

Rio Tinto: What price your dividend?

The Rio Tinto QMM Mine in Madagascar

What can you do as an individual?

As a concerned member of the public, diaspora or NGO you can write to your MP and ask why a British listed PLC is failing to honour its obligations under the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Also, its pledges to adhere to International Council for Mining and Minerals Key Principles, Un Sustainable Development Goals, and its own corporate commitments to respect human rights. See also the demands below :

What can you do as a Shareholder?

1. Demand the company urgently live up to its Sustainable Development commitments, ICMM priorities and Human Rights obligations and **provide safe drinking water** to affected communities
2. Demand the company have an independent **technical review of its mine tailings** and mine waste water management processes – to include the safety factor of the QMM “berm” (excavated tailings management) that purports to protect local lakes and waterways
3. **Demand cash transfers to communities** who have lost livelihoods and are facing famine and food insecurity due to the QMM policies and practices (e.g. weir affected fisherfolk in Andrakaraka, biodiversity offsetting communities e.g. at Antsotso) so they can weather the short to medium term food shortages until new livelihoods and food security can be successfully established
4. Require the company to **openly provide all reports and information** that have been requested (by communities, civil society, international NGOs and individual shareholder/s). Note: many of the documents requested since 2017 have not been shared and many technical questions have been left unanswered.
5. Insist the company open its doors to **external independent measurement** and review of the radioactivity issues at QMM *on an ongoing basis* (not just one off) using experts and laboratories that can muster the necessary capacity to meet international standards and can help build in country, local capacity for monitoring radioactivity, also for water contamination.
6. Insist the company **communicate transparently** with affected communities about radiation around the mine site (Rio Tinto agreed within a formal framework document with ALT UK that it would share the findings of the 2019 Swanson independent radioactivity review but, once again, has placed the burden of this task on the Malagasy Government who have no resources, experience (no precedents in country) or capacity to do so (the WHO in Madagascar also has no capacity to manage this challenge and apparently sent the Swanson radioactivity review to Nairobi to seek advice from colleagues last autumn).

For more information visit:

http://www.andrewleestrust.org/studies_and_reports.html

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