

Mining firm and NEEC in new deal to empower more Tanzanian miners

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GEITA Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) and the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) have signed an agreement for the provision of consultancy and support services on the mining's local content implementation.



Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Policy, Coordination and Investment Ms. Dorothy Mwaluko (right side) handing over the MOU agreement to Mr. Simon Shayo Vice President Sustainability Geita Gold Mining Limited (left side).

The agreement has been signed recently in Geita town, Geita Region at Geita gold market ground and shall continue for a period of 1 year and continue to be valid until June 30, 2021 unless terminated.

Speaking during the ceremony to sign that agreement, GGML vice president for sustainability, Simon Shayo said the agreement aims at jointly undertaking programs and initiatives aimed at improving participation of Tanzanians in investments, including giving Tanzanian citizens and companies meeting the necessary criteria preference in the supply of goods and services in the mining sector.

He said the agreement aims at ensuring that communities around Geita and Tanzania are better off through working together, and with the support of AngloGold Ashanti-Geita Gold Mining Limited. That also forms part of GGML's broader partnership with the local authorities and the host community.

"At AngloGold Ashanti-Geita Gold Mining Limited, we are committed to the sustainable development of the communities we operate in. We would like to leave a legacy, even when mining may have stopped. Our aim is to increase the participation of Tanzanians in the mine so that we can support the society that we work with.

"We have continuously demonstrated this at Geita by becoming active partners with the Government in improving social services including education, health and agriculture," said Shayo.

Shayo explained: "GGML is proud to be the best and largest taxpayer in Tanzania where in 2019 alone, the total amount of taxes paid by GGML to the Tanzanian government was approximately 467 billion. GGML has also provided employment to more than 5000 Tanzanians including employees under various contractors."

Dorothy Mwaluko, the Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Policy, Coordination and Investment said participation of Tanzanians in various investments is still low due to various reasons including low skills levels, inadequate access to investment capital and inadequate market information among producers.

Mwaluko added that the country also faces other investment challenges especially inadequate formalization of businesses among owners and fear to participate in local and international procurements due to lack of confidence among micro and small enterprises owners.

She further explained that in accordance with the Local Content Regulations, with that agreement now Geita Gold Mining Limited shall receive goods and services

supplied by Tanzanian citizens and Companies in a technically proficient, business sensitive manner, at Competitive or reasonable cost and with a commitment to act with mutual co-operation based on trust, integrity and open-book dealings.