



# Remedy Gone Wrong

## Barrick Gold's Grievance Mechanism in Tanzania Deepens Harm

MiningWatch Canada has carried out and [reported on](#) yearly human rights assessments at Barrick Gold's North Mara Gold Mine in Tanzania since 2014. We have interviewed well over a hundred victims of violence at the hands of private and public mine security at the mine, including killings, maiming, rape and gang rape. In December 2016, Barrick Gold's majority-owned subsidiary (64%) Acacia started to implement a new company-led, non-judicial, Operation-level Grievance Mechanism (OGM) for victims of human rights abuses caused, or contributed to, by the operations of the North Mara Gold Mine.

MiningWatch [reviewed the Standard Operating Procedure](#) for the mine's new OGM in 2018 and found: it does not meet most of the UN Guiding Principles Effectiveness Criteria; it is overly controlled by the mine; and the extraordinarily large power imbalance between largely illiterate and impoverished villagers and the mine's legal and investigative team, which implements the mechanism, is not addressed and disadvantages the victims in the process. Also in 2018, MiningWatch [interviewed victims of excess use of force](#) by mine security and police who had entered the new remedy mechanism only to find the harm of the violence they had endured compounded by an unfair OGM process that is largely out of compliance with its own operating procedures. [A video](#) MiningWatch produced of women speaking out publically for the first time about the rape they have endured and the lack of equitable remedy emphasizes the urgent need for a fair OGM at the North Mara mine.

### Resources:



[Review of Barrick Gold/Acacia Mining's Draft "Community Grievance Process - Standard Operating Procedure" for the North Mara Gold Mine in Tanzania](#)  
April 2018, Catherine Coumans, MiningWatch Canada



[Inequality of Arms](#)  
A summary of concerns raised by victims of violence by private and public mine security at Barrick Gold's North Mara Gold Mine in Tanzania regarding the mine's new Operation-level Grievance Mechanism  
September 2018, Catherine Coumans, MiningWatch Canada



[MiningWatch Releases Video](#)  
Women Speak Out About Abuse at Barrick Gold's North Mara Mine in Tanzania  
June 2018