cause maximum damage to plaintiffs. According to individuals at FTI.

Soros's plan all along was to "key this thing up [*i.e.*, the investigation of BSGR] for the committee to review," and his effort to interfere with BSGR's agreement left BSGR, in FTI's words, "up a creek without a paddle."

D. Soros and OSF Continue Spreading Unfounded and Untrue Accusations Of and Concerning Plaintiffs

116. Soros, OSF, and its agents continued to spread these unfounded and untruthful allegations concerning BSGR. For example, during a radio interview on July 5, 2013, Horton described the Simandou deal as "fundamentally wrong", "one of the most astonishing corruption plays" he had ever seen and that there was "little factual doubt" in the truth of the allegations. Similarly, suggesting the guilt of individuals associated with BSGR, in an article in THE NEW YORKER, dated July 8, 2013, Horton states that "Steinmetz's future travel options may be limited". Horton made these statements notwithstanding the lack of factual basis of the DLA Piper Report and the Allegations Letter, and that the Technical Committee "review" was still underway.

117. While one Soros-controlled NGO was providing legal and framework assistance (*see* ¶ 81), Global Witness (which Soros heavily funded and still does) launched a media attack against BSGR, publishing Horton's unfounded and untruthful allegations in a series of press releases. This is indicative of defendants' strategy: to orchestrate Soros controlled NGOs to work in unison toward a common goal or purpose – in this case to discredit BSGR and create an echo chamber of false allegations about its legitimate business activities.

118. For example, on November 9, 2012, Global Witness issued a press release about BSGR stating that "Global Witness believes that the Guinean government should seek redress for any large-scale corruption that has taken place in relation to the blocks covering Simandou or any other asset."

119. On April 16, 2013, Global Witness issued a further press release headed “Corruption arrest in US puts Beny Steinmetz Group Resources in the frame.” It noted that “If BSGR wishes to put an end to this controversy it should publicly address these questions in detail.”

120. On April 19, 2013, Global Witness published a report based on documents purported to be evidence of BSGR’s bribery. The Global Witness report comments that “. . . we have seen three **leaked** letters from BSGR to the review committee” (documents submitted to the Technical Committee were deemed confidential under the “terms of Reference for Guinea Contract review process” attached to the Allegations Letter). Global Witness concluded: “it’s time BSGR stopped dodging the questions – and started providing answers.”

121. On July 18, 2013, Corinna Gilfillan, a director at Global Witness, testified at a hearing before the U.S. House of Representatives’ Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, a subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Ms. Gilfillan’s false testimony concerning Guinean mining – which mentioned only BSGR by name – concluded “[t]he evidence suggests that BSGR may have obtained its rights to one of the world’s most important mining assets through bribery.”

122. On August 15, 2013, Global Witness issued a press release headed “New evidence ties BSGR to company behind Guinea mine bribery”, attaching a 12-page briefing containing allegations against BSGR. This demonstrated that Global Witness had been given access to the Technical Committee’s information notwithstanding the fact that the Technical Committee information was to be kept confidential.

123. On September 5, 2013, Global Witness issued a press release headed “SFO should act to investigate London link in BSGR’s Guinea mine scandal”. It called upon both the UK

Serious Fraud Office and the Guinean authorities to commence criminal investigations into BSGR and carry out searches on their premises. It said that: “The UK Serious Fraud Office should take action following police raids in Switzerland and France on properties linked to Onyx Financial Advisors Officials in the dependency of Guernsey should also move to secure evidence from BSGR’s official headquarters on the island Global Witness calls on the SFO to act swiftly before evidence is lost.”

124. Additionally, the July 8, 2013 article in *THE NEW YORKER* that accuses Steinmetz of securing Simandou through corrupt means includes quotes from Soros and Horton and other Soros related individuals.

