STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY AND CONDEMNATIONOF THE VIOLENT DISPERSAL OF AN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY BARRICADE OF A SUSPENDEDMINE SITE IN NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

In solidarity with the people of Didipio, Nueva Vizcaya in asserting their right to a balanced and healthful ecology, ATM, Kalikasan PNE, LRC-KsK/FoE Philippines, and MiningWatch Canada, as well as other national and international groups, condemn the violent dispersal of members of an indigenous community lawfully barricading the large-scale mining operations of Canadian-Australian OceanaGold Philippines, Inc. (OGPI), in Didipio.

On 6 April 2020, a 100-strong team of regional police escorted three diesel tankers and tried to enter the OceanGold mining site, on the strength of a letter by executive secretary Salvador Medialdea authorizing the entry of the tankers. The diesel was said to be going to be used to drain water seeping into the mining tunnels of OceanaGold's suspended operations.

Some 29 members of an Ifugao indigenous community long opposed to mining barred the entry of the tanker as it violated the suspension order against OceanaGold. Operations have been suspended following the expiration of OceanaGold's operating permit on 20 June 2019.

After nine months of peacefully blockading the mine without police interference, on this day the community was overwhelmed by the large police force, and a violent dispersal ensued, which included the beating and arrest of community leader Rolando Pulido.

This dispersal contravened the right of the community to assembly and violated local and court orders that have suspended the operations of OceanaGold. The use of violence by the police to disperse a peaceful assembly of indigenous people is a reflection of the extraordinary latitude that the government has given to the mining industry.

What is even more disconcerting is that that this happened at a time when the country is trying to flatten the curve of corona virus infections. The blockaders were therefore following the guidelines provided to avoid the spread of COVID-19. OceanaGold's interests shifted precious government manpower and resources away from that effort to support its business interests.

While many businesses not involved in providing essential goods have shut down operations, a large-scale mining company like OceanaGold wants to be an exception, all in the name of profit. Greed, indeed, does not sleep.

Extractive activities like mining are symptomatic of an economic order that commodifies nature for profit to the detriment of people who rely on a healthy environment for their food security and livelihood. This is worrying because environmentally destructive activities are known to play a role in the spread of infectious diseases.

The community's barricade is a lawful expression of the indigenous peoples of Didipio, local governments, and solidarity groups in support of a local government order suspending OceanaGold's operations. OceanaGold's operations have depleted ground water and contaminated nearby rivers of Nueva Vizcaya and displaced countless families. The mine has sown division in the community. OceanaGold should not be surprised that many members of the community oppose the renewal (for another 25 years) of a mining project that has caused them strife and suffering.

In view of the above, we call on:

- The Office of the President to CANCEL the FTAA renewal application of OceanaGold with finality, on the basis of its atrocious environmental and human rights record.
- The Philippine Commission on Human Rights to investigate this violent dispersal in the context of longstanding violations of OceanaGold;
- The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to issue a cease-and-desist order to Oceana Gold, to suspend their illegal operations.
- The Department of Interior and Local Government to investigate on the conduct of members of the police from Region 2, Quirino Province and from the Municipality of Kasibu, and to look into violations of quarantine measures by OceanaGold itself.

In solidarity,

1.	Alyansa Tigil Mina (ATM)	Philippines
2.	Kalikasan-PNE (KPNE)	Philippines
3.	Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center (LRC-KsK/FoEPhils)	Philippines
4.	MiningWatch Canada	Canada
5.	Friends of the Siberian Forests	Russia
6.	PROCESS Foundation Panay, Inc	Philippines
7.	National Secretariat of the Episcopal Commission on Indigenous Peoples (ECIP-NS)	Philippines
8.	Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (TFDP)	Philippines
9.	Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network (CLEAN)	Bangladesh
10.	The Gaia Foundation	United Kingdom
11.	Mines Minerals & RIGHTS	Philippines
12.	Forest Foundation Philippines	Philippines
13.	Focus on the Global South	Philippines
14.	London Mining Network	United Kingdom
15.	Aid/Watch	Australia
16.	Centre for Human Rights and Development	Mongolia
17.	Andrew Lees Trust (ALT UK)	United Kingdom
18.	AfrosRD	Dominican Republic
19.	Friends of the Earth Europe	Brussels Belgium
20.	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)	Philippines
21.	Nueva Vizcaya Youth Leaders Network	Philippines
22.	Balkan Energy and Forest Trends	Serbia
23.	Youth for Environment Education And Development Foundation (YFEED Foundation)	Nepal
24.	Akbayan and Gamma Epsilon International Fraternity/Sorority Zeta Chapter	Philippines
25.	Community Resource Centre Foundation	Thailand
26.	Earth Thrive	Europe
27.	Salva la Selva	Germany
28.	Division Federation of Supreme Students Government of Nueva Vizcaya	Philippines
29.	KRuHA Indonesia	Indonesia
30.	Department of Education	Philippines
31.	Sk secretary of Bone South Aritao Nueva Vizcaya and Vice President of Kabataan Kilos Kontra Droga at Terorismo	Philippines
32.	Environics Trust	India
33.	Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the religious Society of Friends (PYM)	Philippines
34.	Centre for Environmental Justice/ Friends of the Earth Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
35.	European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP)	Denmark
36.	Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)	Philippines
37.	Parish Youth Ministry Manila	Philippines
38.	Institute for Ecology and Action Anthropology	Germany
39.	Bangladesh Krishok Federation	Bangladesh

