Joint Statement
Dispute Resolution Process between HAGL company and its subsidiaries and indigenous villages
Banlung, Ratanakiri Province, Kingdom of Cambodia
19 January 2016

On 19 January 2016, community representatives of the fourteen indigenous villages (Ket, Nay, Kachout, Kres, Kam, Mass, Talao, Inn, Malik, Kanat Thom, Kak, Tanong, Muy and Peng) company representatives of HAGL, non-governmental organization (NGO) advisors, representatives of the Provincial Government of Ratanakiri and members of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) held a meeting in Banlung, Ratanakiri Province. These meetings were facilitated by the CAO of the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The parties met to discuss the fundamental aspects of the implementation phase of the agreements made in September 2015 (the Agreement) between HAGL and the fourteen villages. This Agreement included commitments by HAGL to not clear or develop the lands of Ket, Nay and Kachout, as well as to repair and maintain roads and bridges in the villages that were damaged by its operation. It was further agreed that these commitments would be implemented by first organizing joint mapping trips to each of the affected villages.

Following the Agreement, the parties proceeded to plan the subsequent steps for a just resolution of the dispute, starting with boundary delimitation of HAGL’s Economic Land Concession (ELC) within the village areas and village outlines altogether.

In preparation for the mapping trip to Ket, Kachout and Nay villages – the first of its kind in the present dispute – a meeting was held on the 19 January 2016 in which the relevant stakeholders shared plans and inputs for the following events.
The mapping trips will be held from the 20-25 January 2016 and attended by Community Representatives, CAO representatives, members of the Provincial Government, NGO advisors and HAGL delegates. Each party is to provide their own mapping experts.

The parties are confident that the cooperation between the relevant stakeholders will provide a solid ground for subsequent activities aimed at implementing the Agreement and achieving a just resolution to the dispute.