



Amsterdam/Bonn September 18, 2008

Dear sir/madam,

The international campaign **Fatal Transactions** and the **Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)** would like to invite you to a two day conference in Bonn, Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd November 2008:

**Digging For Peace**  
**Private Companies and Emerging Economies in Zones of Conflict**

**Location:** Deutsche Welle, Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 3, Bonn, Germany.

Fatal Transactions raises awareness among policy makers, companies and the public about resource extraction and trade that lead to the continuation of violent conflict and human rights violations. The campaign aims to transform *Fatal Transactions* into *Fair Transactions*: business activities that truly lead to sustainable development in Africa. BICC is an independent, non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting peace and development through the efficient and effective transformation of military-related structures, assets, functions and processes. BICC is member of the international Fatal Transactions campaign.

The conference “**Digging for Peace: Private Companies and Emerging Economies in Zones of Conflict**” will offer a platform for analysing the current *status quo* of resource extraction in (potential) conflict areas by presenting case studies of current hot spots in Africa. Although companies increase their efforts in positively engaging in post-conflict dynamics, they often are part of the problem in becoming an actor in the conflict instead of a promoter of peace. Recently, the most prominent group of mining companies entering the African resource and mining market comes from China, closing large mining deals that change the landscape of the African resource sector.

At the conference, interventions by companies and governments alike, addressing the involvement of private companies in resource extraction in post conflict states, will be presented by various experts. On the second day, the long-term effects on security and stability in Africa of the emerging Chinese investments will be discussed. Also, the role Europe can or should play in this new context will be part of the debate.

We have invited guest speakers from Europe, Africa and China. As audience, we welcome you as policy makers, NGO representatives, mining industrials and academics. We aim to facilitate a true multi-stakeholder dialogue on the challenges and opportunities that lie before us in safeguarding equal shares and stability for African civilians living in resource rich countries.

**If you wish to attend please subscribe at our website: [www.fataltransactions.org](http://www.fataltransactions.org)**

For more information, please contact the Fatal Transactions secretariat at + 31 (0) 20 5206210 or email Frederiek Biemans at [frederiek.biemans@niza.nl](mailto:frederiek.biemans@niza.nl)

On behalf of the Fatal Transactions campaign,

**Anneke Galama**  
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