E. Soros and OSF’s Scheme is Successful in Delaying, Damaging, and Destroying Plaintiffs’ Guinea Investment

125. BSGR presented the government of Guinea exculpatory material proving the falsity of the allegations against it. In addition to the material provided earlier in response to the letter from the Minister of Mines, on December 26, 2012, BSGR responded to the Allegations Letter. On numerous occasions, BSGR asked the Technical Committee to disclose its evidence. It was not until May 7, 2013, that the Technical Committee provided a handful of documents, and only after these documents had been leaked to the press. The Technical Committee repeated the allegations in an Allegations Letter dated November 1, 2013. Then, after additional requests for disclosure, the Technical Committee disclosed more documents on December 4, 2013. In the December 4, 2013 letter, the Technical Committee stated that it was relying upon the Veracity Report “to confirm the allegations contained in the successive letters previously sent by the CTRTCM”. BSGR responded to the allegations by letter again on December 8, 2013.

126. Yet, despite this, on March 21, 2014, the Soros-funded Technical Committee – without justification – recommended that the Minister of Mines (1) withdraw the Blocks 1 and 2

Permit; (2) withdraw the Zogota Mining Concession; and (3) cancel the Convention. The Technical Committee continued to rely upon the Veracity report, the DLA Piper report and it also improperly relied on an unreliable affidavit of Mamadie Touré dated December 2, 2013, as well as on forged contracts supplied to DLA Piper by Mebiame.

127. In 2013 Mamadie Touré received at least \$50,000 in checks from Mamoudou Kouyaté (special advisor to President Alpha Condé) and thereafter a possible \$80,000 more from an agent or associate of Soros. These payments alone make the affidavit unreliable.

128. Kouyaté later authored an affidavit in which he makes clear that he served as an agent of DLA Piper: “On 6 July 2013, I met with Ms. Yarié Touré . . . I met her at the request of the DLA office to obtain information on the relationship maintained by her sister, Mamadié Touré with the late General Lansana Conté, former President of the Republic of Guinea.”

129. The Technical Committee did not discuss or reference any of the evidence provided by BSGR.

130. On April 2, 2014, the Strategic Committee issued an opinion to President Alpha Condé and the Minister of Mines and Geology agreeing with the Technical Committee’s report and recommendation.

131. On April 17, 2014, President Condé issued an Order terminating the Zogota Mining Concession to BSGR.

132. On April 18, 2014, the Minister of Mines and Geology of Guinea terminated the Block 1 & 2 Permit to BSGR.

133. On April 23, 2014, the Minister of Mines and Geology of Guinea terminated the Convention with BSGR.

134. On April 24, 2014, the government of Guinea informed BSGR of the acts of revocation and termination.

135. This was a *fait accompli*. Prior to even the commencement of the review, it is obvious that Guinea viewed the removal of BSGR's contractual rights as a foregone conclusion. Well before the Technical Committee had completed its review, both the Minister of Mines and President Condé had made it clear that BSGR's mining rights were going to be revoked. In October 2013, President Condé declared in a speech that his government had "started a battle to recover our mines that were acquired fraudulently." In an interview in November 2013 he likewise made it clear that he had decided that BSGR's mining rights should be removed and that he was very closely involved in the Committee process.

136. These terminations breached BSGR's contractual rights and harmed BSGR. They were the culmination of the scheme by Soros, OSF, and its agents to interfere with its contractual rights and remove it from Guinea.

137. These terminations not only harmed BSGR by removing from it a contract worth at least \$5 billion, but they also ensured that the investment of at least \$800 million by BSGR was lost. To date, Guinea has not compensated BSGR for its \$800 million investment in Guinea. What is more, Guinea kept the fruits of BSGR's capital and labor – including the feasibility studies for Zogota and Simandou Blocks 1 & 2, the work undertaken at Zogota, the progress made on various railways, and the camps and expensive equipment at BSGR's sites, estimated at an over \$5 billion loss. BSGR has since challenged Guinea's conduct in an arbitration currently pending in Paris before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, the allegations of which are not repeated here. *See BSG Resources Limited, et al. v. Republic of Guinea*, Case No. ARB/14/22.

