



Amsterdam, October 6th, 2007

Dear sir/madam,

The international campaign **Fatal Transactions** would like to invite you to a one-day conference in Brussels, on Friday, November 9th 2007:

*Minding the mines: resource certification and revision of contracts in
the mining industry in Africa*
**Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie voor Kunst en Wetenschappen
Paleis der Academien, Hertogstraat 1, Brussels, Belgium**

Fatal Transactions raises awareness among policy makers, companies and the public about resource extraction and trade that lead to the continuation of violent conflict and human rights violations. The campaign aims to transform *Fatal Transactions* into *Fair Transactions*: business activities that truly lead to sustainable development in Africa.

In Africa, resource certification, like the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, alone does not guarantee a just division of profits of resource extraction. In order to enhance the general living standards of local population, more action and regulation is needed. Mining contracts, signed between a legitimate state and a mining company, should be just and transparent, and negotiated on behalf of all stakeholders, *including* civil society. It is the European Union member states, and their policy towards African development that should facilitate and encourage the (re)negotiation of these mining contracts.

For our conference, we have invited guest speakers from both Europe and Africa. As audience, we welcome policy makers, NGO representatives, mining industrials and academics. The Fatal Transactions Conference will follow the Kimberley Process' General Assembly, which takes place between November 5th – 8th in Brussels.

We hope to bring you a lively, open and constructive debate on the challenges and opportunities that lie before us in better management of natural resources. **If you wish to attend please subscribe at our web-site www.fataltransactions.org** For more information, you can also contact the Fatal Transactions secretariat at + 31 (0) 20 5206210.

On behalf of the Fatal Transactions campaign,

Anneke Galama
Interim International Co-ordinator Fatal Transactions
p/a Netherlands institute for Southern Africa



program*

- 9.00-9.30 hrs : Registration and coffee & tea
- 9.30-10.45 hrs : *The Architecture of Natural Resource Management*
Ms. Anneke Galama, Interim International Co-ordinator Fatal Transactions, the Netherlands
- Mr. Willem Jaspers, Kimberley Process Secretariat, European Commission, Belgium
- Prof. Dr. Raimund Bleiswitz, Wuppertal Institute, Co-director 'Material Flows and Resource Management', Germany
- 10.45-11.15 hrs : Coffee & tea
- 11.15- 12.45 hrs: *Policy & Practice*
Mr. Markus Wagner, Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany – *certification schemes in Rwanda*
- Mr. Jan Gorus, *Vrije Universiteit Brussel, head of MIRECA, task force on mineral resources in Central Africa, created by the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
- Mr. Abu Brima, Network Movement for Justice and Development, Sierra Leone
- Mr. Claude Kabemba, Southern Africa Resource Watch, South Africa
- Moderator: Alex Vines, Chatham House, Head of Africa Program, United Kingdom
- 12.45-14.00 hrs: Lunch

14.00-16.15 hrs *Mining Contracts- 2 case studies*
(including tea & coffee break)

Democratic Republic of Congo

Mr. Jean Paul Katende, ASADHO, Publish What You Pay, Democratic Republic of Congo
Marc Herman, Broederlijk Delen, Belgium

Zambia

Mr. Prof. John Lungu, The Copperbelt University, board member of Catholic Commission for
Justice and Peace, Zambia

Mr. Gerno Kwaks, Netherlands institute for Southern Africa (NiZA), the Netherlands

moderator: Mr. Wolf Christian Paes/ Ms.. Jolien Schure, Bonn Information Centre for
Conversion, Germany

16.15-16.30 closing remarks

16.30-18.00 drinks

language: English/French (interpreters available)

* *draft program*

Fatal Transactions is an international network existing of Broederlijk Delen, Belgium - International Peace and Information Service (IPIS), Belgium - Bonn Information Centre for Conversion (Bicc), Germany - Wroclaw University, Poland - IKV/Pax Christi, the Netherlands - Oxfam/Novib, the Netherlands - Netherlands institute for Southern Africa (NiZA), the Netherlands - Medico International, Germany - GroundWork, South Africa - Centre National d'appui au développement et la participation populaire (CENADEP), DRC - Juventude Ecologica Angolana (Angola).