Dear ,

An APPCCG event
In Conjunction with The Gaia Foundation, GRAIN, the London Mining Network and UK Food Group

Report Launch: Opening Pandora’s Box
A New Wave of Land Grabbing for Mining and its Devastating Global Impacts

Wednesday 29th February, 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Committee Room 10, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

A dangerous convergence of trends is leading to unprecedented rates of growth and scale in mining across the planet. There has been a relentless increase in demand for products since 2002 as a result of population increase, higher standards of living in so-called “new economies”, and a wasteful economic model built around a throwaway ‘upgrade’ culture in new technologies. The 2008 economic collapse and a rush to invest in tangibles such as metals and minerals, has pushed up prices, providing further incentive for exploitation into new territories and deposits.

Meanwhile, more sophisticated extractive technologies - which use huge amounts of energy, water and toxic chemicals - have led to fracking, tar sands, deep offshore drilling and mountain top removal. As pristine ecosystems, new depths of land and sea, protected areas such as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and even the UK Home Counties, become targets for the extractive industry, we are no longer dealing with isolated pockets of destruction and pollution.

I am pleased to invite you to this APPCCG event with The Gaia Foundation, GRAIN, the London Mining Network, and the UK Food Group to launch the 2012 report Opening Pandora’s Box, which reveals how a new wave of global landgrabbing by the extractive industries is devastating ecosystems, stripping communities of their options for food and water security, and driving climate change.

Panellists will include:
• Henk Hobbelink, Coordinator, GRAIN International
• Liz Hosken, Director, The Gaia Foundation
• Richard Solly, Coordinator, the London Mining Network
• Deborah Doane, Director of the World Development Movement, members of the UK Food Group

The panel discussion will be followed by a question and answer session. Please enter by St. Stephen’s Gate, and allow about 15 minutes to pass through security. If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact Neha Sethi at the APPCCG Secretariat on climatechangegroup@carbonneutral.com or tel: +44 (0) 20 7833 6035.

Kind Regards,

Joan Walley MP
Chair, APPCCG