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Director

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Mr Don McBride
General Manager
GardaWorld West Security
Limited Tanzania
Plot 16, Lucy Lameck Rd off
Mwai Kibeki Rd, Po Box 12747
Dar es Salaam. Tanzania

Via Email

Re: Guards at Williamson Diamonds in Tanzania

Dear Mr McBride,

We write to seek a response from GardaWorld West Security Limited Tanzania regarding the conduct of security guards contracted by Williamson Diamonds in Tanzania to guard its mining concession.

Building on [earlier research on community perceptions](#) of, among others, the Williamson mine, IPIS is currently analysing and monitoring the state of relations with local residents since the settlements Petra Diamonds, then majority owner of the mine, reached in 2021 with 96 claimants alleging human rights abuses by private security guards at the Williamson mine.

IPIS is a non-governmental organisation based in Antwerp, Belgium that undertakes research, policy advice and support to diverse stakeholders to improve the impact of natural resource exploitation on security, development and human rights. We plan to publish a report with the main findings of our community research and the lessons we draw from the evolving approach towards community relations around the Williamson mine for this and other mining operations.

We have undertaken several field visits to the area since July 2022 and interviewed over 100 stakeholders to get a full and nuanced understanding of the present-day situation and the efforts to improve impact on and engagement with adjacent communities at the Williamson mine.

Many respondents from the mine's adjacent villages told IPIS that they experienced the arrival of the GardaWorld guards, in March 2021, as a good development that is positively impacting relations with the mine. Most found that the violence on the concession has become less intense and widespread compared to when Zenith Security was still Williamson Diamonds' private security contractor. However, reports of severe beatings are still common. Most of the reports IPIS received concern beatings by GardaWorld guards with batons, generally on legs, arms or joints, after which intruders are

either handed over to the Kishapu district police, or left behind. IPIS also received one concerning testimony of a miner who claims to have been shot and severely wounded by a GardaWorld guard in January 2022.

To the extent that GardaWorld is aware of beatings, shootings, or allegations of any such abuses, by its staff guarding the Williamson Diamonds concession since March 2021, can you please provide details, including when and where these occurred, the harm(s) caused, and the steps taken to investigate and remedy them?

IPIS attaches great importance to nuanced analysis and reporting, reflecting all available and relevant information and presenting the topics we study in their full complexity. In this light, we are committed to duly including GardaWorld's take on the matter in our analysis, as well as any other information that you think may be relevant for our work. In order to allow us sufficient time for processing this information, we welcome GardaWorld's response by 29 September 2023.

Please send your responses and any other information you would like us to consider to filip.reyniers@ipisresearch.be If you have any further questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Filip Reyniers
Director