

FEC



Fédération des
Entreprises du Congo

DIRECTION PROVINCIALE DU
NORD-KIVU

Goma, le 25 FEB 2011

The Honourable Mary L. Schapiro
Chairman
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE
Washington, DC 20549
USA

N/REF : Réf/Number : JK/KK/F.047/2011

V/REF :
By e-mail to: rule-comments@sec.gov

Dear Chairman Schapiro,

I am writing to you on behalf of the association of exporters in the Eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Province of North Kivu, most of the members of our Association are members of FEC (Fédération des Entreprises du Congo).

Last year, we had the opportunity to work and discuss with your staff in Washington on the Dodd-Frank Act, Section 1502 on conflict minerals and its likely impact on the business in DRC and adjoining countries.

As we have mentioned in our meeting, as FEC (Fédération des Entreprises du Congo), we are part of several working groups such as ITRI (Tin Industry body), OECD, the ICGLR, BGR,...etc who are all working to find a solution to the conflict mineral concerns which are also the focus of the legislation.

To cut the links between armed groups and our business, we do strongly believe that we have all the tools which could allow the stakeholders on ground to get traceability, due diligence and full certification but these tools are now being developed; they are not operating, and need more time to be in place. If we are not allowed time to make the progress before reporting requirements are required we are very afraid that all the work will have been without a result and the business of mineral trading will in the future return to informality.

.../...

« Rassemblés pour construire »

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As you may know all these initiatives took us an average of two years to agree on and begin, but knowing that the United States companies won't be able to disclose all the information on exactly which mine any material is from right

away, as required to the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), we do suggest at least one year for stock clearance up to end of 2011, and for the traceability, 2 years (2012-2013) including the implementation of all the tools on the ground. Disclosure of minerals mined could be mainly conflict free for 2014 and finally the companies could successfully report to the Securities Exchange Commission in 2015.

We are open to work and discuss with SEC (Securities Exchange Commission) to avoid a de facto embargo which could affect almost half of Africa.

Sincerely,

John N. KANYONI

Président du Comité Professionnel Mines

John N. Kanyoni
25.02.11

cc : - A.D./FEC