V. **Predicate Illegality 4: Soros and OSF Continue to Harm BSGR Even After Delaying, Damaging, and Destroying Plaintiffs' Investment in Guinea**

138. Soros and OSF used their wide networks to place worldwide pressure on BSGR, including provoking the unjustified opening of criminal investigations, in furtherance of their conspiracy to harm plaintiffs.

139. For example, Soros used his political connections with President Obama and the U.S. Administration to organize a meeting between Condé and President Obama that is believed to have taken place in 2011. Shortly thereafter, as Soros intended and through the use of his law firm DLA Piper, an investigation was opened into BSGR and connected entities.

140. As a result of Soros's wrongdoing, a criminal investigation in Guinea was commenced into BSGR and its employees. As a result, Guinea arrested and prosecuted two of BSGR's employees, Mr. Issiaga Bangoura and Mr. Ibrahima Soury Touré. These arrests were made respectively on April 16, 2013 and April 19, 2013 on the ground of passive corruption. The employees were held without trial or due process for seven months.

141. On November 13, 2013, both employees filed a complaint of violation of human rights at the Registry of the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice. They relied inter alia on Articles 9 and 14 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), Articles 7, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Articles 6 and 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR). On February 16, 2016, the ECOWAS Court of Justice delivered a verdict against Guinea in relation to its so-called corruption investigation. In particular, Guinea was found guilty of arbitrary detention, violating the right to an effective recourse, and violating the principles of adversarial proceedings and equality of arms. To repair Guinea's violations, the ECOWAS Court of Justice ordered Guinea

to indemnify Mr. Bagoura and Mr. Touré and pay them respectively CAF 15 million and 30 million.

142. The pressure placed on Israel by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (“OECD”) based on these unfounded and untrue allegations ultimately led to the opening of a criminal investigation into Mr. Steinmetz. As the Israeli authorities made clear in their statement to the media, “[t]he investigation is being carried out in cooperation with law enforcement authorities in the United States, Switzerland, Guinea and Israel, **as part of an international effort led by the OECD against the bribing of public officials worldwide**” (emphasis added). It is noteworthy that the OECD High-Level Advisory Group on Anti-Corruption is made up of individuals who are intimately related to Soros and OSF as well as NRGi (formerly RWI) and other NGOs working closely with each other and Rio Tinto. Mr. Neville Tiffen is a member of the Board of Transparency International Australia (and former global head of Compliance for Rio Tinto reporting to Debra Valentine, Rio Tinto former head of legal and compliance, suspended in relation to de Combret scandal) and Nancy Boswell is the former CEO of Transparency International (“TI”) in the United States, which is supported by OSF, Daniel Kaufmann is the President and CEO of NRGi (the new name for RWI, which was intimately involved in Guinea’s revocation of BSGR’s rights) and a member of the Advisory Board of TI, Peter Eigen is the founder of TI, a previous chairman of EITI (and today a special representative of EITI) and a member of the advisory council of NRGi, and Huguette Labelle is the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of TI. The OECD Advisory Council acted as agents for defendants to pressure Israeli authorities to open their investigation, causing yet further damage to plaintiffs and providing a cloak of legitimacy to Guinea’s revocation of BSGR’s rights.

143. Defendants continued to spread the untrue and unfounded allegations including within the past twelve months. For example, a December 19, 2016 article stated, “[a]ccording to Global Witness, which investigated the case, BSGR and its affiliates engaged in a ‘sophisticated corruption scheme’ over Simandou cloaking their activities through secretive companies in the British Islands” (ASSOCIATED PRESS, *Israeli police arrest tycoon suspected of bribery in Guinea*, 12/19/2016).

144. This continued campaign by Soros and OSF and their agents against plaintiffs has caused BSGR to lose many business opportunities.

