

COMMUNIQUÉ

One Voice, One Strategy: A Call to Declare Africa's Green Minerals¹ an Emergency for Equitable Resource-Based Industrialisation

25–27 March 2026 | Magaliesberg, Northwest Province, South Africa

1. We represent civil society, the private sector, former diplomats, eminent persons, development partners, African institutions, business leaders, and community organisations, convened in Magaliesberg from 25 to 27 March 2026, pioneered by the Southern Africa Resource Watch. This is a civil society-led initiative, grounded in the agency of African citizens and committed to ensuring that Africa's mineral wealth serves the public good.
2. Africa stands at a historic turning point. The continent is at the centre of a global scramble for green minerals. While this presents significant opportunities, it also presents risks of repeating the history of extraction without transformation. We reject this colonial path and affirm that Africa's green minerals must drive industrialisation, sovereignty, and shared prosperity.
3. We call on the African Union and on African governments to declare ***green minerals a continental emergency***, triggering urgent, coordinated, and strategic action to secure Africa's position in a rapidly shifting global order.
4. We recognise that no African country can industrialise alone. We adopt the principle of ***One Voice, One Strategy***—a unified continental approach to policy, negotiation, and industrial development that strengthens Africa's collective power.
5. We commit to a strategic direction for transformation, supported by a clear pathway: prioritising geological exploration; value addition and beneficiation within Africa; building regional industrial value chains; leveraging the continent's integrated market; ensuring democratic governance, transparency, and accountability; protecting local communities; and safeguarding the environment for future generations.
6. To move from vision to implementation, we propose:
 - 6.1. The creation of an African Green Minerals Producers' Coalition. We call for the establishment of a *continental coalition of producing countries* under the African Union.

¹As defined in the AU Green Minerals Strategy, https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/44539-doc_AGMS_Final_doc.pdf.

- 6.2. This coalition will be led by a *Heads of State Steering Committee* to coordinate policies, strengthen the continent geo-political bargaining power, prevent harmful competition, and secure a fair share of global value chains.
- 6.3. The coalition will be supported by a high-level panel on green minerals. We will immediately establish a *High-Level Panel composed of eminent African leaders and experts* to lead advocacy and to lobby national governments, regional economic communities, and the African Union to operationalise the “*One Voice, One Strategy*”, to declare green minerals a continental emergency and to support the creation of the Heads of State Steering Committee.
- 6.4. This diplomacy will be supported by a Technical Support Committee. We mandate the creation of a *Technical Support Committee*, drawing on universities, think tanks, industry, labour, and women’s movements, to develop a Continental Green Minerals Blueprint, generate data and research, and define a shared African narrative.
- 6.5. We propose the establishment of a Special Secretariat on Green Minerals. We call for a dedicated *Secretariat* to coordinate implementation, ensure coherence, monitor progress, and support countries and institutions in delivering this agenda.
7. The **One Voice, One Strategy** approach requires a strong strategic platform. We call on multilateral development institutions, UN agencies, and global partners to align with this agenda through a structured platform that mobilises finance, technology, and skills, while advancing South–South cooperation.
8. We affirm the need for a new diplomacy rooted in African unity and civic legitimacy, one that is accountable to citizens, anchored in domestic priorities, and ensuring African ownership and control over African resources and value chains.
9. We commit to immediate and measurable steps, including the development of a ***Continental Green Minerals Blueprint***, alignment of national and regional strategies, and strengthened collaboration among stakeholders to drive implementation.
10. This communiqué marks a decisive shift, a break with the past. Africa will no longer be a passive supplier of raw materials or negotiate from a position of weakness.

**We choose unity. We choose transformation. We choose sovereignty.
Africa First**

Adopted in Magaliesberg, South Africa, on 27 March 2026.