

## **Government of Canada 2025 Annual Report to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights Initiative**

### **A. COMMITMENT TO THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. Statement of commitment or endorsement of the Voluntary Principles.**

Canada is committed to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPs) as a tool to help anticipate and mitigate human rights-related risks associated with the deployment of public and private security, particularly in the extractive sector. As Board member and Interim Chair of the government pillar, Canada supports the Voluntary Principles Initiative (VPI) as a forum that promotes multi-stakeholder dialogue, mutual learning, relationship building and collaborative problem-solving, making it possible to respond effectively to security and human rights challenges.

As global demand for minerals and precious metals continues to grow, integrating strong security and human rights standards into Canada's international partnerships is essential to supporting stable, rights-respecting, gender inclusive and sustainable mineral economies. This approach reinforces Canada's broader international development objectives and strengthens Canada's national security and supply chain resilience objectives.

#### **2. Statement of commitment to implement National Plan(s).**

N/A

### **B. DOMESTIC POLICIES, LAWS & REGULATIONS**

#### **3. As related to the Voluntary Principles, describe relevant policies, legislation, procedures, and/or guidelines relevant to promoting and protecting human rights, consistent with international human rights obligations.**

##### Domestic promotion and protection of human rights:

Canada is party to the seven principal United Nations (UN) human rights conventions and covenants (also known as treaties). As a party to these treaties, Canada agrees to respect and ensure the human rights of all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, without discrimination of any kind. Under Canada's federal system of government, responsibility for ensuring respect for human rights is shared between federal, provincial and territorial governments.

Canada's domestic framework for the protection of human rights includes numerous guarantees for those in vulnerable situations:

- Human rights are constitutionally entrenched in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (adopted in 1982), which sets out those rights and freedoms that Canadians believe are necessary in a free and democratic society. The Charter applies to all government activities, at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels. It includes protections related to fundamental freedoms; democracy; mobility; life, liberty and personal security; equality; official languages; minority language education rights; Canada's multicultural heritage and Indigenous Peoples' rights.
- Canada's Constitution contains additional protections for the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. These include rights over lands and to self-government.
- Human rights are implemented in Canada through numerous federal, provincial and territorial government policies and programs.

More information on Canada's domestic legal framework for human rights protection can be found in Canada's core document on the website of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

#### Forced labour:

Further to the commitment in the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), in July 2020, Canada's *Customs Tariff* was amended to prohibit the importation of goods mined, manufactured or produced wholly or in part by forced labour. Canada's free trade agreements include obligations to address forced labour and Canada provides technical assistance to support partner countries in respecting these labour protections.

Canada's supply chain legislation, *The Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act*, came into force on January 1, 2024. This transparency legislation contains requirements for certain private sector entities and Canadian government institutions to report on the steps taken to prevent and reduce the risk of forced or child labour in their own operations or in their supply chains. Annual reports must be submitted to the Minister of Public Safety by May 31 of each year.

Canada's position is that active and meaningful engagement with UN human rights mechanisms is critical to progress. Canada welcomed a visit by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in August/September 2023. The Special Rapporteur presented his follow-up report at the 57th session of the UN Human Rights Council in the Fall of 2024, providing recommendations on a wide array of topics, including related to temporary foreign workers and human rights due diligence in supply chains. Canada produced an addendum to the Special Rapporteur's report and remains open to continued cooperation with Special Procedures on human rights, including on issues related to forced labour.

#### International promotion and protection of human rights:

An obligation in the UN Charter is to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms. Canada fulfills this obligation through international assistance, bilateral cooperation and active engagement with multilateral fora and human rights mechanisms.

Voices at risk: Canada's guidelines on supporting human rights defenders:

Canada's guidelines on supporting human rights defenders provide practical advice, tools and resources to Canadian officials working in Canada and abroad on how to support the vital work of human rights defenders, often at great risk to themselves, their loved ones and the organizations and movements they represent. The implementation of the Guidelines is tailored to local contexts and circumstances, and to the specific needs of the human rights defenders.

International assistance:

Canada is committed to providing international assistance that is human rights-based and inclusive. This means that all people have the same human rights regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ability, and other aspects of identity. Canada seeks to strengthen economic resilience and international assistance by highlighting the essential need to support sustainability, gender equality and human rights, while supporting health and education systems in the natural resources sector.

Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security:

In 2023, *Foundations for Peace: Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2023-2029)* was established. The action plan sustains a focus on advancing the women, peace and security agenda internationally and includes commitments that will be implemented domestically. It strengthens Canada's commitments to the full and meaningful inclusion of diverse women in all matters of peace and security. Canada's National Action Plan is one of the only action plans globally to formalize an official role for civil society.

