



## ***Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance (VEJA)***

Suite 5, Lamees Building, Cnr Frikkie Meyer & Rutherford  
Boulevards, Vanderbijlpark 1911, Gauteng, South Africa

PO Box 4904, Vanderbijlpark 1900, Gauteng, South Africa

Tel (016) 933.9079

E-mail: [admin@veja.org.za](mailto:admin@veja.org.za)

Fax (016) 931.2653

Website:

[www.veja.org](http://www.veja.org)

A Not for Profit Organisation (NPO), NPO No. 153-572

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Memorandum  
To  
ArcelorMittal (AMSA)

**Date:** 25 May 2023

**Venue:** Vanderbijlpark Works

**Time:** 9h00 to 12H30

### **To ArcelorMittal Management and Shareholders**

ArcelorMittal continues to benefit from making profits in our new democracy as in the olden days of apartheid; our communities where they operate have gained nothing except air pollution, water pollution and environmental degradation.

We, the people of Vaal Triangle met on the 15th of May 2023 at VEJA Offices in Vanderbijlpark. Organisations present included, the Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance, VukuZenzele, Justice and Peace, Lechabile Letsatsi, Zamdela Air Quality Monitoring Committee and Botle Ba Tlhaho Environmental Group.

We call on Shareholders and Management of AMSA to respect Human Rights, Women's Rights, Labour rights, Youth and Children's Rights and Environmental Rights enshrined in the Bill of Rights.

AMSA was built by our fathers, mothers and brothers under the apartheid regime and where paid slave wages, which has led to us living in poverty, squalor conditions, unemployment and an unhealthy environment.

### **We demand that AMSA**

1. Protects people's lives and health
  - Stops killing the people of Vaal and the surrounding areas with pollutants they emit
  - Commits to reducing Greenhouse Gases emissions by stopping the intensive use of fossil fuels, in order to save lives
  - Embark on the Just Transition by using cleaner technologies such as green steel
  - Comply with the set - Minimum Emission Standards, and save lives
2. Shows accountability
  - To be transparent by sharing and making information accessible to affected communities, in particular the information on:

- The quality of the water that is being discharged from the Zero Effluent Discharge (ZED) plant into Rietspruit River
  - What is being or going to be done about the polluted underground water. How will the underground water be rehabilitated?
  - Compliance with their water license and reuse of water in their operations
  - Borehole monitoring and results to be made available to impacted communities
  - We demand an environmental stakeholder forum where AMSA must report environmental compliance and monitoring on quarterly basis
3. Creates green and sustainable jobs
- Take urgent and preventative measures and not wait until people's health is irreversibly affected
  - Compensate all ex-workers who have ill-health at the hands of AMSA and pay their medical bills to unburden them
  - Creates clean and green jobs to stop perpetuating environmental degradation, to save lives
  - Develop the capacity to maximise the reuse and to recycle waste and by-products, to save lives
  - Train and re-skill the workers in line with the Just Transition
4. Drives gender equality in their hiring criteria
- Ensure that there is the balance of gender when hiring people

**We Demand AMSA Respond within 14 Working Days after the tabling of this Memorandum**

VEJA Representative

ArcelorMittal Representative

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