40.	Myanmar Environmental Legal Services (MELS)	Myanmar
41.	Red, White & Blue (RwB)	USA
42.	London Mining Network	United Kingdom
43.	Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme (NTFP EP)	Philippines
44.	International Indigenous People Movement for Self Determination and Liberation IPMSDL	Philippines
45.	CCFD-Terre Solidaire	France
46.	Salvemos las Villuercas	Spain
47.	MENSCHENRECHTE 3000 e.V	Germany
48.	URGEWALD	Germany
49.	Global Extractivisms and Alternatives Initiative (EXALT)	Finland
50.	Marian Supreme Government	Philippines
51.	IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands	Netherlands
52.	Amigos de la Tierra Argentina	Argentina
53.	Malach Consulting	Slovakia
54.	Citizens Advice Barking and Dagenham	United Kingdom
55.	Canada-Philippines Solidarity for Human Rights	Canada
56.	Karapatab Negros	Philippines
57.	Igapo Project	France
58.	CCMCL Baywatch Foundation	Philippines
59.	FORPA Forest Protection Allies	USA
60.	Defenders Protection Initiative	Uganda
61.	Damayan BC	Philippines
62.	Malaya-USA, Indiana University	USA
63.	Migrante Canada	Canada
64.	Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc.	Philippines
65.	Innabuyog Gabriela	Philippines
66.	Mines, Minerals & People	India
67.	Limerick Area Conservation Coalition	Ireland
68.	Convergence of Initiatives for Environmental Justice, Inc.	Philippines
69.	350.org Japan	Japan
70.	Friends of the Earth Australia	Australia
71.	Korea Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM)	Korea
72.	Tuklas Pilipinas Society	Philippines
73.	350 Pilipinas	Philippines
74.	Friends of the Earth US	USA
75.	Clarion	USA
76.	Kitchener-Waterloo Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (KWCHRP)	Philippines
77.	Friends of the Environmental for Development and Sustainability (FRENDS)	Philippines
78.	NGO Forum on ADB	Philippines
79.	Save Our Sky Blue Waters and Save Lake Superior Association	USA
80.	Philippines Australia Solidarity Association	Australia
81.	International Accountability Project	USA

82.	Red Cross Youth	Philippines
83.	Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia)	Malaysia
84.	Consumers Association of Penang, Malaysia	Malaysia
85.	Oil Workers' Rights Protection Organization Public Union	Azerbaijan
86.	Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development Organisation (BIRUDO)	Uganda
87.	Spirit of Eureka South Australia	Australia
88.	Oyu Tolgoi Watch	Mongolia
89.	Mouvement Ecologoque FoE Luxembourg	Luxembourg
90.	Fundacja "Rozwój TAK - Odkrywki NIE" (Poland)	Poland
91.	Campaign for Human Rights in the Philippines (UK)	United Kingdom
92.	Mongolian Women's Employment Supporting Federation	Mongolia
93.	Asociación ambiental e cultural Petón do Lobo	Spain
94.	Myanmar Environmental Legal Services (MELS)	Myanmar
95.	11.11.11 Coalition of Belgian North South Movement	Belgium
96.	AKBAYOUTH	Philippines
97.	Digo Bikas Institute	Nepal
98.	Oxfam	Indonesia
99.	Nilad Environment Network	Philippines
100.	Forest Foundation	Philippines
101.	Bandilang Itim	Philippines
102.	Publish What You Pay	United Kingdom
103.	Knights of Columbus/ Indigenous People	Philippines
104.	Academia Cidadã - Citizenship Academy	Papua
105.	Isabela State University	Philippines
106.	Finnish Asiatic Society	Finland
107.	Damian Law Offices	Philippines
108.	Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation (IPMSDL)	Philippines
109.	Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project	USA
110.	Kurawal Foundation, Jakarta	Indonesia
111.	Anakbayan Ottawa	Canada
112.	Supreme Student Government	Philippines
113.	COECOCEIBA - Amigos de la Tierra Costa Rica	Costa Rica
114.	IBON Foundation	Philippines
115.	Earthworks	USA
116.	Marea Roja Argentina	Argentina
117.	The Greens Movement of Georgia/Friends of the Earth-Georgia	Georgia
118.	WomanHealth Philippines	Philippines
119.	United Church of Canada	Canada
120.	Eco-Justice Unit, Diocese of New Westminster	Canada
121.	Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA)	Africa
122.	Publish What You Pay Australia	Australia
123.	Centre for Research and Advocacy, Manipur	India