Responsible Business Conduct Abroad (RBC):

The Government of Canada expects Canadian companies operating abroad to respect human rights, operate lawfully, and conduct their activities in a socially and environmentally responsible manner consistent with international principles and standards on RBC. These include the VPs, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct (OECD Guidelines). Endorsement of the VPs is part of Canada's approach to RBC abroad, particularly as it relates to the extractive and agro-business sectors.

Canada's approach to RBC supports Canadian companies active abroad to enable them to abide by relevant laws, respect human rights in their operations (including their supply chains), and adopt best practices and internationally respected guidelines (the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines). Global Affairs Canada supports Canada's missions abroad to promote and raise awareness on the Voluntary Principles in foreign markets.

Over the past year, Canada continued to actively promote RBC by building awareness and championing action, supporting the uptake of due diligence and accountability, and strengthening the global RBC ecosystem. For example, both the modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (December 2023) and the new Canada-Ecuador Free Trade Agreement (February 2025) underscore Canada's commitment to promote human rights expectations for businesses through robust trade instrument provisions. Canada has included commitments in human rights to the modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade

Agreement and the new Canada-Ecuador Free Trade Agreement. CUFTA further complements Canada's promotion of human rights with an [annual RBC report](#) tabled to Parliament. All agreements include provisions recognizing the importance of RBC, affirming that companies operating within the parties' jurisdiction are required to comply with all applicable laws (human rights, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, gender equality, environmental protection and labour) and encouraging companies to adopt internationally recognized standards, guidelines, and principles for RBC.

Inclusive Approach to Trade:

As part of its Export Diversification Strategy, Canada has advanced an inclusive approach to trade that seeks to share the benefits and opportunities that flow from trade, including with women, small and medium enterprises and Indigenous Peoples. Efforts to date have focused on engaging with Canadians before, during and after trade negotiations, conducting comprehensive and ongoing Gender Based Analysis (GBA) Plus of trade negotiations, and expanding gender responsive and inclusive trade content in trade agreements. Canada is also engaging, the G7, G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to promote and advance gender responsive and inclusive trade initiatives. World Trade Organization (WTO), the G7, G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to promote and advance gender responsive and inclusive trade initiatives.

**4. Within the context of the Voluntary Principles and in accordance with national and international law, describe how the government takes appropriate steps to prevent, investigate, punish, and redress human rights abuses within its territory and/or jurisdiction by third parties, including extractive companies and public and private security providers.**

Canada's Domestic Policy:

All levels of governments in Canada (federal, provincial, and territorial) have adopted legislation prohibiting discrimination on various grounds. Individuals can pursue and seek redress for violations of anti-discrimination codes by third parties through federal and provincial/territorial human rights commissions, tribunals, or the courts. There are various avenues of redress for individuals who believe they are victims of human rights abuses committed in Canada by third parties.

- Canada's Criminal Code, which applies in every jurisdiction in Canada, provides a means of preventing, investigating, punishing, and providing redress for human rights abuses by third parties, most notably in relation to the right to life and security of the person.
- Legislation in relation to labour and employment helps to ensure that workers in both the public and private sectors have a safe and healthy workplace, are subject to fair employment practices, and can organize collectively.
- Some jurisdictions in Canada also have laws in place to protect individuals' privacy rights vis-à-vis both public- and private-sector entities.
- Certain provisions in the common law (judge-made law, which applies in most jurisdictions across Canada) contain remedies for abuses by third parties of some human rights. For example, damages (including compensation) may be sought for certain intentional or

negligent behaviour that causes harm, wrongful dismissal from employment, defamation of character, libel, or infringement of property rights.

Canada's international policy for dispute resolution:

Canada's non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms are anchored in the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines. This includes:

The Canada Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE), established in 2019, is mandated to:

- Promote the implementation of the *UNGPs on Business and Human Rights* and the *OECD Guidelines*;
- Advise Canadian companies on their policies and practices with respect to RBC;
- Review allegations of human rights abuses arising from a Canadian company's operations abroad in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors;
- Offer informal mediation services; and
- Provide advice to the Minister for International Trade on any matter relating to their mandate.

The CORE can receive complaints, undertake a review at its own initiative, conduct joint and independent fact-finding, make recommendations, follow up on those recommendations, and report publicly throughout the process. The office of the CORE began accepting cases in 2021 and has published eleven initial assessment reports, four final reports, and one follow-up report as of April 2026.

In January 2024, further to a recommendation by the Canadian Parliament, a review of the CORE's operations and effectiveness was announced. Canada will confirm a future direction for the CORE in due course, as part of ensuring that its approach and tools for promoting RBC remain robust and fit-for-purpose.

