

13. "Civil society should have more input into international trade."
14. "The APEC agenda should be opened to social, environmental, and human rights' groups."
15. "The APEC Ministers must be presented with case studies of damage resulting from mining."
16. "Work has been done on an international network on mining initiatives by the Environmental Mining Council of British Columbia, Project Underground (San Francisco), and the Mineral Policy Institute (Australia)."
17. "At Peoples' Summits such as this, it is very important that we be consistent from one APEC-round to the next, e.g. Manila last year, Vancouver this year, and Kuala Lumpur next year."

STATEMENT FROM THE SESSION ON MINING

Preamble:

At the Mining Session of the Sustainability Issues Forum activists from around the world gathered to make the following recommendations regarding policy options as well as commitments to building transnational citizen power to expose the mining industry in the APEC economies.

The goal is to change the mining industry into one which puts people, not profit, first.

Policy Recommendations:

- (1) No exemptions to national laws should be given under the auspices of APEC. Regional economic integration should not be an excuse to exempt companies from local laws pertaining to workers' rights, indigenous peoples' rights, community rights, or the environment. The state must not give sovereignty to multinational companies at the expense of the people and the land. Where weak mining laws and regulatory frameworks have been introduced, only in order to open up countries to mining investment or make them more competitive, these laws should be repealed and replaced with systems reflecting community needs, for example, the Philippines' Mining Act of 1995.
- (2) Policy frameworks and laws concerning mining should respect basic principles including: the right of fully-informed, prior consent, of communities facing mineral development, the right of self-determination and equity of indigenous communities in mining development, the land rights of indigenous people, the rights of workers, union and non-union, the right of the community around mines to a safe and healthy environment, best protected through the implementation of the highest standards of environmental management, worker and community consultation.
- (3) Leaders of all governments in APEC should discipline and regulate companies unwilling to conform to equal standards of environmental and social protection in all countries in an effort to stop companies from practicing double-standards. For example, Placer Dome, a Canadian corporation, should be made to accept responsibility for comprehensive clean-up