



PRESS RELEASE 8 March 2018

Marikana Solidarity Week 12 - 16 March 2018 in London

- **Lonmin AGM: What will be the future of 13,000 miners after takeover?**
- **South African/European network holds mining company to account for its role in the Marikana massacre**

A South African/European delegation will attend the annual general meeting (AGM) on 15 March in London and push the British-South African mining company Lonmin plc to fulfil its obligations. Before the AGM, at 9.30am, a picket in memory of 34 Lonmin miners killed in Marikana on 16 August 2012 will be held in front of Lincoln Centre, 18 Lincoln's Inn Fields (venue of the AGM).

The Right Reverend Johannes Seoka, former Anglican Bishop of Pretoria (South Africa), who already spoke at the Lonmin AGM 2017 will remind the Lonmin management to take responsibility for their workers, the Community of Marikana and the environment. "In the Lonmin AGM 2017 the Chairman of the Board, **Brian Beamish**, and CEO **Ben Magara** proclaimed that a new era would be introduced and the concerns of the workers taken seriously. Now I have to ask them: What will be the future of the 13,000 miners who will lose their jobs after the takeover by Sibanye-Stillwater?"

"Lonmin has delayed its AGM because it is about to be bought out by Sibanye-Stillwater", says **Dr Andy Higginbottom** of Marikana Miners Solidarity Campaign. "Lonmin's poor performance has made it a takeover target. Nearly 13,000 jobs are threatened, their loss would devastate already impoverished communities. The company has been under pressure from the banks and must sell to cover a debt of \$150 million. Of the ten creditors, four are UK banks (HSBC, Lloyds, RBS and Standard Chartered), one is a subsidiary and one (Investec) is double listed in London and Johannesburg."

Thumeka Magwangqana, South African civil rights activist and head of the women's organization Sikhale Sonke ("We cry together"), another member of the South African delegation, argues that the workers and community in Marikana are worried because of the Lonmin takeover. "If Lonmin disappears as an entity, who will be held responsible for its crimes? No reparations were paid to the widows of the killed miners and to the miners who were injured in the massacre."

Attorney Andries Nkome called for further action against Lonmin and politicians accused of causing the Marikana massacre. He was the first attorney who offered legal services for free to 279 injured and arrested mineworkers. "None of the mineworkers has been formally approached by the government with a compensation offer despite the South African state saying that it had set more than 61 millions £ (equals 1 billion Rand) aside."

The Marikana Solidarity Week is jointly organized by London Mining Network, Marikana Miners Solidarity Campaign, Decolonising Environmentalism, War on Want, Plough Back the Fruits and the Association of Ethical Shareholders Germany.

INTERVIEWS:

Bishop Johannes Seoka, Thumeka Magwangqana and Andries Nkome will be available for interviews on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, they will be available to provide brief comments between 9:30am and 10:00am, outside of the Lonmin AGM.

EVENTS during Marikana Solidarity Weeks:

Look for other events during Marikana Solidarity Week on: www.ethicalshareholders.org and www.londonminingnetwork.org/2018/03/protest-the-lonmin-agm/

CONTACT:

- Lydia James, London Mining Network:

Phone: 0044-(0)7775732383, lydia@londonminingnetwork.org, www.londonminingnetwork.org

- Markus Dufner, Association of Ethical Shareholders Germany

Phone: 0049-(0)221-599 56 47, Mobile: 0049-(0)173 713 52 37, office@ethicalshareholders.org, www.ethicalshareholders.org

FACEBOOK:

[Ethical Shareholders on Facebook](#)

TWITTER:

#MarikanaMassacre #PloughBackTheFruits #Lonminaccountability