

**letter zembla April 13<sup>th</sup>/ reaction April 21st 2017**

ZEMBLA (Z):

**“What are the connections with the 88 Queensway group?”**

Lev Leviev (LL):

We are not aware of a connection with a group called the “88 Queensway group”. Certain transactions have been made with a company called China-Sonangol, whose registered office address is at 88 Queensway, Hong Kong. All such transactions with China-Sonangol were conducted based on pure business considerations and were carried out in accordance with the applicable laws.

**Letter Zembla April 30<sup>th</sup>/ Reaction LETTER 04/05/2017**

Z:

**According to former US DoD-researcher J.R. Mailey and our own investigation Mr Leviev is in numerous ways connected to China-Sonangol, a known part of the so called ‘88 Queensway group’ of Sam Pa. This group reportedly holds or held ties to the regimes of North Korea and Zimbabwe. J.R. Mailey accuses the 88 Queensway Group of taking part in criminal activities like diamond smuggling, corruption and arms trafficking.**

LL:

- The 146-page report published by J.R. Mailey in 2015 does not even hint that there is any linkage between Mr Leviev and the criminal activities mentioned in Zembla’s question in connection with 88 Queensway Group and Sam Pa.
- As part of LGC’s ordinary course of its global operations, certain business transactions were made with a company called China-Sonangol, and these transactions were absolutely legitimate and were conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- In addition, in 2008 Mr Leviev acquired, through a fully owned private company, a 9.5% interest in Artfield Group Ltd. – a publically traded company controlled by China-Sonangol and listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange. Artfield later changed its name twice – first to China Sonangol Resources Enterprise Limited, and thereafter, to Nan Nan Resource Enterprise Limited – and it presently operates as an emerging natural resources company, pursuing acquisition of metal and mining projects worldwide. The reason why Mr Leviev remains a shareholder in this company derives from the fact that the market for its stock is not liquid, and thus it is quite impossible for him to find an investor who may be interested in buying his shares.
- Your attention should also be drawn to the 2012 report of Global Witness which clearly stated that there is no evidence that Mr Leviev or any of his staff members had knowledge of any illegitimate activity of Sam Pa in Zimbabwe.
- Since 2012 there has not been any business contact whatsoever between LGC and China- Sonangol, except as described above, and Mr Leviev is certainly not responsible for the activities of 88 Queensway Group or Sam Pa.