145. For example, recently a Steinmetz related entity spent three years negotiating the purchase of certain assets sold by the largest gas company in Israel. The parties had reached agreement subject to governmental approval. The Israeli minister of Petroleum refused to approve the sale because of the unfounded rumors and investigations instigated by Soros and OSF. As a direct, proximate result of Soros and OSF’s actions, this entity lost at least \$500 million. This BSGR entity has transferred its rights to bring this action to BSGR.

146. Plaintiffs have complied with their obligations under the Convention and related agreements and have satisfied any and all conditions precedent to suit on any contract or other claims herein, except those that have been waived. In the exercise of reasonable diligence, plaintiffs did not and could not have found out the fraud and other wrongdoing acted upon them until within any applicable limitations period.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

Count 1: Tortious Interference With Contract (Against both Defendants)

147. BSGR repeats and realleges all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

148. On December 9, 2008, the Republic of Guinea granted the Blocks 1 and 2 Permit, pursuant to which BSGR was granted the right to prospect for iron ore in Simandou Blocks 1 and 2.

149. On December 16, 2009, BSGR Guernsey, BSGR Guinea, and the Republic of Guinea entered into the Convention, pursuant to which BSGR was granted the exclusive right to conduct commercial mining activities in the Simandou South region of Guinea, and which permitted BSGR to export and sell on the international market all iron ore located therein.

150. On March 19, 2010, Guinea, under its new president General Sékouba Konaté, ratified the Convention through the Zogota Mining Concession, which granted to BSGR Guinea an exclusive mining concession in Simandou South.

151. The Convention and related agreements constitute valid, legal, binding, and enforceable contracts.

152. At all relevant times, Soros (individually and in his capacity as founder and chairman of OSF) and other of Soros's agents were fully aware of the Convention and related agreements and of plaintiffs' rights thereunder.

153. At all relevant times, Soros (individually and in his capacity as founder and chairman of OSF) and other of Soros's agents also were fully aware of BSGR's rights under the Convention and related agreements, as demonstrated by (among other things) a March 3, 2011 draft memorandum of understanding between OSF and a Vale entity, titled "Regarding a Possible Advance Payment of Tax on Mining Substances from Projects in the Republic of Guinea," which expressly referred to those rights.

154. Soros and OSF utilized wrongful means to induce the Government of Guinea to breach the Convention and related agreements and delay, damage, and terminate BSGR's rights thereunder in April 2014.

155. The intentional acts described above, by and on behalf of Soros and OSF, were the direct, proximate, and foreseeable cause of Guinea's breach of the Convention and related agreements pursuant to which BSGR was unlawfully stripped of its valuable mining and prospecting rights in Guinea. But for the intentional acts undertaken by defendants and their agents, the Convention would not have been breached.

156. The aforementioned acts of Soros, OSF, and their agents were willful, wanton, oppressive, fraudulent, and malicious, demonstrating such a dishonesty as to imply a criminal indifference to their private and public civil obligations and thereby warranting an award of punitive damages, in addition to the actual damages suffered by BSGR.

157. As a result of the foregoing, BSGR has sustained severe economic injury for which it is entitled to compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages in amounts to be determined at trial as well as equitable relief including without limitation an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint and a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights wrongfully interfered with or converted.

**Count 2: Conspiracy to Commit Tortious Interference With Contract
and Other Illegal Acts
(Against both Defendants)**

158. BSGR repeats and realleges all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

159. Defendants Soros and OSF, knowingly, intentionally, and corruptly acted in concert and conspired to delay, damage, and terminate BSGR's rights under the Convention and related agreements, and to that end, tortiously interfered with BSGR's contractual rights as alleged herein.

160. Their agreement to interfere with plaintiffs' rights began earlier than March 2011 when Soros and advisors, including those from OSF, met with Condé in Guinea, and announced their "support" for Condé's plan to re-examine existing mining contracts and desire to "help President Condé put these [plans] into effect". (Press Release, Open Society Foundations, *George Soros and President Alpha Condé of Guinea Hold Joint Press Conference, 3/2/2011*.)

