



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

President Ollanta Humala Tasso,
Despacho Presidential
Jiron de la Union s/n 1 cdra
Lima. Peru

19th December 2011

Dear President Humala,

We, the undersigned individuals and institutions of several continents, committed to the movements for world justice, environmental protection and sustainable development, write to express our deep concern regarding growing evidence of a slide towards authoritarian rule in response to recent anti-mine protests in Peru.

On 4 October 2011, President Humala granted the armed forces "full control and command" in any area subject to a "state of emergency" thereby supplanting the Peruvian police - through Dictamen 301/2011CR which amended Decreto Legislativo 1095. Under this legal framework, any group of civilians protesting against government policy may in practice be considered a "hostile group" and be the object of "military operations" involving "lethal force" and "collateral damage" (DL 1095 articles 2, 4, 5, and 19). Such civilian protesters are formally treated as enemy soldiers (DL 1095 article 7). Members of the military are effectively granted immunity from pursuit (DL 1095 article 9). This legislation almost certainly violates Peru's international human rights obligations. Such reliance on intimidation and repression of protesters ultimately entrench antagonisms and frustrate the interests of all concerned.

On 29th November 2011, in response to protests at the Conga mine site, the security forces opened fire on unarmed protesters approaching mine installations. Up to 20 protesters reportedly received gun shot wounds. At least one protester, Elmer Campos Álvarez, was left permanently disabled. The use of live ammunition was evidenced through medical reports and the testimony of the victims. However the government has so far failed to admit the extent of the civilian casualties and the use of live ammunition. Mr Oscar Valdez who denied bullets were fired on 29 November in his capacity as Minister of the Interior has recently been designated Prime Minister by President Humala. This conduct gravely undermines the rule of law in Peru.



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

On 4th December President Humala declared sixty days of a "state of emergency" in the region of Cajamarca in response to the protests. This measure suspended civil liberties and allowed security forces to break up meetings and arrest protesters at will. On 6th December Mr Wilfredo Saavedra and five other protest leaders were detained without warrant or charges being laid. Protesters have vowed to pursue peaceful opposition to the mine.

The above situation has created a risk of large scale human rights abuse. The circumstances bear a distressing resemblance to the string of recent incidents surrounding extractive industry protests, including the Bagua shootings of June 2009 in which at least 34 protesters and police officers were killed.

As the world follows the events in Cajamarca in the following weeks and months, we respectfully urge you Mr Humala to consider the following measures:

- 1) to submit Decreto Legislativo 1095 for review by the Tribunal Constitucional
- 2) to honour Peru's commitments to the rule of law and human rights by recognising and compensating the victims of the 29th November 2011 shootings
- 3) to guarantee the ongoing physical safety of protesters in the Cajamarca region including the right to justice and humane treatment upon detention
- 4) to properly address environmental concerns raised by the Conga mine and enforce corresponding requirements on the Yanacocha company.

Yours sincerely,

Glevys Rondón
Project Director



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Organization	Country
Brunel People and Planet	Reino Unido
National Justice and Peace Network	Reino Unido
Bougainville Freedom Movement	Reino Unido
Colombia Solidarity Campaign	Reino Unido
London Mining Network	Reino Unido
Engineering, Social Justice and Peace Network	Australia
The Corner House	Reino Unido
Movimiento Micaela Bastidas	Reino Unido
Front-Line	Irlanda
Union Latinoamericana de Mujeres (ULAM)	América Latina
Platform London	Reino Unido
Music for Life UK	Reino Unido
Q Initiative	EE.UU.
Brunel Socialist and Progressive Society	Reino Unido
Youth 4 Truth Media	EE.UU.
Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme	Reino Unido
Waste for Life	Australia
Centro de Mujeres Indígenas Aymaras	Patacamaya, Bolivia
Brunel Liberal Society	Reino Unido
Frente de Mujeres Defensoras de la Pachamama	Ecuador
Fundación Mujeres del Agua	Venezuela
Frente de Mujeres Guardianas de la Amazonía	Ecuador

Name	Organization	Country
Anna Gunkowska	University of Aberdeen	UK
Frida Mittmann	University of Aberdeen	UK
Dr Janet Townsend	University of Newcastle upon Tyne	UK
Lewis Taylor	Latin American Studies, University of	UK



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

	Liverpool	
Dr Matt Baillie Smith	Reader in Sociology, School of Arts and Social Sciences, Northumbria University	UK
Professor Tristan Platt	Anthropology and History, Centre for Amerindian, Caribbean and Latin American Studies, University of St Andrews	UK
Professor Richard Walker	Institute of Health and Society, Newcastle University	UK
Melisa Wong	Brunel University	UK
Daniel Rowe	Brunel University	UK
Laura Gower	Sociology Postgraduate Researcher, Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University	UK
Alexandra Seedhouse	Newcastle University	UK
Professor Donna Riley	Smith College	Australia
Professor George Catalano	Binghamton University	Australia
Professor Caroline Baillie	University of Western Australia	Australia
Hazel Healy	Co-editor "New Internationalist"	UK
Tom Van den Stem	CATAPA	Belgium
Weis Willems	CATAPA	Belgium
Edward Rothschild	Queens University	Canada
Silvio Rendon	Story Brook University	USA
Dr Lucy Taylor	President, Society for Latin American Studies (SLAS); Co-Editor, Bulletin of Latin American Research (BLAR) Adran Gwleidyddieath Ryngwladol / Department of International Politics, Prifysgol Aberystwyth University	UK
Q'orianka Kilcher	Artiste	



