



PAN Asia Pacific

For a just and pesticide-free future

27 February 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Prime Minister,

Warm greetings of peace & solidarity!

I am Sarojeni Rengam and I'm writing on behalf of PAN Asia Pacific (PANAP), a regional network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), people's organizations and grassroots movements in our region.

We are working closely with landless peasants, small food producers, rural women and the indigenous people who are deeply affected and displaced by industrial farming and land grabs as well as large scale destructive mining.

We have received indications from our friends based in Canada that the Canadian government will create a new ombudsperson office to receive complaints concerning the overseas operations of Canadian extractive companies such as those involved in mining. It can be recalled that in 2015, the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Committee has already raised concerns on Canadian firms' mining operations in Southeast Asia and Central Asia.

It is in this line that we urge your office to include a number of elements that we believe are essential to ensure that the mechanism is credible. They include the following:

- the office will be independent (from government and industry)
- company participation in the process will be mandatory
- the ombudsperson will undertake investigations
- the process will be transparent
- it will feature public reporting, including reports on ombudsperson investigations
- the ombudsperson will publish a final report for each case that includes recommendations (this can include recommendations for the Canadian government)

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- the ombudsperson will monitor compliance with recommendations
- companies that do not comply with recommendations will become ineligible for several forms of government support

We respectfully hope that our appeal will be given due consideration.

Sincerely,



SAROJENI RENGAM

Executive Director
PAN Asia and the Pacific