



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

September 29, 2016

Via E-mail

José Antonio Álvarez
Chief Executive Officer
Banco Santander, S.A.
Ciudad Grupo Santander
28660 Boadilla del Monte (Madrid), Spain

Re: Banco Santander, S.A.
Form 20-F for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015
Filed April 21, 2016
File No. 1-12518

Dear Mr. Álvarez:

We refer you to our comment letter dated September 9, 2016, regarding business contacts with Sudan and Syria. We have completed our review of this subject matter. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filing and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cecilia Blye

Cecilia Blye, Chief
Office of Global Security Risk

cc: Dietrich King
Assistant Director
Division of Corporation Finance