



GENEV- 10448

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization at Geneva presents its compliments to the Working Group on the issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change; the Special Rapporteur on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas; the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and has the honour to make reference to the letter dated 09 April 2026 (reference AL CAN 2/2026).

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of Canada has the honour to submit Canada's response.

The submission consists of one document.

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization at Geneva avails itself of the opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 05 June 2026

Responses by Canada to the Joint Communication from Special Procedures

AL CAN 2/2026

1. Please provide any additional information and/or comment(s) you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.

The Government of Canada takes communications from the United Nations Human Rights Council Special Procedures seriously and expresses its concern regarding the allegations in the joint communication AL CAN 2/2026 concerning the residents of the district of San Marcos, province of Huari, Ancash region, Peru, in the context of the business activities of the Antamina Mining Company.

Following receipt of the OHCHR communication, Canadian representatives met with Teck Resources representatives and raised the OHCHR letter concerning allegations related to Antamina, while reiterating Canada's expectations regarding responsible business conduct and respect for human rights by Canadian companies operating abroad.

Canada has taken note of the information presented regarding alleged environmental, health, and human rights impacts associated with mining activities in Peru, including concerns related to water quality, exposure to heavy metals, impacts on peasant communities, and allegations involving a human rights defender.

Canada's Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) provides support and advice on the risks associated with specific markets to Canadian companies operating abroad. The Government of Canada expects all Canadian companies active abroad, including in Peru, to abide by all relevant laws, to respect human rights, to operate transparently in consultation with host governments and local communities, and to work in a socially and environmentally responsible manner consistent with internationally respected guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct (RBC). This includes the UN Guiding Principles, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR), the International Code of Conduct (ICoC) for private security companies and sector-specific standards as relevant.

Given that the Canadian company, Teck, owns 22.5 percent of shares in the Antamina Mining Company, the Government of Canada has limited influence over the operations of Antamina Mining Company. Canada recognizes that the Antamina mining project is located in Peru and operates under Peruvian jurisdiction, including environmental regulation, permitting, monitoring, law enforcement, health surveillance, and criminal investigations. Canada therefore encourages that concerns raised be examined through appropriate legal, administrative, and judicial processes within Peru. This is consistent with Canada's approach in responding to previous Special Procedures communications

The Prior Consultation Law (Ley de Consulta Previa, Law No. 29785), enacted in 2011 after the Antamina project began operations, established the duty to consult Indigenous

peoples whose collective rights may be affected by legislative or administrative measures. While the law does not apply retroactively to the original Antamina project, it can be applied to subsequent modifications. The outcomes of consultations made under the law are not legally binding, as final decisions remain with the government.

Canada has not received independent, verified evidence that would allow it to make a determination regarding the accuracy of these allegations or attribute responsibility at this time. Canada underscores the importance of verification of information, and respect for due process in all assessments of alleged abuses involving business activities.

We hope that the engagement of the OHCHR Special Procedures with the companies and other concerned headquarter countries will help to clarify the facts of these specific cases and also ensure more information is available at the international level on Peru's framework and processes for consultation in relation to natural resource development projects.

2. Please provide information on the measures the Government of your Excellency has taken, or is considering taking, to ensure that business enterprises domiciled in your territory and/or jurisdiction respect human rights in all their activities, including in their supply chains, in line with the UN Guiding Principles on business and human rights (UNGPs).

Canada pursues a comprehensive approach that combines policy, legislation, active engagement with companies, and access to resolution mechanisms.

Canada regularly engages with Canadian companies, including in Peru, to reinforce its expectations that all Canadian companies operating in Canada and abroad, regardless of sector, to respect human rights, all applicable laws and international standards, to operate transparently and in consultation with host governments and local communities, and to work in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, in accordance with internationally recognized guidance. This expectation also applies to Canadian companies sourcing their goods and services abroad.

