

Dear subscriber of the Fatal Transactions Newsletter,
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1. FATAL TRANSACTIONS MEMBER ACTIVITIES

FATAL TRANSACTIONS NETWORK

Move of FT International Secretariat

From 1 January 2010 onwards, the International Secretariat of the network moved from Niza/ActionAid, Netherlands, to another member of the Fatal Transactions network, the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC) in Germany. BICC currently acts as a coordinator of the network. The members of Fatal Transactions continue their joined actions and activities aiming to change fatal transactions into fair transactions. To get in contact with the Fatal Transactions Secretariat, please contact Marie Müller at BICC ft@bicc.de.

New FT members

The Fatal Transactions network has reshuffled its membership base. [OCIPE](#), Belgium, and [Group Chad](#), Germany, have joined the Fatal Transactions network. OCIPE; the Jesuite European Office, lobbies in favour of corporate responsibility of extractive industries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Group Chad assembles German NGOs that started advocacy work around the Chad Cameroun Oil Pipeline. Both organisations collaborate with partners of civil society on the ground.

ZIMBABWE

Discussing the need for excluding Zimbabwe from the Kimberley Process with the European Commission

On 31 March 2010, Niza, the Zimbabwe European Network (ZEN) and the Zimbabwean human rights lawyer Gabriel Shumba (see picture), met Mr Stéphane Chardon. Mr Chardon is the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) representative at the Directorate-General External Relations of the European Commission. During the discussion, Mr Chardon outlined the EU's position on the ban on diamond sales from the Marange area in Zimbabwe. He stressed that, in his view, the Kimberley Process (KP) in its current form is not about human rights and issues regarding transparency and corruption within member countries. However, he thought it imperative for the KP to succeed on getting Zimbabwe to comply with the norms as described in the KPCS. For more information visit the Fatal Transactions [online webdossier on the Kimberley Process](#) or visit the [website of Zimbabwe Europe Network \(ZEN\)](#).

NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE

Launch International Alliance on Natural Resources in Africa (IANRA)

In 2009, Fatal Transactions member Niza took the initiative to develop together with its African partner organisations an international alliance working on natural resources in Africa. This network, IANRA, was officially launched in Johannesburg on 17 April 2010. The goal of this international network is to enhance the fair distribution of revenue from natural resource extraction in Africa. Today, IANRA consists of 24 member organisations and is active in eight countries. For more information visit the [the IANRA website](#) or contact Rosemarie Wuite at rosemarie.wuite@niza.nl.

Hearing on Natural Resources in Central Africa at the European Parliament

In December 2009, Fatal Transactions members Broederlijk Delen and OCIPE worked together with the Belgian Network on Natural Resources to organise a public hearing at the European Parliament on natural resource exploitation in Central Africa. Among the speakers

was Jean-Pierre Muteba from the Congolese EITI committee. The event attracted panellists and participants from European policy makers and civil society. Civil society presented concrete recommendations to the EU which were qualified as "precise, concrete and realistic" by MEPs. [Read the recommendations...](#)

This hearing closely followed an [Expert Meeting](#) on the European Raw Materials Initiative (RMI), organized by Fair Politics on 17 November 2009 at the European Parliament, where Fatal Transactions member IPIS presented recommendations enshrined in the [Fatal Transactions Memorandum](#) on the EU's contribution to natural resource management in Africa.

For more information contact Frédéric Triest at frederic.triest@justicepaix.be.

Business and human rights: Niza continues to work on John Ruggie

The work of UN special representative on business and human rights, John Ruggie (see picture), becomes ever more important in the lobbying for enhanced corporate accountability throughout the world. In November 2009, Niza organised a successful multi-stakeholder Round Table on Business and Human Rights in The Hague, the Netherlands, with Gerald Pachoud, special advisor to John Ruggie as key-note speaker. Through the Dutch CSR Platform, this work will be continued in the course of 2010. For more information on past activities of Fatal Transactions concerning John Ruggie, click [here](#) or contact Bas Bijlsma at bas.bijlsma@niza.nl.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Madrid roundtable on corporate social responsibility in the DRC

Fatal Transactions member OCIFE will organise a round-table in Madrid on 18 May 2010 within the Spanish rotating European Presidency on corporate social responsibility of European companies operating overseas in the mining sector. We will diffuse the documentary "Katanga Business" and discuss DRC extractive sector as a case study with Comillas University's Business ethics department.

