

# **GHANA RESOLUTIONS AT THE LAUNCH OF THE AFRICAN WOMEN IN MINING NETWORK (AFWIMN)**

**ELMINA, GHANA, 8-10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2003**

Representatives of twelve African countries<sup>1</sup>, all involved in mining activities met in Ghana during 8 to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2003. At this meeting, the participants resolved the following:

- Recognizing that there are many women involved in mining activities in Africa;
- Recognizing that African women involved in mining activities face numerous problems including lack of technical know how and access to finance;
- Recognizing that there is potential for capacity building of the women if experiences are shared within Africa;
- Noting the aspirations of the NEPAD in regional cooperation and sharing of information;
- Noting the recommendations made at a special meeting of African Mining Ministers held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in December 2000, that the SADC Women in Mining Trust expands and covers the whole continent to form an African Women in mining network to address issues concerning women involved in mining in Africa;
- Noting that the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has recognized and pledged support for AFWIMN;
- Noting the vast mineral resources that Africa is endowed with;
- Recognizing that empowering women will contribute significantly to the alleviation of poverty;

We the participants of the Ghana meeting of African Women involved in Mining activities **RESOLVE**

**to form an “African Women in Mining Network” herein called “AFWIMN”.**

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that several other continents were also represented at the launch, including America and Latin America.

The goals of the network are:

- (a) To share information, data and experiences on technical, marketing, prices, environmental and related issues of minerals mined by women in Africa through information dissemination, WWW, Newsletter, workshops;
- (b) To mobilise resources to fund all activities related to mining by women in Africa;
- (c) To collaborate and strengthen partnerships with African Governments, CASM, all stakeholders and interested donors, nationally, regionally and internationally;
- (d) To conduct and encourage training, skills acquisition in technical, project development, financial and accounting management;
- (e) To collaborate with gender institutions and serve as a voice and pressure group for all women in mining development in Africa; and
- (f) To contribute towards the reduction of socioeconomic problems in mining communities with special emphasis on women, children, HIV/AIDS and environment.

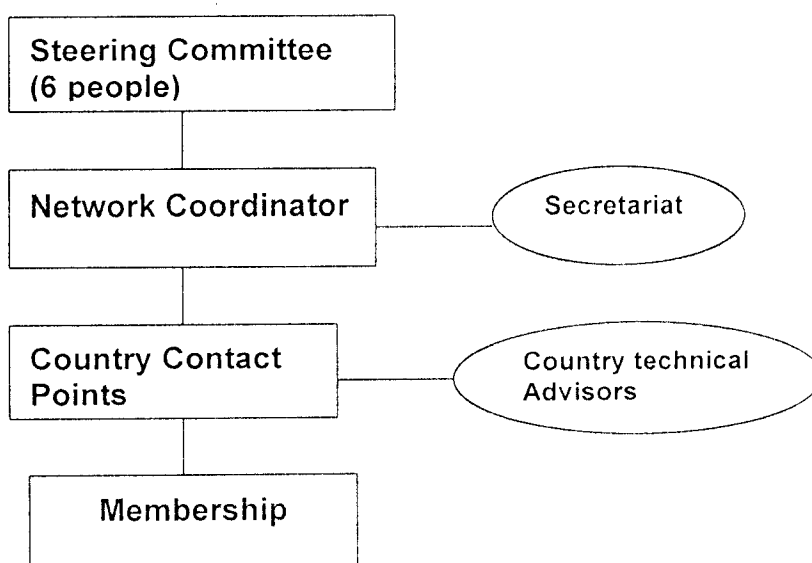
That the mission statement of the Network is:

To enhance and make visible the participation of women in mining to reduce poverty through

- gender mainstreaming,
- socio-economic empowerment,
- capacity building
- improved environmental & health practices
- employment creation
- and increased productivity

That the structure of the network be as follows:

- (a) A Steering Committee of 6 people with representation from the following regions of Africa: Eastern, Southern, Northern, Western and Central as well as the Network Co-ordinator;
- (b) A Network Co-ordinator, with a Secretariat;
- (c) Country contact points of the Network – with Country Technical Advisors; and
- (d) General membership.



Agreed to appoint the following to be on the **Steering Committee**:

- (a) Eastern Africa: (Ms Bahati Kalekwa, Tanzania)
- (b) Southern Africa: ( Ms Ida J. Haeirob, Namibia)
- (c) Central Africa: (Ms Martha M. Ngwira, Malawi)
- (d) Western Africa: (Ms Ida Compaore, Burkina Faso)
- (e) Northern Africa: (No representatives yet, to be determined at a later stage)
- (f) AFWIMN Coordinator: (Ms Namakau Kaingu, Zambia)

Agreed to appoint the following country to host **the Secretariat**: **Zambia**

The above resolutions, the steering committee and country contact points were agreed and confirmed by the following present:

	Name	Country	Contact Point	Signature
1.	Mavis S. Mbewe	Zambia		Mbewe
2.	Ruth Chisala	Zambia	Yes	Chisala
3.	Nelly Agyeman	Ghana		Agyeman
4.	Faresi Zulu	Zimbabwe	Yes	Faresi Zulu
5.	Evelyn Leila Choo Tinorgah	Ghana		Choo Tinorgah
6.	Sena Zigah	Ghana		Zigah
7.	Sylla Mama Adama	Guinee Conakry	Yes	Adama
8.	Aida Compaore	Burkina Faso		Compaore
9.	Brigitte Bocoum	Cote d'Ivoire	Yes	Bocoum 9/9/03
10.	Garba Ibrahim Ogechi	Nigeria	Yes	Ogechi 9/9/03
11.	Emma Dadzie-Otabil	Ghana	Yes	Otabil 9/9/03
12.	Germaine Ilboudo	Burkina Faso	Yes	Ilboudo
13.	Oyefunke I. Oworu	Nigeria		Oworu 9/9/03
14.	Viva Adobea	Ghana		Adobea 9/9/03
15.	Janet Esi Kusi	Ghana		Kusi 9/9/03
16.	Martha M. Ngwira	Malawi	Iris Mbewe	Ngwira
17.	Ida J. Haeirob	Namibia	Desse Jimmy	Haeirob
18.	Namakau Kaingu	Zambia		Kaingu
19.	Bahati Kalekwa	Tanzania	Deborah Maimu	Kalekwa
20.	Marie Mao Ngalula	Democratic Republic of Congo	Yes	Ngalula

The representative of Suriname, Ms Rachael Van der Kooye has expressed her wish to become a full-fledged member of AFWIMN. The adequate legal status applying to a such membership remains to be determined and communicated to Ms Rachael in due time.