

**Mining – Women’s Major Group – IPM CSD 19**  
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Thank you, Mr. Chair and distinguished representatives.

Many mining activities destroy livelihoods and the environment. In particular, uranium mining has threatened the wellbeing of indigenous peoples on whose territories the uranium is mined, and as a result their lands have become uninhabitable.

The rights of local communities and indigenous peoples need to be safeguarded. Their rights to control and protect local natural resources, share in mining profits—and bring mining companies to court in cases of abuse--need to be enforced by global and national legally binding agreements.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples needs to be implemented.

Governments and mining companies have to be held responsible for their unsustainable mining practices, through a global liability framework including for post-mining effects and compensation payments for damage.

Multilateral and international financial institutions need to develop and implement strict guidelines and control mechanisms in order to avoid financing mining projects that violate human rights and damage ecosystems.

We call on governments to develop a UN framework for sustainable mining which includes an international compliance tribunal/mechanism.

When the repair of damage and clean-up of mining waste is not guaranteed, governments should impose a moratorium on the opening new mining and extraction sites.

Where unsustainable mining activities need to be ended, creation of decent, fair and just job transition for local people should be ensured.

Para 23 of the JPI ( Johannesburg Plan of Implementation) states that there be a renewed commitment per Agenda 21- as in sound management throughout the lifecycle of all hazardous waste and chemicals for the protection of health and the environment.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.