



Stakeholder Statement on Implementing Gender-Responsive Due Diligence and ensuring the human rights of women in Mineral Supply Chains

Paris, April 2019 - *Women's Rights and Mining*¹ together with the OECD Secretariat prepared the statement below, taking into account input from members of the OECD Multi-stakeholder Steering Group and comments from participants in the session "applying a gender lens to due diligence and responsible mineral supply chains", including over 50 civil society representatives in attendance from around the world, held during the 13th Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains, on 25th of April 2019.

There is momentum on gender equality across sectors, including in mineral supply chains. Governments, the private sector and civil society are acknowledging that women's rights are human rights, and that empowering women and girls is the best way to achieve positive economic and inclusive social development outcomes. Stakeholders are tackling gender discrimination, increasing the number of women in executive-level positions, ensuring greater inclusion of women-led business in local procurement and supporting women's economic empowerment in artisanal mining communities.

This progress is welcome, but much more needs to be done to realize the rights enshrined in international human rights treaties and address the structural barriers that impede women and girls and other marginalized groups from equally contributing to and benefitting from responsible mineral supply chains. Each sector -government, the private sector and civil society including women's organizations and networks- has a unique role to play in ensuring that gender equality and women's rights are realized in mineral supply chains. While no one sector can attain this ambition alone, results can be achieved through inclusive partnerships that leverage the combined strengths of each. **Therefore governments (GOV), the private sector (PS) and civil society (CS) - within their complementary roles and in partnerships - commit to:**

1. GOV, PS, CS: Acknowledge that gender norms and unequal power relations are embedded in state and market institutions and that they can facilitate or constrain the realization of women's rights in mining and mineral supply chains.
2. GOV, PS, CS: Acknowledge that women are not a homogenous group. Gender responsive due diligence is about making sure that the rights of every person – irrespective of social identities - are realized.
3. GOV, PS, CS: Identify barriers women face in the formalisation of mining, accessing decent work, safe work spaces, child care and finance (i.e. access to bank accounts, tax rebates), in particular in Artisanal and Small Scale Mining.
4. GOV, PS, CS: Include women in consultations that are sensitive to the local context and help build the capacity of women's organizations to participate in these consultations.
5. GOV, PS, CS: Develop gender-responsive strategies to identify, assess, report, address and monitor gender-related human rights abuses in or near mining communities and throughout mineral supply chains and ensure that every project is started with a gender lens in design and monitoring.
6. GOV, PS, CS: Develop reporting instruments and methodologies to collect and disclose disaggregated data (according to gender and other social identities) to address the invisibility of women in mining and mineral supply chains, highlight gender inequalities, and monitor change.
7. GOV, PS: Assess the accessibility of grievance mechanisms to women and marginalized groups and strive for independent, gender-responsive investigation of rights violations. Governments and private sector should ensure that the composition of the body processing complaints is gender balanced and protects all people who register complaints from reprisals.

¹*Women Rights & Mining is a collaborative effort of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, GiZ, Global Affairs Canada, and non-government organizations based in the Netherlands including ActionAid, Simavi, Solidaridad and KIT Royal Tropical Institute. WRM works with governments, civil society and companies to integrate gender equality concerns into mining policy and practice so that women and men benefit equally and women's rights are realized in mineral supply chains.*



8. GOV, PS: Develop or improve existing gender policies in consultation with women - including with women's organisations and women economic actors in supply chains. These policies should be supported by dedicated resources, accountability mechanisms, and processes to ensure transparency with stakeholders.
9. GOV, PS: Create incentives for business to promote gender equality and integrate gender responsive due diligence into their supply chains.
10. GOV, PS: Recognize and take steps to reduce risks to all human rights defenders, including those in mining communities or those working along the minerals supply chain.
11. GOV, PS: Prevent sexual and gender-based violence that many women and girls face in their day to day lives. Acknowledge and act upon the positive or negative role that state institutions and business can have either in addressing such violence or in enabling it.
12. GOV: Integrate gender analysis in reform of government's mining and minerals policy, law, regulation and institutions.
13. PS: Implement gender-responsive due diligence in mineral supply chains by identifying, assessing, preventing, mitigating and accounting for the ways in which actions or omissions may differently affect women and men, both in the work place and in surrounding communities.

¹All stakeholders are urged to support development of concrete initiatives in different mineral supply chains to advance gender equality, women's rights and gender responsive due diligence and report on their actions through existing reporting mechanisms – to OECD or otherwise - and during the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum in 2020.

Stakeholders are also encouraged to share information, and mobilize expertise or funding to support OECD analysis on this topic to present options to scale up gender responsive due diligence.