



Haitian and Dominican social movements warn of mining risks.

July 22, international day of fight against mega mining.

On the occasion of the International Day Against Mega Mining, July 22, The Binational Forum on Mining and Climate Change warns about the consequences of exploitative mining on the island of Hispaniola. This activity endangers the forest, water sources and food sovereignty of the people of the island. We invite all progressive organizations of our two peoples including ecologists, environmentalists, peasant federations, and all citizens to reflect on the dramatic effects that mining has had on our island since 1492. Such activity has always disguised itself behind a manipulative discourse of modernization and development, characterized by false promises of collective well-being and prosperity, while on the contrary, it has put the climatic stability and food security of the island communities at risk.

Faced with the desires to expand extractive activity, we cry out to denounce the manipulations of the mining companies, which are in complicity with governments, and who present mining as a solution for economic recovery in the context of COVID-19. These corporations are seeking to take advantage of the current global pandemic situation to accelerate the process of accumulating profits at the cost of the destruction of our social fabric and the material base of reproduction of life in our territories. Extractivism needs a lot of land, a lot of water, a lot underground territory and many substances to maximize profits on a small island with high environmental fragility such as ours.

The COVID-19 pandemic is demonstrating the importance of water, trees, forest reserves, the collective heritage of our communities and the need to put the health of peoples at center of all political agenda and all investment strategies. Mega mining is the enemy of all this. We reiterate that in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and taking advantage of the confinement of our communities and using the framework of Free Trade Agreements, mining companies are attempting to expand extractive activities and make it easier to mine. We denounce that currently the demands of transnational companies against the governments of the region within the framework of the Treaties Bilateral Investment, have increased.

The resistance of the people in the fight and defense of our territories and our rights human still stands. We will not accept the perpetuation of imperialist and neocolonial domination. Our task today is to create and structure a broad binational and Caribbean movement that has enough strength to fight for a model of society that guarantees collective well-being and the care of the Commons. We will do so by stopping the new offensives of the transnational mining companies and creating the conditions for sovereignty over our territories and their resources.

LONG LIVE THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLES FOR THE DEFENSE OF LIFE
LONG LIVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BINATIONAL FORUM AGAINST THE MEGA-MINING!
LET THEM NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC TO ENSLAVE US MORE
THEY WILL NOT PASS!

21 de Julio 2020, hecho en Puerto Príncipe y Santo Domingo

Firmas:

-Coalición Ambiental de la Línea Noroeste
(COANOR)

-Asamblea Ambiental Dominicana (ANA)

-AfrosRD, miembro Coalición Global por los
Bosques

-Justicia Climática RD

-Confederación Nacional de Mujeres del Campo
(CONAMUCA)

-Asociación Cultural La Negrata, Inc.

-Articulación Nacional Campesina (ANC)

-Comité Nacional de Lucha Contra el Cambio


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-Plateforme haïtienne de Plaidoyer pour un
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-Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen TK

-CE-JILAP, Comision justicia y paz de la iglesia
católica

-Mouvman Demokratik Popilè (MODEP)

-Batay Ouvriye

-Groupe d'appui aux réfugiés et rapatriés (GARR)

Climático (CNLCCC)

-Voces del Camú

-Casa de la Cultural de Haina

-Centro de Orientación y Protección al Consumo de
la Energía Eléctrica y Consumo Responsable
(COPCEEA)

-Sociedad Ecológica de Nigua

-Movimiento Agroecológico Latino Americano

-Plateforme des organisations haïtiennes de défense
des droits humains (POHDH)