

via fax: 1 202 522 3031  
 James D. Wolfensohn  
 President, World Bank

via fax: 011 502 334 1407/1615  
 Frank LaRue  
 President of Presidential Human Rights Commission, Guatemala

February 24, 2005

Dear Sirs:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, are extremely concerned about the continued construction of Glamis Gold's Marlin mine in the Department of San Marcos, Guatemala. On January 11, **Raul Castro Bocel and Miguel Tzorin Tuy**, two indigenous farmers involved in the protest of the transportation of machinery to the mine, were killed by Guatemalan authorities. This mine, funded by the World Bank, has been started without legitimate consultation with indigenous populations and environmental organizations and without hearing local and national opposition that has been expressed through many means for over a year. We demand that **Mr. Wolfensohn do the following:**

- Cancel further disbursement of the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) \$45 million loan for the Marlin project;
- Initiate **an independent and thorough review** of the project from Glamis Gold's first applications for exploration licenses to date. This study must examine legal, cultural, environmental and spiritual aspects and impacts of the project. It must bring to light the procedures followed by the Guatemalan government and by the IFC in their reviews of the project's environmental impact assessment and loan application. It must evaluate these procedures according to the IFC's environmental and social policies and Guatemalan law, including the International Labor Organizing (ILO) Convention No. 169.

We **urge Mr. LaRue** to call on President Berger of Guatemala to

- Open an investigation into the murders of Raul Castro Bocel and Migeul Tzorin Tuy, make the results public, and bring those responsible to justice;
- suspend the license for the Marlin project;
- place a moratorium on all mining permits on indigenous lands until the results of the independent review described above have been reported and its recommendations implemented.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these urgent concerns for environmental protection and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
 Coordinator

CC: Michael Swetye, Principal Investment Officer, WB, IFC ~ fax: 1 202 974 4323  
 Jane Armitage, WB Country Director, Central America ~ fax: 1 202 676 1464  
 Glamis Gold ~ fax: 1 775 827 5044  
 Ambassador José Guillermo Castillo ~ fax: 1 202 745 1908  
 Ambassador John Hamilton ~fax: 011 502 334 8477  
 Courtney Turner, Guatemala Desk ~ via fax: 1 202 647 2597  
 Senator George Voinovich, US Senate ~ via email: [Daniel\\_knezevic@voinovich.senate.gov](mailto:Daniel_knezevic@voinovich.senate.gov)  
 US Representatives Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via fax, email

**The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter:**