



# GOLDEN SHIELD RESOURCES

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June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Special Rapporteurs,

**Subject: Ref AL OTH 26/2022: Your Letter of June 10 June 2022 to Golden Shield Resources**

On behalf of Golden Shield Resources Inc. and Messrs. Hathaway and Shields, we herein acknowledge receipt of your letter Ref: AL OTH 26/2022 of June 10 June 2022 to Golden Shield Resources.

We wish to provide you with additional information that might clarify the circumstances with respect to the above noted situation. In addition to providing, you with information, we would also like to see guidance from you as follows.

**Ref: AL OTH 26/2022: Your Letter of June 10 June 2022 to Golden Shield Resources  
RE YOUR STATEMENT IN BELOW: Page 1: Para 2**

The process involves sending a letter to the concerned actors identifying facts of the allegation...

We appreciate that just as you have written to us, having identified us as “concerned actors” seeking to identify the “facts of the allegation”, we expect that you have also made diligent efforts to verify the facts from the persons making these allegations. We hereby request that you share copies with us of both your verification request and the response received. We would also be grateful if you could advise as to whether you have contacted the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency of Guyana to determine the facts as they understand them as well.

Further, as a responsible company active in Guyana mining exploration activities, we seek to be fully compliant with all legal and regulatory requirements put in place by the Government of Guyana in order to manage our operations and to ensure our compliance with the principles of sustainable development, including complying with all environmental regulation and with all consultation requirements that are put in place by the Government of Guyana.

**Ref: AL OTH 26/2022: Your Letter of June 10 June 2022 to Golden Shield Resources  
RE YOUR STATEMENT IN BELOW: Page 1: Para 3 & Page 2 Para 1**

In this connection, we would like to bring to your attention, information we have received **concerning a large-scale mining operation by Canadian-based Golden Shield Resources**, in the absence of good faith consultation and without the free, prior and informed consent of the Wapichan indigenous peoples of South Rupununi, Guyana. The gold mine is located on the Marudi Mountain, an area sacred to the Wapichan at the headwaters of the rivers that sustain the ecosystem the Wapichan people depend on.

While we appreciate that you are interested in ensuring that consultation takes place, we can assure you that we are fully compliant with all consultation requirements that have been put in place by the GGMC and the EPA and although not yet legally required, we have been working closely with the Government of Guyana and the local community to ensure that there is alignment on the goals and objectives of all parties in the area where we are active.

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RE YOUR STATEMENT IN BELOW: Page 2: Para 3**

On 2 December 2021, Golden Shield Resources received a prospecting license to mine Mount Marudi, valid for three years, with two year-long renewals.

We wish to confirm that on December 02, 2021, Aurous Guyana Inc., which is a 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Golden Shield Resources Inc. did receive from the Guyana Geology & Mines Commission a **Prospecting License** in the Marudi Mountain area which is valid for an initial period of three years, and which can be renewed, subject to compliance terms as prescribed by the Mining Act of 1989, for two (2) additional one (1) year periods. This is a license to prospect and is **NOT** a license to mine. For greater clarity and emphasis Golden Shield is NOT in receipt of a license that would give us the right to mine on Marudi Mountain, and we are not mining on Marudi Mountain. Your assertion is not correct.

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RE YOUR STATEMENT IN BELOW: Page 2: Para 4**

The information received alleges that the agreement was entered into without an environmental permit from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) despite evidence that the gold mining is leading to water pollution, mercury spills and deforestation. A previous draft environmental impact assessment report for mining in Marudi was rejected by the EPA, in part due to the lack of consultation and participation by the Wapichan. The EPA required that new impact assessment be conducted and allegedly promised community visits to ensure that the rights of the Wapichan people would be respected in decision-making surrounding the mining activities at Marudi Mountain moving forward.

You are correct that we have not undertaken an Environmental Impact Assessment in relation to our current activity since there is no EPA requirement at this stage in the licensing process for an EIA to be completed. Again, as we continue to work in the area, we reiterate that we will always comply with all legislation and regulations that the Government of Guyana puts in place, and which we expect will continue to require us to develop our property in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner.

You mention that there is currently activity that is taking place at this location that has an adverse environmental impact, it is not being undertaken by Golden Shield. This area has a history of small-scale mining activity that has not been historically sustainable and one of Golden Shield Resources' goals in our longer-term business planning is to seek a mechanism to work with indigenous small scale miners to reduce the adverse impact of small scale mining on affected communities.

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RE YOUR STATEMENT IN BELOW: Page 5: Para 3**

As it **is our responsibility**, under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, **to seek to clarify** all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for your observations on the following matters:

Given, as you have clearly stated above, that you have a “responsibility” “to seek to clarify” cases brought to your attention”, we would first ask you to verify the facts that underpin this allegation against Golden Shield. We are happy to cooperate and assist you in that regard as you undertake your mandate to clarify the circumstances related to this matter.

As a company that is committed to sustainable development, we understand the principles that you have set out in your correspondence as it relates to United Nations Conventions, and we can assure you that we have internal policies and grievance procedures in place to ensure that we undertake appropriate consultation on that basis when it is required by the Government of Guyana.

However, we would also like to clarify again that we have not been given a license to mine, but only to prospect and we have not embarked on any mining activity. Therefore, the requirements related to consultation and an EIA that you have outlined in your letter are not required by the Government of Guyana. Since we have only been granted a prospecting licence, which is not a mining licence, these requirements have not been triggered and therefore, we have no further information to provide in relation to mining activities at this time.

However, as we proceed, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you, if you require any further clarification.

All for your information and guidance.

Yours Truly,

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Golden Shield Resources Inc.

CC: Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Executive Director,  
Executive Director, Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana.