

# Dialogue requires honesty:

Response to Anglo American's invitation

## **Open Letter to Anglo American:**

We are surprised by the invitation made by Anglo American to several members of non-governmental organisations to the new 'Anglo American National Sustainability Forum and Public Account'. This initiative by the mining company, which insists on perpetuating mineral extraction by degrading glacial ecosystems and other water sources in the Santiago mountain range, is outrageous. Particularly for the way in which it squanders financial, sociological and communicational resources to construct a narrative that tirelessly tries to make people believe that a company with practices as unclear as the black carbon-covered glaciers near its operations can talk about transparency.

The legitimacy of dialogue is only built on a level playing field and when genuine interaction between the parties is possible. Anglo American's proposal does not meet these fundamental requirements, so we categorically reject the initiative of a company that insists on the destruction of glaciers, ignores scientific studies, persists in its greenwashing practices and persists in attempts to buy and control every space as far as its impertinent wallet will allow.

Let us be clear, building trusting relationships requires openness and honesty, not endless strategies to discredit us, co-opt us, misinform us, let alone silence us.

What we observe, unfortunately, is that the extractivist giant does not stop and is not moved by any kind of consideration or argument. It does not want to talk, nor does it want to seek real recommendations to improve its practices, but only seeks complicity to endorse it.

Anglo American wants to continue extracting minerals in greater quantities, at greater speed, and at the lowest possible cost and time, as this is the requirement of its main clientele: the industrialised countries of the global North and the insatiable war industry. Will this be discussed at Anglo American's National Sustainability Forum and Public Account? Moreover, the mining company's arrogant narrative of being the guardians of the 'green energy transition' hides the costs of this new strategy and, in particular, its link to the wars that today destroy the lives of thousands of people around the world and cause irreparable damage to nature.

We sincerely wish that Anglo's slogan of 'Re-imagining mining' would allow them to make profound revisions and transformations, far beyond make-up and masks. But sadly, this is not achieved with a weak link to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Adding adjectives such as 'green' and 'sustainable' in their publications, attending COPs and posing for the

cameras with the authorities of the Ministry of Environment of the day does not lead to the necessary and urgent transformations.

Hopefully, one day soon, we will be able to generate a genuine dialogue based on transparent information with a focus on human rights and gender, the protection of water and glaciers and the conservation of nature, in which all the voices of the territories affected by Anglo American's operations (from the sea to the mountains) will be present, and that the principle of care and interdependence with nature will accompany us.

We express our deep conviction that all glaciers, other cryoforms and their environments must be protected without conditions or half measures, as they are natural heritage, of humanity and the beginning of the water cycle on which we depend, therefore, a guarantee of the human right to water and the basis of ecosystems.

We publicly express our desire that the protection of the biosphere and new paradigms guide Anglo American's steps towards a behaviour that will make possible a fairer, healthier and more sustainable future for all, where care for life and cooperation prevail over the current ambition, indolence and arrogance.

We, the undersigned, express our rejection of Anglo American's proposal for dialogue and adhere to the reservations and conditions expressed in this letter, either as direct invitees or as adherents to the principles set out herein.

Victoria Uranga, **Corporación Defensa de la Cuenca del Mapocho.**

Lucio Cuenca, **OLCA.**

Sara Larraín, **Chile Sustentable**

Paula Rodríguez, **Catemu en Movimiento.**

Fernanda Poblete, **Chile Sin Ecocidio.**

Rossana Caldana, **Corporación Camino a Farellones.**

Jorge Morales, **Observatorio Socio Ambiental Aconcagua.**

Manuela Royo, **Modatima.**

Constanza y Felipe Espinosa, **Fundación Glaciares Chilenos.**

Luis Acevedo, **Asociación de agricultores y Ganaderos de Ex-Asentamiento El Melón.**

Claudio Rojas, **Junta de Vecinos Las Varas, Camino a Farellones.**

Matías Asún, **Greenpeace.**

Pamela Poo, **Fundación Ecosur.**

Tatiana Martínez, **Territorios Democráticos.**

Henry Jurgens, **Fundación Relaves.**

Taira González, **Movimiento por las Aguas y los Territorios (MAT).**

Lucía Sepúlveda, **Chile Mejor sin TLC.**

Rodrigo del Pozo, **Movimiento No + Anglo.**

Gladys Cavijo, **Alianza Territorial por la Naturaleza y Biodiversidad.**

Rodrigo Vallejos, **Resistencia Socioambiental Quilicura.**

Ezio Costa, **ONG FIMA.**

Carolina Pavez, **Coordinadora Defensa Akunkawa.**

Matías Reyes, **Esteros de Limache Sin Acueducto.**

Mariella Traipe, **Red Humedales Limache.**

Gastón Vera, **Comunidad Diaguita Campillay Guacalagasta.**

Lore Prehn, **Centro Ecológico Churque - Lo Barnechea.**

Pilar Godoy, **Corporación AÚNA, Tierra Diversa.**

Mariella Traipe, **Consejo Territorial Autoconvocado por la Reserva de Biósfera La Campana-Peñuelas.**

Cristian Olivos, **Centro de Artes Integradas Caxicondor.**

María José Jiménez, **Punto focal Subregión América del Sur, Red de jóvenes IberoMAB.**

Katherine Zapata, **San Pedro Digno y Mujeres y Ríos Libres.**

Katta Alonso, **Mujeres de Zona de Sacrificio en Resistencia.**

Francisco Sanhueza, **Chile Ambiental.**

Belén Goya, **Fundación Pangué.**

Juan Pablo Orrego, **Ong Ecosistemas.**

Marcela Ramos, **Asamblea de Mujeres Insulares por las Aguas.**