124.	Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ)	Nepal
125.	Dhaatri Trust	India
126.	Ateneo Human Rights Center	Philippines
127.	Friends of the Earth Japan	Japan
128.	The Development Institute	USA
129.	Unahin Natin Lagi ang Diyos – Bitok Lake Farmers and Fisherfolks Association (UNLAD-BLFFA)	Philippines
130.	Amherst College	USA
131.	Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil / Institute for Advanced Study	USA
132.	Unifying Sectoral Responses on Environmental Protocols in Sibonga (USREPS)	Philippines
133.	Alab Katipunan	Philippines
134.	Non-Timber Forest Product -Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP)	India
135.	Centar za zivotnu sredinu/Friends of the Earth Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnia
136.	Non-Timber Forest Product -Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP)	Malaysia
137.	Non-Timber Forest Product -Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP)	Indonesia
138.	Migrante Australia of New South Wales	Australia
139.	Art Atak	Philippines
140.	NOAH - Friends of the Earth Denmark	Denmark
141.	TKPT-Jatam	Indonesia
142.	Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association	Bangladesh
143.	International Association of People's Lawyers	Philippines
144.	Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC)	Japan
145.	Non-Timber Forest Product -Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP)	Vietnam/SIE
146.	Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development	Philippines
147.	Karen Environmental and Social Action Network	Myanmar
148.	Witness Radio Organisation	Uganda
149.	Fresh Eyes	United Kingdom
150.	Beyond Extraction	Canada
151.	Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)	Thailand
152.	Global Forest Coalition	Paraguay
153.	Mongolian Women's Fund	Mongolia
154.	Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)	USA
155.	Mining Injustice Solidarity Network	Canada
156.	Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives (CICADA), McGill University, Montreal	Canada
157.	Assembly of Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean (ATALC)	Paraguay
158.	Amigos de la Tierra América Latina y el Caribe – ATALC	Latin America
159.	Sibuyan Against Mining	Philippines
160.	WomanHealth Philippines	Philippines
161.	Sulong UBC	Philippines
162.	Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA Consortium)	Philippines
163.	Amigos da Terra Brasil	Brazil

164.	Stiftung Asienhaus	Nepal
165.	International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)	Denmark
166.	Both ENDS	Netherlands
167.	Forest Peoples Programme	United Kingdom
168.	PowerShift e.V.,	Germany
169.	Center for Environmental Concerns	Philippines
170.	Nepal Integrated Development Initiatives (NIDI)	Nepal
171.	Friends of the Earth Netherlands / Milieudefensie	Netherlands
172.	Development Studies, University of Helsinki	Finland
173.	Friends of the Earth International	Netherlands
174.	REDES-Friends of the Earth Uruguay	Uruguay
175.	vzw Climaxi (Civil Society Organization)	United Kingdom
176.	Civil Expertise	Kazakstan
177.	The Yemeni Organization for Economic and Social Development	Yemen
178.	Solidariedade Moçambique	Portugal
179.	AMIHAN National Federation of Peasant Women	Philippines
180.	Energy Transparency Association,	Ukraine
181.	Centre for Transparency and Freedom of Information	Nigeria
182.	Publish What You Pay	Azerbaijan
183.	Gender Communications, Global Mobility Studies Unit NDU Lebanon	Lebanon
184.	Bangladesh Krishok Federation	Bangladesh
185.	Bloque Latinoamericano Berlín	Germany
186.	CENSAT Agua Viva Colombia	Colombia
187.	Institute for Strategic Research and Development Studies (ISRDS)	Philippines
188.	Notre Dame University (NDU)	Philippines
189.	The Free West Papua Campaign	Indonesia
190.	Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development	Thailand
191.	Tanggapang Panligal ng Katutubong Pilipino (PANLIPI)	Philippines