“Mkango Resources response”

*The Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Mkango Resources to respond to concerns raised in a report by ICOME for Norwegian Church Aid. Mkango Resources provided the following response.*

Dear Sir,

We note your invitation to respond to a report compiled by ICOME for Norwegian Church Aid which mentions our project in Malawi.  We have no relationship with the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, we have not commissioned you to compile any reports and thus do not feel compelled to respond to your invitation to comment on a report compiled by a different organisation.  We will be responding directly to ICOME and Norwegian Church Aid to correct some factual errors in their report and to give context to some of the assertions they make.

Some of our team members were with them during their visit to our site in Malawi and we support their objectives of enhancing community participation in projects. It should be noted that our proposed mining project in Malawi is merely that, a proposed project.  We have conducted a drilling and exploration programme but are in a feasibility study phase.  There has been no construction on site apart from minor items associated with a geological exploration programme.

We and our environmental CSR consultants Digby Wells Environmental are engaging with ICOME and the Norwegian Church so that all stakeholder parties understand the successful CSR work we have completed to date and are planning in the future.

Please note that Economic Justice Coordinator for Norwegian Church Aid, Thokozani Mapemba  recently stated that :

“ We are so far impressed with the community engagement principle and the CSR initiatives that Mkango is undertaking at Songwe. We hope they will continue in this path and fulfil the other pledges. We also ask other miners to embrace Mkango as a role model on CSR”

Please also see a recent video that documents just some of the CSR work that has been completed to date: <https://vimeo.com/170820404/c28ee0fd37>

One of Mkango’s core principles is to ensure that there will be poverty reduction, improved education and empowerment of previously disadvantaged groups within the communities that we work in. Therefore, it is important for us to implement meaningful, sustainable and successful social responsibility programmes commensurate with the stage of exploration and development.  The company has committed itself to applying good international practise in terms of community engagement and CSR activities for our project.

Kind regards

Will Dawes

Chief Executive

Mkango Resources Limited