161. Soros and OSF intentionally participated in, and took overt acts in furtherance of, their agreement, demonstrating their shared corrupt purpose.

162. These and other intentional acts actually, directly, and proximately caused Guinea to breach the Convention and related agreements, thereby unlawfully stripping BSGR of its rights. But for the intentional acts undertaken by Soros and OSF and their agents and coconspirators, the Convention and related agreements would not have been breached.

163. The aforementioned acts of Soros and OSF were willful, wanton, oppressive, fraudulent, and malicious, demonstrating such a dishonesty as to imply a criminal indifference to their private and public civil obligations and thereby warranting an award of punitive damages, in addition to the actual damages suffered by BSGR.

164. As a result of the foregoing, BSGR has sustained severe economic injury for which it is entitled to compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages, jointly and severally from each Defendant, in amounts to be determined at trial as well as equitable relief including without limitation an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper

activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint and a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights wrongfully interfered with or converted.

**Count 3: Fraud, Misrepresentation, and
Conspiracy to Commit Fraud and Misrepresentation
(Against both Defendants)**

165. BSGR repeats and realleges all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

166. Soros and OSF conspired with others, including members of the Technical Committee, fraudulently to induce the Technical Committee to make it appear that it was conducting an impartial and fair review when in fact it was carrying out defendants' illegal racketeering activities.

167. In fact, though, the process was rigged to come to the conclusion that BSGR's Convention and related agreements should be terminated and its valuable rights revoked.

168. Soros and OSF misled the Technical Committee, with the intention and effect of defrauding plaintiffs, and the Technical Committee did not disclose to BSGR that the process was rigged, though defendants had a duty to do so.

169. To the contrary, the Technical Committee stated that it would be conducting a legitimate, fair, and impartial investigation.

170. Defendants never disclosed their corruption of the Committee or the fact that any conclusion by the Committee was dictated by Soros in advance and continued to mislead plaintiffs. Despite plaintiffs' concerns about procedural irregularities, they expended significant resources and effort in reliance on the independence of the Committee and its obligation to consider plaintiffs' evidence provided in rebuttal to the irresponsible allegations of wrongdoing.

and to demonstrate that there was no basis for these claims. It was never disclosed to plaintiffs that because the Committee's conclusion was pre-ordained by defendants, it never considered – and never planned to consider – this evidence.

171. In addition, BSGR spent money on developing its mining capability and rights.

172. The aforementioned acts of Soros and OSF were willful, wanton, oppressive, fraudulent, and malicious, demonstrating such a dishonesty as to imply a criminal indifference to their private and public civil obligations and thereby warranting an award of punitive damages, in addition to the actual damages suffered by plaintiffs.

173. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs have sustained severe economic injury for which they are entitled to compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages, jointly and severally from each Defendant in amounts to be determined at trial including by expending funds to defend itself and to continue to invest in Guinea as well as equitable relief including without limitation an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint and a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights wrongfully interfered with or converted.

**Count 4: Commercial Defamation
(Against both Defendants)**

174. BSGR repeats and realleges all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

175. Soros and OSF made statements about BSGR's alleged corruption that Soros and OSF knew or should have known were unfounded and untrue.

176. These statements were published to the media and government organizations with the intention to impact and harm BSGR.

177. As a direct and proximate result of these statements, BSGR was injured by losing business opportunities that but for the defamatory statements it would have obtained.

178. The aforementioned acts of Soros and OSF were willful, wanton, oppressive, fraudulent, and malicious, demonstrating such a dishonesty as to imply a criminal indifference to their private and public civil obligations and thereby warranting an award of punitive damages, in addition to the actual damages suffered by plaintiffs.

179. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs have sustained severe economic injury for which they are entitled to compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages, jointly and severally from each Defendant, in amounts to be determined at trial including by expending funds to defend itself and to continue to invest in Guinea as well as equitable relief including without limitation an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint and a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights wrongfully interfered with or converted.