In Peru, the Embassy of Canada and Trade Commissioner Service remain in regular contact with Canadian mining investors, including Teck Resources, and consistently reinforce Canada's responsible business conduct expectations, both directly with companies and through the Ambassador's public engagements. These efforts are intended to encourage the adoption of strong human rights due diligence, meaningful stakeholder engagement, and alignment with internationally recognized responsible business conduct standards.

This engagement with Canadian companies operating in Peru helps increase understanding of their operations, their approaches, and the social and environmental context in which they operate. Where possible, the Embassy (including the Ambassador) undertakes site visits as part of this strategy of getting a better understanding of the context.

The Embassy also plays an active role in the Working Group on Business and Human Rights, which brings together major extractive and security companies, academic institutions, and civil society organizations with expertise in transparency in the extractive industries and the protection of human rights and human rights defenders. The group meets regularly and provides a forum for dialogue, awareness-building, and the promotion of good practices related to responsible business conduct.

Canada's approach to RBC includes preventative measures, legislation in select areas, and access to non-judicial dispute-resolution mechanisms: the National Contact Point (NCP) and the Canadian Ombudsperson on Responsible Enterprise (CORE).

Through Canada's Trade Commissioner Service network of more than 1,000 Trade Commissioners at offices in Canada and at diplomatic and consular missions around the world, including in Peru, Canadian officials actively promote RBC best practices and provide practical guidance on implementing RBC policies and conducting human rights and environmental due diligence to Canadian companies active abroad. Global Affairs Canada provides RBC training to its Trade Commissioners on how to support Canadian companies to conduct business in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, consistent with internationally recognized standards and practices. Canada's Trade Commissioner Service requires Canadian companies to sign an Integrity Declaration when seeking certain types of services abroad, such as trade advocacy. Companies that sign the Integrity Declaration attest that they understand the Government of Canada's RBC expectations, have not been charged, convicted, or sanctioned for bribery or corruption, and will not engage in such illegal activities. As of April 2024, over 1,100 Integrity Declarations were in force.

Canada has taken several measures to help ensure that business enterprises respect human rights in all their activities. Among these are regular meetings with companies and officials to discuss best practices, compliance with international standards, and the importance of human rights due diligence.

Canada has a broad domestic regulatory regime that complements its advocacy and promotion efforts abroad:

- Canada has made it a criminal offense to offer a bribe to a foreign public official under the *Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act*.
- Under the *Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act*, Canada requires extractive companies listed in Canada to declare all taxes paid and where they are paid.
- In July 2020, amendments to the Customs Tariff made it illegal to import products manufactured wholly, or in part, through forced labour.
- Under the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act*, in force as of January 2024, supply chain transparency requirements are imposed on certain entities and government institutions to report on measures taken to prevent and reduce the risk that forced labour or child labour is used in their supply chains.

- Canada is a board member of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights Initiative (VPI) and the International Code of Conduct Association (ICoCA) -- global multistakeholder initiatives working to protect human rights and uphold humanitarian law in the extractives and security sectors.

Canada also has two voluntary, non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms to address alleged human rights impacts linked to the activities of Canadian companies, consistent with the UN Guiding Principles and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on RBC (OECD Guidelines).

Canada's NCP for RBC was established in 2000 as part of Canada's commitment to support the implementation of the OECD Guidelines. The NCP can help parties resolve disputes regarding implementation of the Guidelines, which cover a range of issues including human rights, the environment, and employment and industrial relations.

The CORE was established in 2019 to strengthen Canada's longstanding and extensive engagement in RBC and reinforce its commitment to human rights and inclusive trade. As a complement to the NCP, the CORE focuses on allegations of human rights abuses committed abroad in the garment, mining, and oil and gas sectors.

Non-compliance has strong consequences. Companies that fail to engage in good faith with either dispute resolution mechanism may face the denial of trade advocacy support from the Government of Canada, potential exclusion from Canadian government-backed financing, and scrutiny under Export Development Canada support policies. Canada's dispute resolution mechanisms do not preclude pursuing recourse in other fora such as courts in host countries or in Canada, as appropriate.

