

United Congolese Community Of Oregon

Testimony(joined on conference call)

Oregon State Senate
Tuesday, Feb 05, 2019

Honorable Representatives,

Here is the voice of Eugene Sadiki, Leader of the United Congolese Community of Oregon. Let us thank you for this opportunity given to share with you about The Democratic Republic of Congo, my country of origin where people are dying day and night for their minerals. It is for the mineral conflict that organizations like: Amnesty International, The Enough project, Never Again Coalition, and The Oregon Coalition for Humanity stood up to take action in fighting on behalf of Congolese people and for the sake of peace, by initiating this bill named "A Conflict-free Minerals Policy for the State of Oregon." This resulted from the action taken upstream by the United Nations, most of the big corporations, and humane /philanthropic organizations fighting for the transparent supply chain with regard to conflict minerals in the world; especially the 3TG(Tin, Tantalum, tungsten, and Gold).

The Democratic Republic of the Congo(DRC), worldwide known the richest country in terms of natural resources(minerals) has been turned into battle field for more than two(2)decades; negative armed forces funded by most of electronic companies spoiling minerals by taking them at cheap and killing people. The DRC produces in the world more than 60 % of Coltan made up with the 3T. This is minerals highly valued in the manufacturing of computers, laptops, tablets, TVs, cell phones, smartphones, self driven trucks, and all kind of chips used in the buses, trains and many other places.

Since September 22, 1996 when the war broke up in my country until today the death toll has been estimated to more than ten(10) million individuals killed including children, elderly, women, men, civilians, and Soldiers. This number far more than any war in the history has never made Authorities, peace makers, and nations to pay attention to it in order to stop the carnage. Many reports by experts are not bearing fruits. Myself, as a victim and a witness make the number of the poorest people in the world; the insecurity, rape, torture, mutilation , and all you can imagine invaders can do, make the people of DRC suffering and crippled in deep poverty.

I am appealing to you Representatives, Oregonians Law Makers, as a strong branch of the State government, yourself being a government consumer of electronics to advocate, join effort, and strongly fight alongside with the organizations named in the beginning to push other key stakeholders to work toward passing the Sustainable Procurement Policy Bill. This joint effort fighting for conflict minerals is a way to help expecting to bring peace in DRC and elsewhere in the world.

Thank you
Eugene Sadiki

Congolese Community Leader

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