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DANISH MINISTRY
OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Mads Flarup Christensen
Greenpeace International
Ottho Heldringsstraat 5
1066 AZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands

Minister
for the environment

06 SEP 2010

Dear Mads Flarup Christensen,

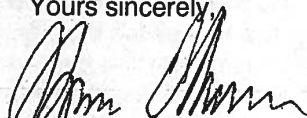
Thank you for your appeal to bring about a decision at the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting on the OSPAR Convention in Bergen, Norway in September 2010.

Surely, I want to stress that I share your concern about the pollution of the Gulf of Mexico caused by the accident on the Deepwater Horizon. It is very important that all countries involved in oil and gas exploration and exploitation thoroughly analyze the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico in order to review and if needed improve environmental and safety standards.

This was also stressed by Denmark and other Arctic countries at the informal meeting of the Arctic environmental ministers in June this year. Work along this line is already being conducted with the active participation of both national and international institutions as well as the offshore industry. I can affirm my commitment to follow this process closely and to continuously stress the need for the necessary environmental standards in order to protect the marine area against adverse effects of offshore oil and gas activities.

As you are well aware, the German Minister for the Environment has proposed measures to safeguard the marine environment against adverse effects of oil exploration activities in deep water and will present these at the Ministerial Meeting in Bergen, and I am looking forward to the discussion of these important issues.

Yours sincerely



Karen Ellemann