For more information contact Emmanuelle Devuyst at mrpan@ocife.info.

Revision of mining contracts in DRC: (all but) finalised

In November 2009, the Congolese minister of mines Kabwelulu announced publicly that the revision of the mining contracts had been finalized. The revision process that had started in 2007 was aimed at raising government stakes and improving transparency in the multi-billion DRC mining industry. Minister Kabwelulu presented the results of negotiations with mining companies to adjust their contracts. However these results do not cover all of the 60-odd mining companies that had to renegotiate their contract. To this day, Tenke Fungurume Mining still has not come to an agreement with the DRC government. The Tenke project is the largest copper mining project in the DRC and is owned partly by Freeport McMoran and Lundin Mining.

FT member Broederlijk Delen closely monitors the revision process with local civil society organisations. They demand that the new contracts be published and the detailed results be released, because so far, the results of the contract revision are presented on an aggregate basis, rather than company-by-company.

For more information contact Tamira Gunzburg at tamira.gunzburg@broederlijkdelen.be.

URANIUM MINING

New uranium dossier online

A new dossier is available on the Fatal Transactions website: "Uranium Mining in Africa". The dossier describes the ins and outs of uranium mining and milling in Africa as well as the potential impact of uranium mining. In addition, it discusses the links with the European Union and what the EU can do to promote sustainable mining of uranium. [Read more...](#)

Minimizing the impact of uranium mining in the Central African Republic (CAR)

Fatal Transactions members Niza and IPIS work together with local partners to monitor the development of a new uranium mine by the French nuclear giant AREVA in the Central African Republic. In order to make sure that the future impact of this mining project will be minimized and that all laws are respected, Niza and IPIS strive to strengthen the capacity of civil society

in the CAR. They inform civil society on the potential impacts of uranium mining and mobilise them to keep pulse for themselves in the future. A first workshop was held in Bangui in December 2009 (see picture), which resulted in a letter to AREVA demanding a meeting, was attended by 13 civil society organisations working on environment, human rights and budget transparency, and received a lot of national media coverage. A second workshop will follow in mid-2010. For more information contact Bas Bijlsma at bas.bijlsma@niza.nl.

Study on uranium mining in Chad

Fatal Transactions member Group Chad has supported local partners in Chad in assessing the state of the art of uranium mining in Chad – so far, exploration activities have begun by a Chadian subsidiary of Signet Mining Services (SMS) based in Gibraltar/Europe. Chad is not prepared for the risks involved with uranium exploitation and the affected population in the Léré region is not provided with information. The study followed a workshop on uranium mining in N'djaména/Chad, where NGOs from Cameroon, Niger, Central African Republic and Chad discussed the problems surrounding uranium mining in the region in September 2009. For a copy of the report in French please refer to <http://www.erdoel-tschad.de>.

CHAD

World Bank spring meeting: Lessons from the Chad-Cameroon Oil and Pipeline project

At the World Bank spring meeting in Washington, Fatal Transactions member Group Chad organized a 'Policy Dialogue Session' discussing the November 2009 report of the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) of the World Bank assessing its support for the Chad-Cameroon Oil and Pipeline project. A paper presented by Group Chad/Urgewald, highlighting problems of worsening governance and continued poverty in Chad, fed the discussion with World Bank staff present, among them Michel Wormser, the head of policy for Africa.

For a copy of the discussion paper of Group Chad available in English and French please refer to <http://www.erdoel-tschad.de>.

