

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

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Amnesty International withdrawal from the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

On 29 May 2013 Amnesty International notified the Secretariat of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPs) of the organization's decision to terminate its membership of the multi-stakeholder processes which implements the VPs.

Amnesty International remains committed to the Principles which the organization helped to formulate when the VP initiative was established in 2000. However, the organisation has for some years been concerned by the failure of the initiative to develop robust accountability systems for member companies. Without these, the credibility and effectiveness of the initiative is brought into question.

Amnesty International believes extractive companies and security providers should be held to account for involvement in human rights abuses. We do not believe this objective can be realised through our ongoing membership of the VPs.

Amnesty International will continue to work on the human rights impact of security at oil, gas and mining sites, and to promote mandatory human rights due diligence by extractive companies in relation to their security systems. We will also continue to call for accountability for security related human rights abuses and support the right of victims to an effective remedy. In so doing the organization will use the Principles, which provide the basis for a solid due diligence framework. However, Amnesty International believes that the value of the Principles can only be properly realised if they are associated with robust accountability mechanisms.

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