



Improving access to remedy in collaborative approaches: collaborative investor engagement on child labour in the cobalt supply chain

Parallel session

29 November

13:30-14:45

Organized by Dutch pension asset manager MN

Speakers:¹

- **Arthur van Mansvelt**, Senior Sustainability Analyst, Triodos Asset Management (**Moderator**)
- **Sun Lihui**, Director for responsible business conduct, China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemical Importers & Exporters (CCCMC)
- **Bernardino Ricci**, Director Strategy, Samsung SDI
- **Michèle Brühlhart**, Responsible Business Alliance
- **Seema Joshi**, Head of Business and Human Rights, Amnesty International
- **Anna-Sterre Nette**, Senior Advisor Responsible Investment, MN

Background: Cobalt is an increasingly important commodity that is essential for rechargeable batteries, for example in mobile phones and electric vehicles. About half of the world's reserves of cobalt are in the Congo (DRC). The cobalt is used by large electronics, car and battery manufacturers many institutional investors invest in, usually through many intermediaries (there could be as many as eight or more links in the supply chain: miners, traders, smelters etc.).

In the beginning of 2016, Amnesty International published a report about child labour in artisanal cobalt mining in the DRC. In response, several institutional investors started making enquiries about the use of children in cobalt mining in the DRC at a number of large companies that most institutional investors are invested in. As the response was poor, a coalition of 23 large investors, including MN and Triodos Asset Management, was formed at the initiative of the Dutch pension fund asset manager APG to tackle this problem.

¹ Further information on speakers provided in Annex

The investors' coalition approached thirteen companies to ask what they are doing to prevent children being used in mining their cobalt. We also asked other stakeholders to take action by underlining the importance of this for large investors. The Responsible Business Alliance (formerly the EICC) launched the Responsible Raw Materials Initiative (RRMI) at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in 2016. This new initiative has since joined with the Responsible Minerals Initiative (formerly CFSI) and includes cobalt as one of its focus areas. Also the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for Metals, Minerals & Chemicals (CCCMC) launched a 'Responsible Cobalt Initiative' (RCI).

This year a number of promising initiatives got off the ground. A number of companies released detailed reports on the sourcing of cobalt. Others play active roles in the RRMI or RCI. In the panel each of the speakers will highlight progress and challenges.

ANNEX. SPEAKERS SHORT BIOS.

Arthur van Mansvelt

Senior Sustainability Analyst, Triodos Investment Management

Arthur van Mansvelt is Senior Sustainability Analyst at Triodos Investment Management, part of Triodos Bank. He joined Triodos' SRI research team in 2006. The team is responsible for the selection of companies for its Socially Responsible Investment funds (SRI), and engagement with investee companies. Arthur has human rights and supply chain risks among his fields of expertise, and has been working and engaging on responsible minerals sourcing since 2007.

Seema Joshi

Head of Business and Human Rights, Amnesty International

Seema Joshi is the Head of Business and Human Rights at the Secretariat of Amnesty International. She has professional experience in the areas of international law, natural resources, conflict, and human rights. Currently, she leads the organisation's investigative and advocacy work on critical issues pertaining to corporate accountability. Prior to this, Seema worked as Legal Advisor at the London based NGO, Global Witness, where she investigated cases and also pushed for stronger legal accountability of companies that commit corporate crimes. Previously, while living in Asia, Seema oversaw the implementation of a UNDP regional programme focused on improving environmental access rights for the poor. Seema is a qualified lawyer, who practiced commercial litigation in Canada. She was called to the Alberta Bar in 1999; she holds an LL.M from the London School of Economics, as well as a JD and Bachelors of Arts from the University of Manitoba, in Canada.

Sun Lihui

Director for responsible business conduct, China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemical Importers & Exporters (CCCMC)

Mr. Sun Lihui, Director of the Development Department of China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals and Chemicals Importers and Exporters (CCCMC), Secretary General of the International Mining Cooperation Committee, Project Director of the Sustainable Mining Action Plan and Director of the Project on Sustainable Development of Rubber Investment.

He has acquired rich theoretical knowledge and practical experiences in the fields of global resources governance, outbound investment and trade management, responsible business conduct, supply chain management and public relations in the cases of crisis.

孙立会，商务部直属中国五矿化工进出口商会发展部主任，国际矿业合作委员会秘书长，“可持续矿业行动计划”项目主任，橡胶投资可持续发展项目主任。

拥有丰富的全球资源治理、外贸政策、对外投资管理、负责任工商业行为、供应链尽责管理以及危机公关等理论体系和实践经验。

Bernardino Ricci

Director Strategy, Samsung SDI

Dr. Ricci is the Director of Corporate Strategic Planning at Samsung SDI, one of the biggest lithium-ion battery manufacturer in the world.

He has been based at Samsung's headquarters in South Korea since 2011. He's been supervising the entire sustainability strategy of Samsung SDI, starting from a Life Cycle Assessment perspective, with the design of targeted green energy investments, the monitoring of energy efficiency and CO2 emissions at manufacturing sites, and the recycling roadmap of critical raw materials. He also developed from scratch the entire responsible raw material supply chain program of Samsung SDI and published Samsung's first Progress Report on Responsible Cobalt Supply Chain (a first in the battery industry).

Michèle Brühlhart

Director of Innovations at the Responsible Minerals Initiative, Responsible Business Alliance

Michèle Brühlhart is the Director of Innovations at the Responsible Minerals Initiative. She is responsible for the sensing and prioritizing of emerging risks and works to ensure that tools, guidance and standards used for the responsible sourcing of raw materials are aligned with international best practices and regulatory requirements. Michèle has 10 years of experience working on due diligence systems and assurance mechanisms for mineral supply chains.

Anna-Sterre Nette

Senior Advisor Responsible Investment, MN

Anna-Sterre Nette is a Senior Advisor Responsible Investment & Governance at the Dutch pension asset manager MN. Anna-Sterre advises clients and investors on ESG-risk. She is a specialist on human rights and labour standards and responsible for the execution of the corporate engagement program. Anna-Sterre holds more than ten years of experience in responsible investment, collaborative engagement and multi-stakeholder cooperation.