



ALYANSA
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ATM Statement

On the event of an organized mobilization during the OceanaGold Annual General Meeting in Toronto on June 9, 2016

Filipino indigenous farming communities demand justice for mining impacts of OceanaGold's gold-copper mine, continue to say no to mining

Alyansa Tigil Mina, a coalition of more than one hundred organizations that is challenging the current policy regime on mining in the country. The alliance aims to shift the policy framework on extracting minerals in the Philippines, from simply "extracting and profiting from mining minerals" to "mineral management towards national industrialization". We believe there is a need to repeal the Mining Act of 1995 (RA9742) and enact the Philippines Mineral Resources Act, and put a moratorium on all mining operations in the country.

ATM voices out the strong opposition of mining-affected communities in Nueva Vizcaya whose lives and sources of livelihoods continue to be threatened by the presence of OceanaGold's subsidiary OceanaGold Philippines Inc.'s (OGPI) mining operations—an open pit and underground mine forecasted to produce around 100,000 ounces of gold and 14,000 tons of copper every year over an expected 16-year mine life.¹ Now despite opposition and calls to close down the mine and rehabilitate the lands, OGPI, in connivance with the Philippine government, is expanding and has renewed its exploration permit for another expansion.

Didipio Earth-Savers Multi-purpose Association (DESAMA) said before and continues to say now: "DAGAMI KET BIAG MI! MADIMIT KAYAT TI MINAS (Our Land, our life! No to mining!). We re-affirm our stand against OGPI and we want them to pull out from our lands. After the Philippines Commission on Human Rights (PCHR) found OGPI causing the violation of 'the right to adequate housing and property rights'; 'the right to freedom of movement, the 'right not to be subjected to arbitrary interference; 'the right to security of persons'; and 'the right of the indigenous community to manifest their culture and identity', now they violate our right to a healthy and safe environment and livelihoods. We want justice and one step to that is if OGPI stops mining and starts rehabilitating what they destroyed!"

"We cannot allow mining to expand to our lands and to continue because it destroys our source of living and our ways of life. Mining should be stopped or else we, Ifugaos and other indigenous communities here, will cease to survive and exist." SALAKNIB Nueva Vizcaya added.

Before the mine started, the PCHR Resolution No. A2011-004 recommended that the OGPI pull out from the province because of the string of human rights violations and abuses caused by its entry. After the evictions and other forms of human rights violations, and bribing and disregarding peoples' voices, OGPI went on commercial production by April 2013. Two years after, environmental impacts from the mine already hit the waters and downstream farmlands.

¹ <http://www.oceanagold.com/our-business/philippines/didipio-mine/>



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To date, concerns on the human rights violations and abuses and environmental impacts have not been heard or addressed. It is undeniable that the day-to-day operations and use of explosives has caused the deforestation, slope destabilization, erosion, crop damages, water and air pollution in the areas.

OceanaGold, the people behind it whose pockets and economies greatly benefit from the plunder of our resources, should listen to the voice of the mining-affected communities and give the justice that they owe.

ATM echoes that demands of Novo Vizayanons: OCEANAGOLD, STOP MINING IN KASIBU, NUEVA VIZCAYA! END YOUR OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES!

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