A key aspect of Global Affairs Canada's international assistance as it relates to natural resource governance is building the capacity of governments to respect and promote the rights of women, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups. Global Affairs Canada financially supports and engages with multilateral organizations and initiatives such as the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining Metals and Minerals and Sustainable Development (IGF) of which Peru is a member. The IGFs [Mining Policy Framework](#) is the basis upon which IGF engages with member countries (including Peru). The Framework provides mining policy best practice guidelines that increase the capacity of governments to, for example, respect and protect human rights and Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Canada is also a supporting member of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), for which Peru is an implementing country. EITI promotes international transparency standards in the oil, gas and mining sectors with the aim of deterring corruption and improving the governance of natural resources. Mining, oil, and gas operations have substantial environmental impacts, which are often a focal point of public debate. As such, EITI seeks to foster the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples' organizations in national multi-stakeholder groups, composed of government, companies and civil society, which support the implementation of the EITI Standard in implementing

countries. Further, the EITI Standard requires implementing countries to disclose material environmental payments to governments and encourages the disclosure of information related to environmental impact and monitoring. Canadian Embassies, including in Peru, are strong supporters of Women in Mining local organizations, and participate regularly in their events and initiatives that seek to expand the participation of women in the mining industry at all levels.

Canada is also a member and current Chair of the [Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights \(VPs\)](#) Initiative. This multi-stakeholder framework provides guidance to companies, governments, and civil society organizations to anticipate and mitigate human rights risks related to the deployment of public and private security forces around industrial natural resource sites.

While the Government of Canada does not recognize extraterritorial obligations in the human rights treaties to which it is party, Canada recognizes that States play an important role in promoting and encouraging responsible business conduct by enterprises domiciled within their jurisdiction.

3. Please provide information on concrete progress made by the Government of Your Excellency in requiring or encouraging business enterprises domiciled in your territory and/or jurisdiction to implement human rights due diligence processes, including their supply chain, in line with UNGPs.

The Government of Canada promotes the implementation of responsible business practices, including meaningful engagement with host governments, communities, Indigenous Peoples and all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.

As referenced in Question #2, the Government of Canada aims to provide guidance on responsible business practices to Canadian companies active outside of Canada. Through its network of Trade Commissioners at offices in Canada and at diplomatic missions around the world, the Government of Canada actively promotes RBC best practices and provides advice on RBC and due diligence to Canadian companies active abroad.

The Government of Canada expects and encourages Canadian companies – including their subsidiaries – to conduct their activities in accordance with internationally recognized standards of RBC, including the UNGPs, the OECD Guidelines and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR).

Canada supports access to remedy through non-judicial mechanisms, including the CORE and the NCP, which examine allegations, facilitate dialogue, and issue recommendations to promote alignment with international standards. Access to certain Government of Canada trade advocacy services may be withdrawn or refused if Canadian companies do not participate in good faith in these mechanisms.

Canada also took action through the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act* to strengthen transparency and accountability by requiring certain entities and government institutions to publicly report on the steps they are taking to prevent and reduce the risk of forced labour and child labour in their supply chains. Certain entities and government institutions must submit a report to the Minister of Public Safety by May 31 of each year.

Canada also supports the promotion of human rights due diligence in Peru through regular engagement by the Embassy of Canada to Peru and Trade Commissioner Service with Canadian companies active in the extractive sector. In these engagements, Canadian officials reinforce expectations that companies identify, prevent, mitigate, and address adverse human rights impacts in line with internationally recognized responsible business conduct standards, including through consultation with affected communities and other relevant stakeholders.

The Government of Canada has also funded initiatives to promote human rights in Peru, including to support the OHCHR efforts towards monitoring social conflicts and their resolution. Such contributions have helped provide guidance on international human rights standards and due diligence to over 80 representatives from the agribusiness and mining sectors. This support has also enabled technical assistance to companies undertaking human rights impact assessments and has contributed to broader multi-stakeholder dialogue on business and human rights in Peru.

