



Ms. Sandy Pound  
 Vice President, Thermo Fisher Scientific  
 168 Third Avenue, Waltham, MA USA 02451

29 November 2022

Dear Ms. Sandy Pound,

Thank you for your response to our letter and for elaborating on Thermo Fisher Scientific’s supply of Human Identification (HID) products to law enforcement officials.

We appreciate the acknowledgment in your reply that Thermo Fisher Scientific products are being supplied to police in occupied Tibet. As stated in previous letters, our concern is that the supply of HID products to forces in Tibet is enabling a massive, pre-emptive DNA collection drive that targets Tibetans based on their identity. This is counter to Thermo Fisher Scientific’s explanation about the products being supplied for ‘criminal casework’.

As stated previously, there is evidence of a wide-scale operation with extremely high numbers of Tibetans being targeted for ethnic profiling without having committed any crime. In-depth research by multiple rights groups has corroborated information that in one municipality at least 69% of the Tibetan community have had their data collected and in another, DNA was to be collected from all males aged between 5 and 60.

This mass collection of Tibetans’ DNA is described by Human Rights Watch as *“significant not just in terms of concerns about consent or privacy; it represents a further advance in close management of the population by the government. Because it requires contact with and registration of each individual, it allows Chinese authorities to identify, tabulate, and track all people in a given area.”*<sup>[1]</sup> As we previously explained, this program is not being used to counter crime but is in fact being used to further violate Tibetans’ freedom and privacy.

Concerning the agreement referenced in our letter, we have been made aware that the direct procurement deal is between a third party and Chinese police forces in Tibet. However, the content of the sale includes over \$160,000 worth of Thermo Fisher Scientific products that are - as outlined multiple times - being used by police who are carrying out authoritarian surveillance measures. Links to the original and translated documents can be found in the notes.<sup>[2]</sup>

Our concerns, therefore, remain the same and we would appreciate it if you could follow up on the fact that your products are finding their way to police forces to be used for wide-scale surveillance of Tibetans. We again request you respond to the repeated questions below by 6 December 2022:

1. Can you please confirm and provide details about whether Thermo Fisher Scientific supplies sequences to any police or public security authorities who have jurisdiction over Tibet?
2. Can you provide details regarding what steps Thermo Fisher Scientific has taken to monitor the use of its equipment to ensure that it is not used inappropriately in Tibet?
3. Can you provide details of any human rights policies and procedures Thermo Fisher Scientific may have and how they apply to operations, sales, or other business in Tibet?

Again, we request a meeting between Thermo Fisher Scientific and affected Tibetan communities living in exile to discuss the concerns outlined above and the impact of the provision of your products in Tibet. Please contact Mandie McKeown at [mandie@tibetnetwork.org](mailto:mandie@tibetnetwork.org) to discuss arranging this meeting.

Thank you for your time, we look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

**Mandie McKeown**, Executive Director  
International Tibet Network

**Pema Doma**, Executive Director  
Students for a Free Tibet

**Kelsang Phuntsok**, President  
Tibetan Association Boston

**Sam Walton**, CEO  
Free Tibet

**Lhadon Tethong**, Director  
Tibet Action Institute

**Gonpo Dhondup**, President  
Tibetan Youth Congress

**Dalha Kharsar**, President  
Tibetan Youth Association Europe

**Ngawang Tashi**  
US Tibet Committee

**Tenzing Dolma**, President  
Tibetan Women's Association

**Uwe Meya**  
Swiss Tibetan Friendship Association

**Martin Bursik**  
Czech Support Tibet

**Zoe Bedford**, Executive Director  
Australia Tibet Council

**Mattias Björnerstedt**, President  
Swedish Tibet Committee

**Anders H. Andersen**, President  
The Tibet Support Committee, Denmark

1. China: New Evidence of Mass DNA Collection in Tibet, *Human Rights Watch*, 5 September 2022: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/09/05/china-new-evidence-mass-dna-collection-tibet>
2. 2022 Purchase of Thermo Fisher Equipment by Tibetan Police: <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/22310136-2022-purchase-of-thermo-fisher-equipment-by-tibetan-police-zhu-yao-biao-de-xin-xi>