

# **The Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development**

## **- Terms of reference -**

### **Preamble**

Mindful of the priorities of the Plan of Implementation adopted in Johannesburg in September 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, particularly as they relate to mining, minerals and metals, within the context of poverty alleviation, changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development and, regional sustainable development initiatives.

Aware that mining, minerals and metals are essential for modern living and of the need to achieve sustainable development, so that the benefits generated today by the activities of the mining, minerals and metals sectors are shared and secured for present and future generations, that positive social and economic benefits are maximized while adverse environmental and social impacts are minimized,

Acknowledging that national governments must play a leading role in creating a policy and regulatory environment to enhance the contribution of mining, minerals and metals to sustainable development and of the need for them to be full participants in global debates on issues affecting the sector,

Mindful of the relevant work carried out at all levels by governments, intergovernmental organizations, industry, labour, non-governmental organizations and others to promote the contribution of mining, minerals and metals to sustainable development,

Recognizing the need for enhanced capacity by governments to better manage the areas of sustainable development that are within their prerogative,

Recognizing the sovereignty of each national government, and determined to promote globally the contribution of mining, minerals and metals to sustainable development,

### **Resolved that:**

The Members of this Type 2 Partnership Initiative agree to the following Terms of Reference for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals and Metals and Sustainable Development.

### **Objective**

The objective of the Intergovernmental Forum is to enhance the contribution of mining, minerals and metals to sustainable development.

## **Functions**

The functions of the Intergovernmental Forum are consultative and advisory. The Forum will provide governments with a framework in which to discuss the opportunities provided by mining, minerals and metals and to respond to the challenges they pose. The Intergovernmental Forum will meet to share experiences and information, to consider and to provide advice and, where appropriate, make recommendations for consideration by governments, intergovernmental bodies and others. The Intergovernmental Forum will meet at high level or officials level, as appropriate.

## **Membership**

The Intergovernmental Forum comprises representatives from national governments with responsibility for the mining, minerals and metals sector.

## **Operations of the Intergovernmental Forum**

The Intergovernmental Forum shall:

- Meet at times and places mutually convenient to its members,
- Adopt such rules of procedures as are considered necessary to carry out its functions,
- Make such Secretariat and financial arrangements as it may deem necessary for the proper conduct of its work,
- Make decisions relevant to its operations.

## **Coming into existence and evaluation**

The Intergovernmental Forum will come into existence when 25 countries notify in writing their acceptance of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure to either South Africa or Canada.

After an initial period of five years, Members will have the opportunity to re-evaluate the work of the Intergovernmental Forum and the need for its continuation.