Per the sustained engagement, guidance, and targeted initiatives mentioned above, Canada has and continues to advance the implementation of human rights due diligence. The Embassy of Canada to Peru will continue its efforts to foster dialogue among stakeholders, including NGOs and civil society organizations. The promotion of EITI in Peru has included the support of the civil society organizations that are part of the multi-stakeholder group focused on this topic.

Canada continues to consider ways to strengthen its RBC framework in line with evolving international best practices.

4. Please provide information on the steps the Government of Your Excellency is taking or considering taking to ensure that individuals affected by the activities of business enterprises domiciled in your jurisdiction have access to a remedy in your country, through judicial or extrajudicial State mechanisms.

See response to question 2.

From an international law perspective, Canada's international human rights obligations apply to those within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction. In conformity with the principle of sovereignty of States, a State may not exercise jurisdiction over the territory of another State without the latter's consent.

Canada expects all Canadian companies to respect international human rights standards, international standards related to responsible business conduct, and the applicable law in the jurisdictions where they are operating.

The Government of Canada provides two non-judicial dispute-resolution mechanisms:

- Canada's NCP for RBC and;
- CORE.

Firstly, as an adherent to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, Canada maintains a National Contact Point (NCP) to help facilitate the resolution of complaints against multinational enterprises operating in or from Canada. The NCP is mandated to review complaints about observance of the OECD Guidelines, which cover a wider range of areas, including human rights and the environment. Upon reviewing a complaint, the NCP may offer to facilitate dialogue or mediation aimed at helping the parties achieve a mutually agreeable resolution to the issues raised.

Secondly, the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE) was established in 2018, with the first Ombudsperson appointed in 2019, to strengthen Canada's longstanding and extensive engagement in RBC. The CORE demonstrates Canada's commitments to business and human rights and RBC abroad. The Office receives and reviews complaints concerning alleged human rights abuses involving Canadian companies outside of Canada in the garment, mining, and oil and gas sectors. The CORE can also initiate reviews on its own initiative.

Non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms are generally considered to be more accessible, faster, and more cost-effective than a judicial approach. Bringing a complaint to the CORE or NCP does not preclude a party from pursuing a complaint in other fora, such as the courts.

Both mechanisms underpin Canada's RBC system by offering non-judicial avenues for addressing human rights impacts and promoting responsible business practices internationally.

Canada's Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) takes allegations of misconduct by Canadian companies active abroad seriously. When allegations arise, the TCS may meet with the client company to reinforce Canada's RBC expectations and provide advice. Consequences may include the withdrawal of future trade support from the TCS and recommending that Export Development Canada and the Canadian Commercial Corporation withdraw future support to the client. By influencing corporate behavior in international trade, these measures not only impose real consequences but also create conditions for sustained improvements in RBC. These measures incentivize compliance and foster sustainable improvements in RBC.

Canada supports the VPI as a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue, mutual learning, relationship-building, and collaborative problem-solving to address security and human rights challenges in countries pertaining to extractive operations. Since 2019, Canada has supported in-market initiatives through a dedicated Responsible Business Fund.

This fund allows Canadian missions abroad through Canada's Trade Commissioner Service to facilitate workshops, seminars, roundtables, and information product dissemination to promote international guidelines and best practices, including the VPI.

5. Please provide information as to whether the Embassy of your Excellency's Government in Peru has been made aware of the above-detailed allegations, and whether any action has been taken to support the human rights defenders concerned, in line with Canada's Voices at Risk Guidelines.

The Embassy of Canada in Peru is aware of the allegations referenced in this communication and is closely monitoring the case through regional and national media reporting, as well as through its engagement with the OHCHR in Peru and the Government of Peru's Intersectoral Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. Following receipt of the OHCHR communication, Canadian representatives met with Teck Resources representatives and raised the OHCHR letter concerning allegations related to Antamina, while reiterating Canada's expectations regarding responsible business conduct and respect for human rights by Canadian companies operating abroad.

Canada takes seriously allegations of threats and human rights violations involving human rights defenders and approaches such cases in a manner consistent with Canada's Voices at Risk Guidelines.

