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31 July 2025

**Airbnb, Inc.**  
888 Brannan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
United States

**Subject: Geographical Corrections in Western Sahara Further Steps Required**

Dear Airbnb Management,

Adala UK welcomes Airbnb's recent decision to correct the geographical labelling of cities in occupied Western Sahara by removing previous references that identified El Aaiún (Laayoune), Dakhla, and Boujdour as part of the Kingdom of Morocco. This development, first reported on 31 July 2025, represents a welcome step toward greater alignment with international law and the legal status of Western Sahara as a Non-Self-Governing Territory.

As a UK-based human rights organisation that advocates for the rights of the Saharawi people, we consider this change to be a positive, though limited, move in the right direction. International legal bodies including the International Court of Justice and the Court of Justice of the European Union have consistently affirmed that Morocco has no legal sovereignty over Western Sahara, and that the Saharawi people possess the right to self-determination.

However, we remain deeply concerned that Airbnb continues to host listings in Western Sahara, thereby facilitating economic activity in a territory under military occupation. These practices raise serious legal and ethical concerns under international humanitarian law and human rights standards. According to the Fourth Geneva Convention, the occupying power is prohibited from exploiting the natural resources of occupied territory for its own benefit. Furthermore, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) affirm that companies have a responsibility to avoid contributing to adverse human rights impacts, especially in conflict zones.

Airbnb's continued presence in occupied Western Sahara, absent the consent of the Saharawi people, risks contributing to the legitimisation of the occupation and the economic exploitation of a people who have long been denied their right to self-determination.



In light of these concerns, we respectfully urge Airbnb to take the following steps:

1. **Suspend all listings and operations in occupied Western Sahara** until such time as the Saharawi people are able to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with international law.
2. **Ensure that Airbnb's platform reflects accurate and neutral geographical designations**, consistent with the United Nations' official classification of Western Sahara as a Non-Self-Governing Territory.
3. **Engage in transparent consultation with the recognised representatives of the Saharawi people**, notably the Frente Polisario, to assess the human rights implications of operating in the territory.
4. **Conduct robust human rights due diligence** in accordance with the UNGPs, with special attention to Airbnb's operations in occupied territories and other high-risk regions.

We welcome the opportunity to engage further with your team on this matter and would be pleased to provide documentation and legal analysis supporting our position. Respecting international law and the rights of the Saharawi people is not only a legal imperative—it is a moral one.

Yours sincerely,

Sidi Ahmed Alyadasi  
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