



***PRESS RELEASE***

N°01/AGCM/2024

Lubumbashi, 14 December 2024

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***"The African Coalition on Green Minerals expresses its concern about the lack of transparency in the process of drawing up the roadmap on energy transition minerals between the DRC and the EU.***

***The African Coalition on Green Minerals (ACGM)***, which learned of the launch on 11 December 2024 of the roadmap between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the European Union (EU), expresses its concern about the lack of transparency and the sidelining of civil society during the development and launch of the roadmap on so-called transition minerals.

As a reminder, on 23 October 2023 the DRC and the EU signed the Memorandum of Understanding under almost the same conditions of opacity. Faced with protests from both European and African civil society organizations, the European Commission delegation in Kinshasa promised to involve civil society in the drawing up the roadmap so that their contributions could be taken into account. Despite this promise, it has to be said that the two parties signed the roadmap in Brussels during European Critical Minerals Week.

The approach taken by the DRC and the EU in signing the roadmap clearly demonstrates the government's determination to curtail civic space and engagement with civil society and local communities impacted by the exploitation of transition minerals. It raises questions on how trustworthy other processes such as the Global Gateway CSO/Local Authority Platform would be in ensuring that civil society perspectives are seriously taken into account and not just a 'tokenistic' participation.

***The African Coalition on Green Minerals*** points out that the lack of transparency and dialogue between the various stakeholders in the extractive sector, whatever the partnership, risks perpetuating the practices that have characterized mining in the DRC for more than two decades now, in particular corruption, human rights violations and environmental and social damage.

It therefore calls on the DRC government and the EU to get their act together by publishing the roadmap and all its annexes, while ensuring that civil society is involved in its implementation and evaluation.

***The African Coalition on Green Minerals***

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