The Embassy of Canada to Peru plays an active role in the Working Group on Business and Human Rights, which includes extractive and security companies, academic institutions, and civil society organizations. In 2024, the Working Group invited OHCHR to participate in a dedicated session on human rights defenders proposed and hosted by the Embassy, which also included the participation of a representative of Peru's Intersectoral Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

Canada has also supported human rights defenders in Peru through international assistance. Through its funding to OHCHR under the Support to Human Rights in Peru project, Global Affairs Canada has supported the monitoring of social conflicts and their resolution, including in the Ancash region, as well as coordination through Peru's protection mechanisms for human rights defenders. This support has contributed to ongoing monitoring and documentation of relevant cases and to broader efforts to strengthen the protection of human rights defenders and the promotion of responsible business conduct.

EDC is a Crown corporation that reports to Canada's Parliament through its responsible Minister, the Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development. Through its responsible Minister, the Government of Canada has provided clear expectations to the organization with respect to human rights due diligence. This instruction includes a [2018 letter of expectation](#) from the Minister to the Chair of EDC's Board of Directors outlining the Government's position regarding EDC's consideration of human rights in its activities and transparency associated with these processes. This instruction has been further augmented by more recent Statement of Priorities and Accountabilities letters from the Minister to the Chair, including as recently as [December](#)

[2022](#), containing sections outlining expectations for EDC related to responsible business conduct, due diligence, and addressing forced labour in supply chains.

While the Minister provides EDC with broad strategic direction, the Crown corporation is responsible for its own internal due diligence and has a robust set of Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) policies and a Financial Crime Policy, which guide its activities and are aligned with Government instruction. EDC's ESRM policies, including its [Human Rights Policy](#) (first established in 2019), are reviewed at three-year intervals and are crafted with the support of stakeholder consultations. Its policies are aligned to various international agreements and standards, including the OECD Common Approaches for Officially Supported Export Credits, the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and the Equator Principles. On March 22, 2023, EDC published its updated ESRM policies after conducting a review with stakeholders from across the Canadian trade and business ecosystems, including civil society and international peers.

EDC's Human Rights Policy, which is aligned to the UNGPs and other international best practices, governs EDC's approach to respecting human rights and its internal decision-making in connection with its customer relationships. Complementing the policy, EDC's Principles on Leverage and Remedy—developed with support from Shift, the leading center of expertise on the UNGPs—guide EDC during the due diligence process to prevent and effectively manage human rights risks and impacts and ensure EDC's efforts are focused on achieving better outcomes for people and the environment.

The EDC Board of Directors oversees its Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) direction, strategy and risk management policies, including the Human Rights Policy. Formal progress updates on the implementation of EDC's Human Rights Policy and various human rights-related initiatives are provided to the Board on a regular basis. EDC has also established a Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer and a management committee to review ESG-related risks of prospective transactions.

Detailed information related to EDC's [due diligence pathway](#), [due diligence framework for human rights](#), and [human rights disclosures](#) (published every two years) can be found on EDC's website. Additional information can be found in EDC's [Integrated Annual Report](#).

- 6. Please provide information regarding the measures that your Excellency's Government has taken, in response to the recommendation provided in the Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations other business enterprises on its visit to Canada in 2017 (A/HRC/28/48/Add.1), in particular with regard to developing a gender-sensitive national action plan to implement all three pillars of the Guiding Principles (para. 79 (r)) and to engage in a multi-stakeholder process to contribute to the development of such a national action plan, by facilitating the full participation of all stakeholders (para. 85 (c)).**

Canada is aware of the allegation concerning threats made against a human rights defender in Ancash and underscores the importance of a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders, consistent with Canada's Voices at Risk Guidelines.

Canada's long-standing support for human rights defenders underpins its constructive engagement on this case.

In Peru, Canada's support has helped facilitate coordination between the Government of Peru and the human rights defender concerned through the Intersectoral Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, and has supported continued monitoring and documentation of the case.

Canada has long been a proponent of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and actively promotes their implementation by Canadian companies. Owing to the federal, provincial, and territorial separation of powers in Canada, and a range of RBC-related measures already in place, Canada is not pursuing a National Action Plan at this time.