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Peter N. Jones, Ph.D.	Director: Bauu Institute and Press. Editor Indigenous People Issues & Resources	
Chrysoula Gitsoulis	Adjunct Professor, Stevens Institute of Technology	USA
Sasha McInnes	PUCHKA	Victoria, BC, Canada
Katy Jenkins	Senior Lecturer, Northumbria University	UK
Diana Mills	Writer	UK
Vanessa Baird	Co-editor "New Internationalist"	UK
Marisol de la Cadena	Professor, UC Davis, University of California	EE.UU.
Aleksandra Veljkovic		Serbia
Sunqu Killay		UK
Gabriela Ramos		
Rosina Pastore		Italy
Catherine Steghens		Berlin, Germany
Irene Schleining		Austria
Kevin Devotta		Canada
Daniel Raymond-Barker		
Hailey Sherwood		
Cathy Smitton		
Sebastian Lilo		Chile
Bushra Ferjani		
Craig McMillan		Milford, Ontario, Canada
Claudia Aurora Arancibia Meléndez		
Bieke Cleo van Grieken		
Nicola Jaeger		Germany
Michaëlle Penafiel		Ecuador



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Laurence Fahrni		UK
Analía Laos		
Lucy Moloney		UK
Nathalie Leignel		
Alejandra Zaga		Canada
Lisa Barrett		Canada
Dominic Gall		UK
Haley Coles		
Sonja Bleeker		
Walter. A. Barboza. V		USA
Benjamin Schwab		Germany
E. Nielsen		Canada
Leon Gabriel		Germany
Nora Degott		
Ann-Katrin Hess		Germany
Lea Klopfer		Germany
Jutta Bauer		Germany
Matthieu Neff		UK
Lucy Hurn		UK
Fabien Petitpré		France
Xavier Lane-Mullins		Australia
Carina Pfeffer		Germany
Dr Janice Briggs de Chafloque		Peru
Janet Fairbanks		
Wayne Bradley		
Jorge Alva-Huerto		Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Evelyne Blondeel		
Felice Riccobono		Edinburgh, U.K.



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Sophie Pagliai		France
Jurre Zwart		
Johan Bleeker, Ria Bleeker		Netherlands
Alejandra Ballón-Gutierrez		
Monroe Edwin Jeffrey		
Kaethe Nuebling		Germany
Eddie Rothschild		
Steve Rowe		UK
Juliana Oviedo		UK
Lorraine Wong		UK
Mario Alvarez		UK
Nazire Akarsu		UK
Tala Birch		UK
Ronald Wong		Peru
Carlos Cruz		UK
Katherine Phillips		UK
Matteo Bergamini		UK
Rainard Bhiroo-Stocks		UK
Christina Motta		UK
Leyli Horna		UK
Sophie Long		UK
Edwin Vaca		UK
Paola Lopez de Castilla		UK
Charlie Bhattoa		UK
Jade Doswell		UK
Dasen Pather		UK



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Molly McCabe		UK
Gemma Finn		UK
Yasmin Begun		UK
Diego Ortega		UK
Ian Harris		UK
Nigel Brooks		UK
Merel Timmer		UK
Craig Best		UK
Danny Lemon		UK
Daniel Marin Pardo		UK
Flavio Magistrelli		Italy
Fiona Harrington		UK
Marta Michalak		UK
Camilo Cruz		UK
Karina Cruz		UK
Nelly Mosquera		UK
Rosa Delgado		UK
Wally Kennedy		UK
Ross Mcquaid		UK
Stephany Santiago		UK
Sophia Owegbe		UK
Arianne Mondesir		UK
Astarte Mondesir		UK
Susan Rowe		UK
Claudia Telo		UK
Rebecca Rowe		UK
Anna Andreeva		UK
Alice Estefanelli		UK
Rahul Nair		UK
Victoria Gzibovska		UK



Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme

Craig Towell		UK
Thomas Birch		UK
Carlos Baron		UK
Simon Green		UK
Racheal Payne		UK
Elizabeth Witts		UK
Brett Hansley		UK
Priya Pallan		UK
Sultana Yasmin		UK
Mmazipan Rammstei		UK
Carlos Espinoza Parada		UK
Jennifer Holroyd-Doveton		UK
Steve Ellis		UK
Marita Minchola		UK
Santiago Horna		UK
Katherine Scholfield		UK