



Press Communiqué

Towards the Future of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development

Geneva, November 3, 2011

Members of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development met during their seventh Annual Session 1-3 November at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland to discuss and share information on a range of issues facing the mining, minerals and metals sector. Hosted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the meeting brought together 62 participants from member and observer governments, organisations, industry and civil society to discuss the way forward to address the mining related issues identified during the 19th session of the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development held in May, 2011 in New York (CSD 19).

The meeting was officially opened by UNCTAD's Secretary General, Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi who welcomed the role the Forum is playing in enhancing the capacity for good governance in mining and identified ways in which the United Nations and its agencies might work more closely with the Forum and its members.

Dr. Leonard Kalindekafe, Chair of the Forum, highlighted the importance of carrying forward the work of the Forum and in particular the need to implement the Mining Policy Framework (MPF) as developed by the Forum and recognized at CSD19 as a way forward to promote sustainable development in the mining sector.

As the only intergovernmental forum that brings together governments with an interest in mining, the Forum continues to attract the participation of a wide range of stakeholders. Members were informed about national initiatives underway, as well as those to address artisanal and small scale mining at the World Bank, the Responsible Mineral Development Initiative of the World Economic Forum, Conflict Free Mining by the World Gold Council, issues facing the industry by the International Council on Mining and Metals and an update on activities of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

Forum members agreed to a renewed programme of work to reflect progress made to date and to build on the outcomes of CSD19 and other processes, and to facilitate the implementation of the MPF by the members. The Forum also elected the new Executive Committee for a two-year term. Elected Chair is Dr. Leonard Kalindekafe, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Environment, Malawi, and Vice-Chairs are: Bayarbat Sangajav, Ministry of Mineral Resources

and Energy, Mongolia, for Asia; Paul Masanja, Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Tanzania, for Africa; Nikolay Miletenko, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, for Europe & CIS; Ginny Flood, Natural Resources Canada, for North America; Octavio López, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Dominican Republic, for Caribbean, Central & South America.

Members and Observers expressed their gratitude to the Governments of Canada and France for their financial support to the Forum, the World Economic Forum for their hospitality and to UNCTAD for its support as Host.

For more information, please contact

Andrew Dawe
Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable
Development
Andrew.dawe@acdi-cida.gc.ca

Dr. Leonard Kalindekafe
Chair of the Forum
P.O. Box 27, Zomba
Malawi
+ 265 995 363 485
Email: lkalindekafe@yahoo.com

More details will be available on www.globaldialogue.info