

Ms.

Amanda Romero Medina

Researcher and Representative for South America

Business and Human Rights Information Center (BHRIC)

Bogotá, Colombia

C.C. Michael Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights

Subject: AngloGold Ashanti Colombia's response to the report "*Human Rights Defenders and Business in Colombia*"

Dear Ms. Romero,

At AngloGold Ashanti Colombia S.A., (AGAC), we are committed to ensuring that all our operations respond to the purpose of converting mineral wealth into social, economic and environmental progress for the country. To achieve this, we believe that respect for human rights and for the people who lead processes to defend them is an essential element. Likewise, we are absolutely willing to talk to the communities in the area of influence of our projects, as well as to all the stakeholders and observers of the development of the responsible mining industry in Colombia, in an open, permanent and transparent manner.

This is why, in view of the information recorded in the report "*Human Rights Defenders and Business in Colombia*", which also states in one of its annexes that AngloGold Ashanti Colombia did not respond to the consultations made by BHRIC, we would like to respectfully state some considerations to you.

First, the company proceeded to internally verify the existence of any request for a response regarding the report, but the process indicated that there is no record of this fact. Therefore, we kindly asked the Center to send the supporting document in order to process it internally. It is important to emphasize that the BHRIC has our willingness and openness to resolve any concerns in this regard as we have done in the past. We are open to holding meetings and analyzing complaints in detail with a view to identifying gaps in information and generating mutual understanding in this regard.

Secondly, it is important to clarify that the company has not had any involvement with threats to environmental and/or social leaders. In fact, we have systematically condemned attacks against those who watch over human and community rights, and we have been the first to denounce and reject any kind of threat, not only against people who oppose mining activities, but also against company employees, contractors and suppliers who have been intimidated, bullied and threatened on several occasions.

We have been respectful of human rights and have gone beyond, being active in risk analysis and prevention and collaboration with authorities and communities. Thus, since September 2016, we have had a human rights due diligence system and a complaints and grievance mechanism aligned with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. In all cases in which a complaint related to a possible violation of human rights is filed, we activate a protocol in accordance with the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, which formally informs competent authorities of the complaints and requests their investigation. In addition, we perform a follow-up to ensure that the investigation is completed and the facts clarified.

It is worth noting that we are active members of the United Nations Global Compact, the international initiative of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, the International Council on Mining and Metals and the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative. In addition, we promote the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Business.

Likewise, we are always attentive to ensuring that human rights are respected in our value chain because, as legal actors, we consider ourselves allies of national, regional and local governments in building safe mining that respects human rights and guarantees the well-being of people.

Ms. Romero, we reiterate our readiness and willingness to meet any requirement from the Center. To this end, please count on the absolute collaboration of the Sustainability and Communications management of AngloGold Ashanti Colombia, a department which has been responsible for responding to these issues since March 1.

Yours sincerely,

Mariana Jaramillo Thomas

Sustainability and Communications Manager

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