

***PRESS RELEASE***

N°02/AGCM/2024

Lubumbashi, 20 December 2024

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***"The African Coalition on Green Minerals calls on the Congolese, Zambian, Angolan and American governments to make public the agreements on the Lobito Corridor.***

***The African Coalition on Green Minerals*** welcomes the commitment of the governments of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia, Angola and the United States in signing the ***"Lobito Corridor"*** agreements, ***but deploras the lack of transparency in the process.***

On 26 October 2023, the European Union (EU), the United States of America, the DRC, the Republic of Zambia, the Republic of Angola, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support the development of the ***"Lobito Corridor"***. This transport corridor will link the south of the DRC and the north-western part of the Republic of Zambia to regional and world trade markets via the port of Lobito in Angola.

Over and above the advantages that this rail infrastructure offers in terms of sub-regional economic integration and facilitating the export of critical minerals extracted in the DRC and Zambia, the Coalition is nevertheless concerned that the agreements on the ***"Lobito Corridor"*** have not been made public to enable the populations of the various countries, represented by their parliamentarians, and civil society organisations to assess their content and ensure that the commitments made by the contracting parties under this Protocol are respected.

In June 2024, the ***African Coalition on Green Minerals*** published a report on the ***"opportunities and obstacles linked to the energy transition in Africa"***, one of the key points of which is the addition of value added by the transformation of minerals at continental level.

For this reason, ***the African Coalition on Green Minerals*** urges all parties involved in these agreements to make them public without delay, including the Agreement establishing of the Lobito Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (AFTTCL), signed on 27 January in Lobito, Angola.

***THE AFRICAN COALITION ON GREEN MINERALS***

<sup>1</sup><https://afewatch.org/opportunitites-et-obstacles-lies-a-la-transition-energetique-en-afrique>