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Sarah Knuckey
Associate Clinical Professor of Law
Columbia Law School
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Dear Sarah,

I write in response to your recent letter to Barrick regarding the process for establishing an independent review of the Remedy Framework at Porgera. Although the assessment team, upon consultation and advice from the external committee of experts, is providing a response to most of your questions, I think it appropriate to clarify one point from our end.

As you know, a group of leading experts from civil society in human rights, the Guiding Principles, violence against women, and the mining industry - Chris Albin-Lackey of Human Rights Watch, Lelia Mooney of Partners for Democratic Change, and Dahlia Saibil of Osgoode Hall Law School at York University - is providing guidance and advice for the Remedy Framework review and final report. This external committee operates independently of Barrick. Our role at Barrick is primarily to respond to requests for interviews and provide logistical support to the process. Although at the outset Barrick selected the entity to conduct the assessments, as we previously have advised, Barrick is not overseeing the review process. If the external committee believes the assessment team is not fulfilling its mandate, or develops the view that the assessment team is unable to provide a credible independent assessment, we will assist in remedying that concern.

We appreciate that there may be different interpretations of the sentence in the opinion from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) regarding the entity or entities that might conduct a review of the Framework. Regardless of how the opinion is construed, our primary goal has been to create an independent structure involving a range of expert perspectives that will lead to a credible assessment of the Porgera Remedy Framework, more than ensuring that the specific terms of that particular OHCHR recommendation have been fulfilled. The structure in place reflects that sincere effort.

We remain open and willing to continue to discuss these issues with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Sinclair".

Peter Sinclair
Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs