ALTERNATIVE MINING
INDABA BRIEFING
Background

- For 20 years the Africa Mining Indaba has been an exclusive annual event for the affluent mining stakeholders to congregate and discuss issues in the African Mining industry;
- However, the mining communities, important stakeholders in African Mining, have been excluded from participating in this gathering by the exorbitant registration fee;
- As a result the injustices affecting these mining affected communities have been ignored at this annual event.
Background

- In 2010 Economic Justice Network and their partners saw the need to hold an Alternative Mining Indaba that runs concurrent to the Africa Mining Indaba;
- The purpose was to amplify the voice of the deprived communities;
- Since, the humble beginnings of the Alternative Mining Indaba in 2010, this annual event has gained great attention of the national, regional and global audience.
Objectives

Provide an international platform for civil society organizations (including National Christian Councils and inter faith groups) to:

- Share experiences;
- Mobilise communities;
- Motivate mining communities to strengthen their work on advocacy and the development of strategic tools which empower them;
- Serve as a link for industry and communities to dialogue.
Outcomes

OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS AMI HAS ACHIEVED THE FOLLOWING:

○ Advocacy strategies for AMI partners to hold the government and mining entities accountable with a view to improving transparency and accountability in the mining sector;

○ Declarations on CSOs expectations of governments, extractive companies and communities in relation to various grievances in the mining sector;

○ Improved media outreach - on the radio, television and print as well as social media;

○ Successful High Level Panel discussion aired live on local television;
Outcomes

- A deeper understanding of the situation on the ground through the testimonies of the affected communities;
- Faith leaders and communities capacitated to fight for basic human rights;
- Communities and faith based organisations empowered with an increased understanding of on-going processes aimed at reforming mining regimes across the continent.
Developments

○ In 2010, the AMI kicked off with about 50 participants from 20 civil society organisations who congregated a few streets from where the Africa Mining Indaba was being held.

○ The disturbing testimonies from negatively affected communities revitalize the representatives of CSOs to remobilize and engage both communities and other stakeholders alike.

○ Initially a movement-building initiative and awareness raising platform

○ Has fast grown into a successful advocacy and lobbying entry point in several countries in Southern Africa.

○ This can be proved by the average annual growth rate of 42%.
Developments

○ One of the hallmarks of AMI is the handing over of a declaration by a group of marching participants to relevant authorities or powerful mining stakeholders.

○ The success of the AMI, led to the first National Mining Indaba being held in Tanzania in 2011.

○ Zambia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe also followed suit, in 2012, making National Mining Indaba’s annual events in the respective countries.
REMIND THE SLAIN OF MARIKANA!
Developments

- In 2013, EJN was threatened with legal action by organizers of the Africa Mining Indaba for the continued use of the term ‘Indaba’.
- The complainant alleged violation of the full enjoyment of rights by the defendant’s continued use of Indaba.
- This did not stop EJN from Hosting the 5th AMI in 2014
Developments

- In 2014, the AMI gained the attention of the participants of the Africa Mining Indaba;
- The Vice President of International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM) Aidan Davy addressed the participants of the AMI;
- He further went on to facilitate the participation of CSOs at one of the Africa Mining Indaba sessions.
Challenges

- Impending threat of legal action;
- As the AMI expands, we are limited in terms of venues close to the CBD;
- Lack of early financial commitment from funders.
OVER-ARCHING OBJECTIVE:

- To provide an **international platform** for civil society organizations (including National Christian Councils and inter faith groups) to **share experiences**, **mobilise** as well as **motivate** mining communities to **strengthen their work on advocacy** and the **development of strategic tools** which empower them.
AMI 2015

Specific Objectives:

- Facilitate the exchange of experiences from communities on the gains scored in their advocacy and lobbying efforts;
- Follow up on developments in the Marikana Massacre and the 5 month platinum mine strike;
- Share advocacy strategies on effective social activism;
- Engage on mining and its wider impacts especially on social protection, gender issues, labour and others;
AMI 2015

- Share impacts of the NAMIs held in 2014: the lessons, challenges and achievements of partners;
- Engage on practical steps to stem the financial haemorrhage in the mining sector;
- Review attempts being made to domesticate the Africa Mining Vision.
- Hold a Mining Tribunal,
Follow link to AMI:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Alternative+Mining+Indaba
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!