

DECLARATION

**by the German National Contact Point for the
OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises**

regarding a complaint filed by

- Gesellschaft für bedrohte Völker (Society for Threatened Peoples)

against

- Volkswagen AG

SUMMARY

This enquiry, which was filed on 28 April 2008, related to Volkswagen's involvement in promoting the Olympic torch relay in the People's Republic of China in spring and summer 2008, alleging in this connection a violation of Chapter II 2 (Human Rights) of the OECD Guidelines. Following careful consideration involving other Federal Ministries, the NCP rejected the complaint in a letter dated 3 June 2008. The financing of the Olympic torch relay in China did not involve an 'investment nexus', nor did it constitute or foster a violation of human rights. The OECD Guidelines do not posit that companies share a general co-responsibility for human rights violations by host governments.