

DECLARATION

On agreed principles and joint activities

I. Preamble

1. We, citizens of Kazakhstan, judge as unacceptable the situation in the country where:
 - Companies extracting mineral resources, receive billions of dollars in revenues out of which the population does not receive anything, directly or indirectly;
 - International financial institutions, funds, private investors make large investments, mostly into the extractive sector of Kazakhstan's economy, from which neither the economy or the people quite profit. These investments only drag the country into more debt;
 - Corrupt officials, instead of rational management of revenues received from exploitation of natural resources, investments and loans, spend them, in the first place, in their own interests;
 - Population in regions where extractive industries are active, in particular in villages, live in the atmosphere of lawlessness and injustice, on their own land wasted as a result of the extraction of natural resources. They drink poisonous water and are surrounded with poisoned air.
2. We also cannot deem as acceptable:
 - Escaping from Kazakhstan
 - Remaining silent and inactive.
3. We assume and declare:
 - Our duty to be worthy of our ancestors;
 - Our responsibility to the people of Kazakhstan;
 - Our responsibility to look after the future of our future generations.
4. This is the reason why we have set up an Association of various NGOs, media and other organisations and citizens of Kazakhstan under the name of **Azamaattyk Kyrlytai (People's Council)**, and signed the present Declaration on agreed principles and joint activities in the framework of this Association ("Declaration").

II. Strategic goal and objectives

1. Strategic goal of activities in the framework of the Declaration is elimination in Kazakhstan of:
 - injustice and lawlessness towards citizens in any area of life;
 - aggressive self-interested exploitation of mineral resources that belong to the people of Kazakhstan;
 - poisoning of land, water, air, flora and fauna of the country;
 - corruption in any of its forms.
2. In order to achieve this strategic goal, we assume responsibility for promoting in Kazakhstan principles of transparency and sustainable development described, inter alia, in:
 - United Nations Global Compact (UN GC)
 - Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
 - Global Transparency Initiative (GTI)
3. Based on these principles, we intend to organise continuous monitoring over activities of the authorities, companies, international and national financial institutions, entities and funds in order to provide the society with complete, clear and true picture of how these entities respect:
 - international human rights in the categories of citizens, NGOs and media;
 - freedom of association and collective agreement
 - demands to ban all forms of forced, obligatory and child labour; discrimination at the time of recruitment and during carrying out professional activities
 - elimination of the use of environmentally dangerous technologies
 - demands to eliminate all forms of corruption

- need to provide complete access to information about their own activities; size of payments/receipts into the budget and the National Fund; size of social investments and on impacts on the economy, society and nature
 - agreements on effective cooperation with NGOs on all above-mentioned issues.
4. In this relation, we declare that our most important objectives are:
- Establishment create in Kazakhstan of a network of NGOs and media and other organisations to carry out research, analytical, educational activities, as well as to assist in promoting principles of the UN Global Accord, EITI, GTI.
 - Setting up in all regions of Kazakhstan of multilateral mechanisms of the open, equal cooperation of interested parties (authorities-business-society).
 - Organization at the republican and local level in Kazakhstan of monitoring over activities of state entities, companies, international and national financial institutions, funds in relation to their adherence to the above-mentioned principles.
 - Information and social projects and events.
 - Organisation of international cooperation with non-governmental, governmental, financial institutions and organisations, as well as media.

III. Principles of activity and ways of carrying it out

1. Association's activity shall be carried out on the basis and in accordance with Universal Declaration of Human Rights which stated that:
 - whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,
 - whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind;
 - the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people;
 - whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law.
2. All relations within the Association and outside of it are build on the principles of sustainable development, transparency, taking into account opinion of all interested parties.
3. Procedures if decision-making, working bodies, Association's membership and representation procedure and conditions and all other issues of the Association's activity are established via decisions made in accordance with the procedure described in the Association's Statute.
4. Information about the Association's and its members' activities is open and all me members of the Association shall undertake to spread such information.