

The following corrections and apologies have been lifted verbatim from 'The Times', 'Times Online' and 'The Guardian' newspapers. All are major UK print and online publications.

The Times, Correction, Monday 7 September 2009

An article (Big profits from a very dirty business encourages corruption and broken treaties, News, July 18) referred to a serious incident of waste dumping in Abidjan in Ivory Coast in 2006. The waste was from a vessel chartered by Trafigura, a multinational oil company, but the dumping was carried out illegally without Trafigura's knowledge by an independent local contractor. Trafigura have always disputed that the dumping caused, or could have caused, the deaths and serious injuries referred to in the article and are defending the personal injury action being brought against them in the High Court in London. We are happy to put the record straight.

Times Online, Correction, Friday 30 April 2010

An article (Ivory Coast toxic dump victims receive £21m in compensation, World News, March 26) referred to a serious incident of waste dumping in the Ivory Coast in 2006 from a ship chartered by the Trafigura company. It stated that 17 people had died and thousands were treated in hospital for poisoning.

The article also implied that sites in Abidjan where the waste was dumped remain polluted. We wish to make clear that the dumping was not carried out by Trafigura as the article may have suggested but by an independent local contractor without Trafigura's authority or knowledge. Furthermore, in September 2009 lawyers for Ivorians who were suing Trafigura over injuries allegedly caused by the dumping acknowledged that at worst the waste could only have caused flu-like symptoms.

In 2009 Trafigura commissioned WSP Environment & Energy, a leading global environmental consultancy, to consider whether residual contaminants associated with the waste remained at alleged disposal sites. We understand, and accept, that WSP was unable to identify any on-going environmental issues arising from the waste nor, therefore, any risk to human health. We apologise for these errors.

The Guardian, Corrections and clarifications, Thursday 6 May 2010

Our item headlined Success for the Guardian (26 April, page 2) erroneously linked the dumping of toxic waste in Ivory Coast from a vessel chartered by Trafigura with the deaths of a number of West Africans. As we have reported previously, in a confidential out-of-court settlement last year, an agreed joint statement was issued by Trafigura and lawyers representing the claimants in the Ivory Coast, which confirmed the conclusions reached by scientific experts appointed in the case. The joint statement described the consequences of the waste dumping as at worst being "low-level" illness, as opposed to deaths, miscarriages or more serious injuries. We apologise for our error.