

THE BOCHUM DECLARATION ON SUSTAINABLE MINING

**Confirmed by the Organizing Partners and by the Participants at
the VISION ZERO Conference on SUSTAINABLE MINING 2025**

October 13 - 15, 2025, in Bochum / Germany

On October 13–15, 2025, the ISSA Section on Prevention in the Mining Industry (ISSA Mining), the University of Applied Sciences Georg Agricola (THGA), the RAG Aktiengesellschaft (RAG) and the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the Raw Materials and Chemical Industry (BG RCI) organized the **International VISION ZERO Conference “RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP – SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MINING” (SUSTAINABLE MINING 2025)** at Bochum / Germany.

Representatives from industry, regulators, social partners, labour inspection, universities, trade organizations and occupational health and safety experts from all over the world participated in the event.

Following the presentations and discussions on VISION ZERO, safety, health and well-being, responsible leadership, active partnership for a sustainable future of mining and decent workplaces in mining, the organizing partners and the participants of the SUSTAINABLE MINING 2025 Conference endorsed and signed this Bochum Declaration as a foundation to build on and provide guidance for further activities:

The Bochum Declaration on VISION ZERO and SUSTAINABLE MINING:

Sustainable Mining is future - sustainable mining is essential for peace. Sustainable mining will be essential if we are to enable a better life for all people and all societies, respecting and preserving our planet and allowing everyone to participate in technological progress. That is why we are committed to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

To achieve this goal, we confirm our joint commitment to the VISION ZERO Strategy of the International Social Security Association (ISSA) and its SEVEN GOLDEN RULES as a foundation of our activities to continuously improve safety, health and wellbeing and the fundamental principles and rights at work for mining and post-mining.

The basic human rights and a safe and healthy working environment must be guaranteed for all workers in mining, post-mining and raw material industries as well as for the mining supply chain. This applies not only to organized mining, but also to miners such as informal miners or so-called illegal miners. We will work to close the existing gap and not forget the most vulnerable miners.

Business leaders and managers in mining shall guarantee safety, health, and wellbeing for all mine workers. Regulators, experts and international organizations must provide a supporting framework and services. Clients and mining suppliers in global supply chains have a special responsibility, but so do the purchasers of the products, because many supply chains begin with the extraction of raw materials.

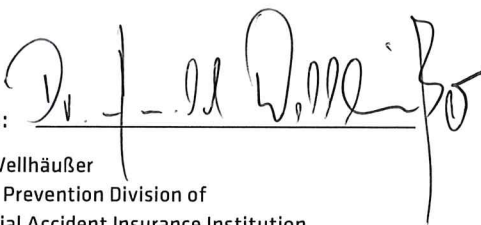
We see significant potential for change in more actively linking the academic and vocational training of young people with the future demands of the world of work. Therefore, we strive to make VISION ZERO an integral part of university education, so that young people learn the skills they need at an early stage to actively assume their future responsibilities, implement positive leadership and become familiar with the basic principles of VISION ZERO - whether in mining, the raw materials industry, the mining supply chain or in post-mining companies.


New technologies and artificial intelligence offer huge potential to humanize the working environment in mining and post-mining, to reduce risks and hazards, and make mining and post-mining processes more sustainable, efficient and safer. That is why we actively promote the use of new technologies. At the same time, however, the introduction of new technologies requires even more active leadership to explain the benefits, build trust and involve all affected miners in social dialogue during the introduction of these technologies.

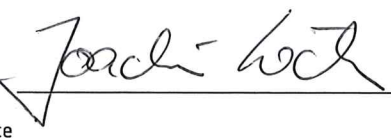
The organizing partners and participants of the International VISION ZERO Conference "RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP – SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MINING" (SUSTAINABLE MINING 2025) commit themselves to these 6 principles.


We confirm to continue this unique collaboration between industry, suppliers, university and social security institutions together with our speakers and participants. New stakeholders are invited to join this SUSTAINABLE MINING ALLIANCE to create a new mindset for a prevention culture along the whole mine-life cycle and innovative solutions for a safer and healthier life of miners and all people.

Bochum / Germany, October 15, 2025

Signature: 
 Dr. Harald Wellhäußer
 Head of the Prevention Division of
 German Social Accident Insurance Institution
 for the raw materials and chemical industry
 (BG RCI)

Signature: 
 Prof. Susanne Lengyel
 President
 Georg Agricola University of Applied Sciences
 (THGA)

Signature: 
 Joachim Löchte
 Executive Board Member for Technology of
 RAG Aktiengesellschaft
 (RAG AG)

Signature: 
 Helmut Ehnes
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 Prevention in the Mining Industry
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