**Count 5: Prima Facie Tort
(Against Soros)**

180. BSGR repeats and realleges all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

181. Soros and OSF intentionally sought to harm BSGR through the actions described above. Soros has a long standing antipathy towards BSGR and Mr. Steinmetz and wanted BSGR's contracts with Guinea to be delayed and terminated or heavily curtailed.

182. Solely for the purposes of this cause of action, and in the alternative, plaintiffs plead that Soros was motivated solely by malice, as there was no economic interest he had in Guinea.

183. The intentional acts described above, by and on behalf of Soros, were the direct, proximate, and foreseeable cause of Guinea's breach of the Convention and related agreements pursuant to which plaintiffs were unlawfully stripped of their valuable rights in Guinea. But for the intentional acts undertaken by Soros, OSF and their agents, the Convention and related agreements would not have been breached.

184. The aforementioned acts of Soros and OSF were willful, wanton, oppressive, fraudulent, and malicious, demonstrating such a dishonesty as to imply a criminal indifference to their private and public civil obligations and thereby warranting an award of punitive damages, in addition to the actual damages suffered by plaintiffs.

185. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs have sustained severe economic injury for which they are entitled to compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages in amounts to be determined at trial including by expending funds to defend itself, to be determined at or after trial, and to continue to invest in Guinea as well as equitable relief including without limitation an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint and a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights wrongfully interfered with or converted.

186. As a result of the foregoing, BSGR has sustained specific damages as follows:

- a. BSGR invested \$883,286,336.87 in investing in Guinea on infrastructure and setting up the mining procedure based on its existing contractual rights prior to termination. Specifically: (a) \$581,197,104 to develop the iron ore concession and for infrastructure building; (b) \$84,400,000 in funding for the Simandou feasibility study; and (c) \$80,400,000 for management and control of the day-to-day business activities consisting of \$44,800,000 for personnel, \$20,200,000 for travel, \$15,000,000 for services and \$400,000 on miscellaneous expenses. In addition, between 2006 and 2010: (i) \$47,519,203.83 for contractors and suppliers; (ii) \$2,492,655 for salaries; (iii) \$15,412,251.32 for headquarters and expenses for mining camps; (iv) \$541,274.47 converting dollars into Guinean Francs; \$73,848.25 for the country manager; and (v) \$71,250,000 for accounting, financial, tax, advisory, legal, technical, geological and mining services, information technology and administration services.
- b. The contract itself is conservatively worth \$5 billion calculated by doubling the amount paid for half of the rights by Vale in 2011.

WHEREFORE, BSGR demands judgment against defendants, jointly and severally, awarding plaintiffs:

- (a) On the claims for tortious interference, civil conspiracy, fraud and misrepresentation, and conspiracy to commit fraud and misrepresentation, compensatory damages of not less than \$10 billion, jointly and severally against each Defendant, together with interest accrued thereon, in total amounts to be determined at trial;

- (b) On the claim for commercial defamation, compensatory damages of not less than \$10 billion, jointly and severally against each Defendant, together with interest accrued thereon, in total amounts to be determined at trial.
- (c) On the alternative claim for prima facie tort, relief specifically of \$5,883,286,336.87 together with interest accrued thereon, in total amounts to be determined at trial;
- (d) On all claims for relief, exemplary and punitive damages in amounts to be determined at trial;
- (e) Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;
- (f) Its costs in the prosecution of this action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
- (g) On all claims for relief, an injunction directing defendants to cease and desist from the improper activity including the dissemination of the unfounded and untrue allegations described in this complaint;
- (h) On all claims for relief, equitable relief including without limitation a constructive trust and overseer over Soros's controlled or influenced organizations as well as an order directing defendants to take all steps necessary to secure the return of all rights of plaintiffs wrongfully interfered with or converted; and
- (i) Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY

Trial by jury is demanded on all issues so triable.

Dated: April 14, 2017
New York, New York

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