Government bans discussion of revenue management in the oil producing region

In April, local partners of Fatal Transactions member Group Chad that monitor oil production in Chad (CPPL) were interdicted by the Chadian Ministry of the Interior to hold a public meeting to discuss new structures for revenue management in the producing region of Doba. CPPL was to present the findings of a recently commissioned report on the management and use of the 5 % of oil revenues that the oil producing region receives.

For a copy of the report in French please refer to <http://www.erdoel-tschad.de> and for more information contact Claudia Frank at frank@ag-tschad.org.

CHINA IN AFRICA

China's quest for African resources: International Conference and Winter School at the University of Wroclaw

Fatal Transactions member, the University of Wroclaw, Poland, organized an [International Conference](#) on 14-15 December 2009, accompanied by a Winter School from 14-19 December 2009. The conference brought together academics, NGOs, practitioners, and students from Europe, Africa, China, Australia, and India. The program covered China's relations with the West, with Africa, and with other Asian emerging giants such as India. An edited volume is due to be published in 2010.

The Winter School was designed for MA and PhD students from Eastern European universities. The sessions held over the course of four days included China's trade policy and China-Africa trade relations by Chien-huei Wu (National Chung Cheng University), and Misperceptions on Sino-African Relations by Ian Taylor (University of St Andrews). The Winter School participants were awarded a certificate and are expected to disseminate the principles of Fatal Transactions in their respective countries. For more information contact Dominik Kopinski at mdominik.kopinski@wp.pl.

2. FATAL TRANSACTIONS PUBLICATIONS

BICC: Two new reports on natural resources in conflict affected countries in Africa

Fatal Transactions member BICC has published two new reports on the role of natural resources in conflict-affected countries in Africa. BICC *brief* 40, entitled "[Natural Resources in Côte d'Ivoire: Fostering Crisis or Peace? The Cocoa, Diamond, Gold and Oil Sectors](#)", investigates the extent to which natural resources have contributed to causing and sustaining this armed conflict. For this purpose, we have broadened the scope of natural resources in this study to comprise not only extractive resources but also agricultural resources such as cocoa. BICC *brief* 41, entitled "[We were promised development and all we got is misery](#)"—[The Influence of Petroleum on Conflict Dynamics in Chad](#)", inquires the impact of the World Bank-supported Chad-Cameroon Oil Pipeline Project. It analyzes the impact of oil revenues on potential conflict at the production site, on conflicts around the governance of oil revenues and on conflict-finances.

For more information contact Marie Müller at mueller@bicc.de.

D. Kopiński, A. Polus (eds.): Zgubne Transakcje. Fatal Transactions, Difin: Warszawa.

The University of Wrocław, member of Fatal Transactions, has edited a volume of papers prepared for the Fatal Transactions International Conference held in Wrocław in 2007 (The resource curse in Africa: from fatal to fair transactions) and of natural resources-related research done by academics and PhD students based in the Institute of International Studies, University of Wrocław. The volume was published in March 2010 by Difin Publishing House (223 pages). It includes papers written both in English and Polish to assure the widest reception possible and accessibility in Poland as well as in other new member states. [Read more...](#)

For more information contact Dominik Kopinski at mdominik.kopinski@wp.pl.

Yours

Marie Müller

International FT coordinator

Fatal Transactions is an international campaign for awareness raising among consumers, opinion makers, politicians and industry on the crucial relation between trade in natural resources from African countries and continuation and escalation of armed conflicts and human rights violations. The overall objective is to end armed conflicts and human rights violations by drying up the financial resources and making sure that the revenues made out of the exploitation of natural resources are being used for the well-being of the population.

Fatal Transactions is carried out by European NGOs; [Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa](#) (The Netherlands), [BICC](#) (Germany), [IKVPax Christi Netherlands](#) (The Netherlands), [IPIS](#) (Belgium), [OxfamNovib](#) (The Netherlands), [Broederlijk Delen](#) (Belgium), [Group Chad](#) (Germany), [OCIPE](#) (Belgium), [University of Wrocław](#) (Poland).

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