



IGF

INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM
on Mining, Minerals, Metals and
Sustainable Development

Communiqué – IGF 17th Annual General Meeting

Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF)
17th Annual General Meeting (AGM)
19-20 October 2021

Second virtual edition

Building Tomorrow Together: Mining for a Responsible and Inclusive Future

Governments, companies, and mining communities face a variety of challenges today. Amid the need for COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery, calls are growing for a transition towards clean energy sources to combat climate change. New technologies are disrupting operations and posing new challenges for community engagement and government policy makers. In addition, assessing and managing the environmental and social impacts from mining—throughout the mining life cycle and for operations of all sizes—remains critical to maintaining trust in the sector.

In response to these challenges, the theme of the 2021 IGF Annual General Meeting was '**Building Tomorrow Together: Mining for a Responsible and Inclusive Future**'. 2021 AGM sessions focused on a variety of timely topics surrounding mining sector governance, including artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), community engagement, critical minerals, environmental management, environmental and social impact assessments (ESIA), gender equality, local content, partnerships, taxation, and new technologies.

17th AGM

The IGF convened its 17th AGM from 19-20 October 2021, hosting the event virtually for the second time this year. Over 1,500 participants registered, including delegates from over 100 countries, including representatives from government, international organizations, companies, industry associations, and civil society.

As Chair of the IGF Executive Committee, on 19 October 2021, Ibrahima Guèye, Secretary General, Ministry of Mines and Geology, Senegal, speaking on behalf of Dr. Oumar Sarr, Minister of Mines and Geology of Senegal, welcomed delegates to the second virtual convening of the AGM and emphasized the importance of partnerships between host countries and mining companies as a foundation for sustainable, responsible, and inclusive mining developments that deliver shared benefits that extend past the mine site, to local communities, national governments, and beyond.

Sessions Summary

A diverse selection of panelists shared their experiences and insights during the AGM's 12 themed sessions listed below:

The parallel sessions included the following:

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- New Thinking, Different Skills, Unusual Collaborations for the Future
- Managing the Environmental Impacts on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM)
- Thinking Forward: Building gender equality in the mine of the future
- Time to Transform: Tax incentives in mining's new era
- Opening up Mining Governance Through National Dialogues
- Mining for Sustainable Development: A new ESIA diagnostic tool for the mining sector
- Resetting Partnerships: Building on post-COVID emergency responses to strengthen public-private collaboration
- Mine Tailings Governance: Lessons learned through inclusive stakeholder engagement
- Critical Minerals: Opportunities and challenges in the Race to Zero
- Local Content and Regional Supply Chains
- Global Trends that will Shape the Future of Mining
- Building Relationships to Improve Environmental Governance in Mining

General Council

On October 21, the General Council and members of the Executive Committee welcomed Costa Rica, El Salvador, and the United States of America as the newest IGF members.

Elections were held during the General Council for new members of the Executive Committee. Representatives from Brazil, Canada, and the Netherlands were nominated for a second term, representing the Americas and Europe. Newly elected Executive Committee members included Morocco and Lesotho representing Africa and Thailand representing Asia. The Chair of the Executive Committee will be selected by the Vice-Chairs from among themselves in November 2021.

Closing Remarks

In closing, the IGF Director thanked delegates for their participation and expressed the wish to meet all participants in person for a general assembly hosted by UNCTAD in 2022.

About the IGF

The IGF supports more than 75 nations committed to leveraging mining for sustainable development to ensure negative impacts are limited and financial benefits are shared. It is devoted to optimizing the benefits of mining to achieve poverty reduction, inclusive growth, social development, and environmental stewardship. The International Institute for Sustainable Development has served as Secretariat for the IGF since October 2015. Core funding is provided by the governments of Canada and the Netherlands.

For more information, please contact the Secretariat at Secretariat@IGFmining.org.

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