Canada instead advances the UNGPs through a bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, and international assistance. Canada's support for human rights defenders takes many forms and responds to changing needs. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Working in multilateral forums to strengthen international rules and norms;
2. Providing the necessary platform to advocate for open civic space;
3. Engaging with local authorities through bilateral diplomacy;
4. Leveraging partnerships with other countries, civil society, Indigenous Peoples and the private sector, including Canadian business interests abroad; and
5. Building capacity, including through funding for human rights organizations

Canada recognizes and applauds the key role played by human rights defenders in protecting and promoting human rights, often at great risk to themselves, their loved ones, their communities, and the organizations and movements they often represent. [Voices at Risk: Canada's Guidelines on Supporting Human Rights Defenders](#) provides practical advice, tools, and resources to Canadian officials. The implementation of the Guidelines is tailored to local contexts and circumstances, and to the specific needs of the human rights defender(s).

Global Affairs Canada works with human rights defenders and local, regional, and international human rights organizations through its officials at Headquarters and at its missions abroad. In Ecuador, Canada has for decades been particularly active through advocacy and significant development assistance to support the rights and protection of women and of LGBTQI+ communities, and has contributed to significant legal and procedural achievements to protect these rights.

More recently, again through advocacy and development assistance, Canada has made significant contributions to promoting and protecting the rights of migrants and refugees (mostly Venezuelans). Canada's funding support, which is primarily delivered via UN organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), has been key in enabling the Government of Peru to implement its progressive policies for regularization of the migration status of Venezuelans and other migrants.

Canada also supports multi-stakeholder approaches to advancing business and human rights internationally. In Peru, through funding to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Canada has supported the implementation of the Government of Peru's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights by promoting dialogue and coordination among government institutions, the private sector, academia, and civil society organizations. This support has helped generate evidence to inform the evaluation of the Plan, including perspectives from Indigenous Peoples and human rights organizations, and contributed to its extension through 2026. Canada is also working on a new initiative in Peru intended to build on current efforts to protect the rule of law, safeguard human rights, and promote responsible business conduct through technical assistance to public institutions and civil society organizations, including human rights defenders.

The Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR) requires members and other implementers to conduct a security and human rights risk assessment which includes ascertaining human rights risks related to its security (including risks to human rights defenders), as well as a conflict analysis. Members of the Voluntary Principles Initiative – including Antamina through BHP and Glencore - will make every effort to prevent conflict, according to the VPI Vision. Members and implementers of the Voluntary Principles are required to prevent, mitigate or remedy human rights risks related to security operations, including risks to human rights defenders.

The Government of Canada, through a grant to the VPI, supported the gender-based analysis plus of the Voluntary Principles Implementation Guidance Tools (IGT) as well as the development of a supplement to the IGT to help companies implement their security operations in a manner sensitive to women and vulnerable groups.

Canada's approach to supporting human rights defenders is based on these key values:

- Human rights are universal and inalienable; indivisible; interdependent and interrelated.
- Do no harm—the safety and privacy of the human rights defenders are paramount.
- Consent—actions on specific cases should be taken with the free, full, and informed consent of the human rights defenders in question, wherever possible, or of their representatives or families, in the alternative.

In cases involving conflict between an affected community and a Canadian company, its subsidiary, sub-contractors and/or suppliers, one of Canada's non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms can be called upon to review and make non-binding recommendations. These two mechanisms are [Canada's National Contact Point \(NCP\) for the OECD Guidelines for Responsible Business Conduct](#) and the [Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise \(CORE\)](#).

Canada provides international assistance to support and protect human rights defenders. This can take many forms, including multi-year funding for key human rights groups, multi-stakeholder engagement to advance awareness of responsible business conduct standards, targeted contributions that Canada's diplomatic missions offer to

grassroots groups for training courses, seminars, and other initiatives. Canada also supports human rights education internationally in partnership with Canadian organizations and assists organizations that provide emergency assistance needs. A principal objective is to build bridges between human rights partners and stakeholders.