

**Publish What You Pay Online Africa Conference
COMMUNIQUE
26 March 2021**



From 24 to 26 March 2021, Publish What You Pay (PWYP) members in Africa and diverse strategic partners, including from companies, governments and civil society organisations, met virtually for the seventh PWYP Africa Conference. The participants gathered to:

- strengthen PWYP's role in promoting and influencing a transparent, accountable, sustainable and equitable extractive sector in Africa
- review progress, achievements, challenges and lessons learnt on the implementation of Vision 2025 in Africa
- ensure the continued good governance of PWYP Africa

Participants discussed some of the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic has presented to governments and communities in the context of extractive sector governance; explored some of the adaptations and opportunities that can be leveraged to meet some of those challenges in the coming years.

The meeting welcomed Dr. Claude KABEMBA, Executive Director of Southern Africa Resource Watch (SARW), a pan African organisation specialised on natural resources (minerals and oil) governance. Dr Kabemba delivered a keynote address on the impacts of Covid-19 on resource governance, and the challenges resource rich countries in Africa have faced. He also highlighted the challenges that host communities face in the midst of the pandemic and what governments, non-state actors and communities need to manage the extractives sector for future generations.

Over two days, five panel discussions explored:

- how to adapt in a time of crisis to drive open and accountable extractives governance in Africa reflecting on [the findings of the Covid-19 scenario workshop](#) which PWYP facilitated in October 2020 to consider the economic, political and social impact of four Covid-19 scenarios on the governance of the extractive industries, and on PWYP's Vision 2025 strategy;
- women's rights as a resource governance priority, building on the experiences of diverse stakeholders, including industry, government and civil society, on fostering a feminist natural resource governance agenda;
- best practices and lessons learnt to help shape an effective approach for governments to generate more revenue from the extractive sector through fair tax mechanisms;
- why contract transparency matters and how we can work together to implement the global norm of contract disclosure across the continent, including through PWYP's global #DiscloseTheDeal campaign.
- the potential impacts of the energy transition on the economies of African countries rich in oil resources and strategic minerals, and what role the PWYP movement could play to ensure the future energy transition is economically and socially fair.

The virtual Africa Conference adopted an updated version of the [PWYP Africa Charter](#), the governing document which, along with the PWYP Governance Manual, underpins the governance of PWYP coalitions in Africa. In accordance with the manual, the Africa Conference went on to elect its new Africa Steering Committee members, as follows:

- **Anglophone West Africa:** James KORYOR (PWYP Liberia)
- **Central Africa:** Christian MOUNZEO (PWYP Congo)
- **Francophone West Africa:** Fatima DIALLO (PWYP Senegal)
- **East and Southern Africa:** Fatima Fernandes MIMBIRE (PWYP Mozambique)

The newly elected committee will serve with the continuing member, Brice Mackosso (PWYP Congo Brazzaville), EITI International Board member. The ASC will hold a handover meeting with the outgoing committee members and the PWYP International Secretariat on 19 April 2021.

Africa Steering Committee

March 2021