

International Ban Asbestos Secretariat

P.O. Box 93, Stanmore HA7 4GR England

website: www.ibasecretariat.org

email: lka@btinternet.com



President Dilma Vana Rousseff
Federal Republic of Brazil
c/o Ambassador Roberto Jaguaribe
Brazilian Embassy, London
UK
email: toliveira@brazil.org.uk
CC: mmarsden@brazil.org.uk

March 3, 2011

Re: Asbestos Use at the World Cup 2014 in Brazil

Dear Madame President:

I am writing to you as a last resort. For many months, I have tried to get an answer to my question: *will Brazil use chrysotile asbestos in the construction of the infrastructure and stadiums for the 2014 World Cup.*¹ I have emailed and called many possible sources of information in Brazil and elsewhere; none of whom has answered this question.

I am aware that four states in Brazil have banned the use of asbestos: Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, Rio Grande do Sul and São Paulo and that bills to ban asbestos are under consideration in other States. Bearing in mind that the world cup games will be held in venues around the country (please see list below), I would like to know if asbestos will be banned for use in some states but allowed in others or whether a blanket ban will be introduced for all world cup construction or whether exemptions to the state bans will be introduced for the World Cup?

World Cup Venues in Brazil

- Belo Horizonte, Mineirao
- B . Brasilia, Estadio Nacional
- Cuiaba, Verdao
- Curitiba, Arena de Baixada
- Fortaleza, Castelao
- Manaus, Arena Manaus
- Natal, Arena de Dunas

¹ Brazil is a leading producer of chrysotile asbestos; data recently obtained from the United States Geological Survey noted that in 2009 Brazil produced 288,000 tonnes of chrysotile and consumed 140,272t; in other words, 49% of Brazilian asbestos production was used internally.

- Porto Alegre, Estadio Beira-Rio
- Recife, Cidade de Copa
- Rio de Janeiro, Mara-cana
- Salvador, Fonte Nova
- Sao Paulo, Morumbi

It is of relevance to note that China and India, ranked first and second for their annual usage of chrysotile, banned asbestos in recent high profile international projects including: the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the 2010 Asian Games, China and the 19th Commonwealth Games (2010), India. In light of their reluctance to pollute these major sporting events with asbestos, it is with some urgency that I ask whether a similar decision has been taken in Brazil in the interests of occupational and public safety. Thank you for your assistance with this enquiry.

Sincerely,

Laurie Kazan-Allen

Laurie Kazan-Allen (Mrs.)