



**Third Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the Fourth International Conference
on Financing for Development (FfD4), NY, 10-14 February, 2025**

February 13, 2025

**Jane Nalunga, SEATINI Uganda, on behalf of the CS FfD Mechanism Intervention on
Trade**

Thank you chair, My name is Jane Nalunga, from SEATINI, Speaking on behalf of the FFD Civil Society Mechanism. My input refers to the critical minerals section.

We have concerns about the section and can support it if it unambiguously protects the sovereignty of developing countries over these resources and strengthens the policy space for the use of these resources for their structural transformation, economic sovereignty and sustainable development.

The chapeau to Para 46 should include the need for trade and investment policy flexibility to ensure domestic development and value addition from the use of such critical minerals and for pursuing sustainable objectives.

Para 46 a) we propose to include: Resource rich developing countries and LDCs must have full policy flexibility to determine their own trade and investment policy with regard to their critical minerals **to ensure transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation and beneficiation of minerals resources for the development of renewable energy and to contribute to structural economic transformation and sustainable development.**

We support the call to development partners and international financial institutions to support developing and LDCs regarding their mineral exploitation, however the Para should clearly indicate the kind of support i.e. technology transfer, capacity building, and finance; and also indicate that they should support nationally owned and controlled production, refining and processing of critical minerals within those countries.

Para 46 b) We welcome the development of a global traceability, transparency and accountability framework. This framework should strengthen due diligence of transnational corporations, facilitate corporate regulation and accountability; **and uphold environmental and human rights commitment especially of local communities. The framework should not be used as a unilateral trade barrier.**

We welcome the support to developing countries to negotiate commodity contracts (Para 46 d) however, we reiterate that governments must have the full policy space to design their trade and investment policies around their critical minerals to pursue the necessary industrial policies in order to exit the commodity dependency trap.

Regarding para 46 e) we would like to add on the following statement “ to ensure publicly accessible information and accountability of the extractive industries, oil , gas and mining companies, allowing for public oversight and independent monitoring including by local communities to prevent revenue losses in the countries where the resources are extracted from”.

Thank you