

THE MINING LAW COMMITTEE INVITES ALL SEERIL MEMBERS



to an

OPEN FORUM

On the MODEL MINING DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT PROJECT

Sunday, April 25th 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Mt. Pleasant Room, The Grand Hotel and Suites

225 Jarvis Street, Toronto

At the IBA 2009 Annual Meeting, the Mining Law Committee initiated a project to prepare a Model Mining Development Agreement (MMDA) that could serve as a basis for negotiation of improved investment agreements between mining companies and host governments.

The IBA Mining Committee, which has committed to a robust process of consultation with government, industry, civil society and university-based groups with the aim of achieving a balanced, fair and useful product. On Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25, the initial civil society consultation will take place at the Grand Hotel. The Open Forum will follow this meeting, and feature a report back to IBA members by the civil society participants, followed by an open dialogue on the goals, roles and content of the MMDA project. This is a unique opportunity for a focused dialogue between civil society participants and IBA members on this important project.

The MMDA project is aimed primarily to produce a tool for use with and in developing countries, in particular where "mature" mining codes are not in place or are supplemented by contracts. The goal is a

final product that has utility for a broad range of circumstances. Consequently, it will not be "prescriptive" in the sense of setting out one standard form, but will provide alternative approaches for dealing with the elements of an agreement.

The final product is intended to be web-based and publicly accessible. This will allow the model to be accessed by all companies and governments who are interested, as well as allowing local communities and civil society groups to understand and contribute more effectively to negotiation processes. The MMDA is to remain a living process, with new best practices uploaded as they are developed and shared and easy deletion or substitution of what may be contentious or undesired clauses.

The consultation will continue between now and October. Further consultation opportunities will be described at the Open Forum.

RSVP: Please register by April 22, 2010 by clicking [here](#).

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The Open Forum is sponsored by the IBA Mining Law Committee in association with the Sustainable Development Strategies Group and the International Institute for Sustainable Development, with support of the Extractive Industries Technical Advisory Facility of the World Bank Group, the University of Dundee, the International Council on Mining and Metals, the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, and the International Bar Association.