



July 11, 2019

Alex Neve
Secretary General
Amnesty International Canada
312 Laurier Avenue East
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 1H9

Jackie King
Chief Operating Officer
Canadian Chamber of Commerce
1700-275 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H9

Dear Mr. Neve and Ms. King,

I am writing to you in your capacity as vice chairs of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Body (MSAB) on Responsible Business Conduct abroad to tender my resignation as a member of the MSAB, on behalf of Development and Peace - Caritas Canada.

Our members and supporters across Canada, and our partners around the world, were very pleased when Development and Peace was represented on the MSAB. At the time, we expected that the ombudsperson would have full powers to investigate and compel evidence and that the MSAB would offer a forum for dialogue among business leaders, civil society and labour unions to advise the Canadian government on business and human rights.

Development and Peace has been campaigning for an independent ombudsperson for the last ten years on behalf of communities in the Global South that suffer from human rights abuses by Canadian mining companies. Our members have collected over half a million signatures in support of this mechanism for strengthening corporate social responsibility. When the federal government promised to create an independent Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE) in January 2018, Development and Peace celebrated the announcement.

Since then, Development and Peace has acted in good faith with the government through participation in the MSAB. As members of the Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability (CNCA), we have also been represented in the CNCA's extensive dialogue with the government on the creation of an effective ombudsperson. In light of the lack of respect for the voices of Canadian civil society on the creation of the CORE, and the broken promise to create an ombudsperson who can offer justice to communities

harmed by the activities of Canadian businesses, we feel compelled to resign from the MSAB. We have lost confidence in the government's commitment to providing a voice for justice.

As such, on behalf of Development and Peace - Caritas Canada, I respectfully resign as member of the advisory body as of today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elana Wright', is positioned above the typed name.

Elana Wright
Chargée de plaidoyer et de recherche
Développement et Paix – Caritas Canada

Cc: The Honourable Jim Carr, Minister of International Trade Diversification
Chris Moran, Director General, Trade Strategy and Portfolio Coordination, Global
Affairs Canada