



valcambi  
suisse

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VALCAMBI SA  
Director Michael Mesaric  
via Passeggiata 3  
6828 Balerna

Bern, September 27, 2016

**Appeal to Valcambi to distance themselves publicly from Yanacochas inhuman and degrading attitude towards the Chaupe family members and implement measures to prevent further implications in human rights violations**

Dear Mr. Mesaric

As you may have heard, Peru's internationally-renowned human rights activist Máxima Acuña Chaupe was severely hurt Sunday morning 18<sup>th</sup> September in an attack by alleged hitmen hired by the mining company Yanacocha.

As a worldwide leading gold refinery Valcambi is assuming a great responsibility for the origin of the precious material. Particularly trade with corporations from countries where governance is rather poor and where social, human rights and environmental problems are frequent, we expect that refineries take a cautious and responsible approach to avoid serious human rights violation and environmental degradation.

In this sense the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) would like to discuss with you measures to be taken in order to avoid the inhuman and degrading treatment of the Chaupe family, since Valcambi is the major customer of Yanacocha. As the worldwide leading gold refinery, Valcambi should play a leading role in terms of transparency and corporate responsibility.

The STP would like to take this as a new occasion to ask again for a meeting so that we can talk about ways in which Valcambi could seriously fulfil its due diligence obligations.

We are looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Christoph Wiedmer  
Director

PS: Enclosed you will find the new digest of the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) and GRUFIDES, about the impacts of Yanacocha S.R.L.'s gold mining on human rights in Cajamarca. The report *Crimescene Cajamarca – Gold producer Yanacocha and human rights violations in Peru* summarizes key human rights violations, including gross and systematic violations, in the context of gold production over more than 10 years.