Canada's National Contact Point (NCP):

As an adherent to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct (the Guidelines), Canada is legally required to maintain a National Contact Point (NCP) for Responsible Business Conduct, a non-judicial grievance mechanism that addresses issues related to the observance of the OECD Guidelines. The global network of NCPs includes 52 offices around the world.

Established in 2000, Canada's NCP is mandated to 1) promote the Guidelines, and 2) contribute to the resolution of disputes when questions are raised about observance of the Guidelines by multinational enterprises (MNEs) operating in or from Canada, in any sector. The Guidelines cover a wide range of issues, including corporate disclosure, employment and industrial relations, human rights, environment, and bribery and other forms of corruption.

Where cases warrant further consideration, the NCP offers to facilitate dialogue or mediation between the complainant and company, may issue recommendations, and follow up on their implementation. It reports publicly throughout and at the conclusion of its review process.

Canada's NCP is an interdepartmental committee composed of eight federal departments, supported by a Secretariat housed within Global Affairs Canada, which coordinates case handling and outreach to stakeholders. Since its establishment, Canada's NCP has closed 32 complaints concerning alleged corporate misconduct by Canadian MNEs and their foreign subsidiaries. Final statements for all cases are publicly available on the NCP's website, and since 2022 the NCP has also published initial assessments and follow-up statements to enhance transparency.

## C. PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

### 5. Describe how the government publicly communicates its commitment to the Voluntary Principles.

Canada shares information about VP implementation through this annual public report, as well as by providing updates to the relevant working groups of the Voluntary Principles. General information on the VPs and Canada's RBC Strategy and international RBC standards is available on websites maintained by Global Affairs Canada and Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada.

Through its network of more than 1,000 Trade Commissioners at over 160 offices in Canada and at diplomatic missions around the world, the Government of Canada actively promotes RBC best practices and provides advice on RBC to Canadian companies, including the VPs. In 2025, Canadian officials promoted the VPs at various natural resources and/or responsible business events and engagements, including at the Prospectors and Development Association Conference in March in Toronto.

### 6. Describe how the government conducts outreach to, and awareness-raising activities with, NGOs, extractive companies, and governments to encourage them to implement the Voluntary Principles and/or join the Voluntary Principles Initiative.

Canadian officials engage regularly with civil society, industry associations (including the Mining Association of Canada) and extractives companies to discuss and promote human rights and the voluntary principles in the natural resource sector.

Multilaterally, Canada promotes internationally recognized RBC standards, including the VPs, at the OECD, the G7, the G20, the APEC, the Organization of American States, the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights, the Francophonie, and the Commonwealth.

In 2025, Canada's diplomatic missions abroad continued to engage in the VPI In-Country Working Groups and other outreach, promotion, and implementation activities. Some examples are outlined in the table below.

Country	Initiatives to promote the VPs/Human Rights in the mining sector
Brazil	In 2025, Canada continued to attend the quarterly meetings of the Brazil Working Group. The Canadian mission in Brasilia included the VPI in a Responsible Business Conduct-related event hosted at the Canada Pavilion at COP30 on the RBC-Climate

	nexus. Of note, the VPI in 2025 designated a new local contractor to coordinate the In-Country Working Group activities in Brazil, the National Public Safety Forum, replacing the UN Global Compact Brazil office.
<b>Colombia</b>	The Embassy of Canada in Colombia attends as an observer the monthly board meetings of the CME (Consejo de Minería y Energía), the multi-stakeholder (private sector, government, civil society) organization that acts as coordinator of the VP In-Country Working Group in Colombia. The Canadian embassy in Bogota also attends CME-led events related to the VPs and helps to disseminate information among various stakeholders. In 2025, Canada continued supporting the Colombian Mining Association's (ACM) ongoing adoption of the Mining Association of Canada's Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) standard. The Mining Association of Canada requires its members to adhere to the Voluntary Principle since 2017, and the continued adoption of TSM by the ACM could lead to a similar requirement in the future.
<b>Ecuador</b>	In 2025, the Embassy of Canada in Quito mapped the stakeholders in the country's mining sector to support planning of future initiatives. The Embassy also supported the IV Indigenous Leadership Conference entitled <i>Exchange of Experiences Among Indigenous Peoples on Mining</i> , attended by indigenous representatives, private sector, and National Assembly members and their advisors. The strategies shared were used by indigenous groups in their dealings with mining companies. Representatives of the Tahltan Nation in British Columbia (BC) shared how they worked with the Newcrest-Newmont company at the Red Chris Mine (BC).
<b>Ghana</b>	In engagements with senior Ghanaian interlocutors, the Canadian High Commission promoted Canada's global leadership in sustainable mining practices, including the Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) standards developed by the Mining Association of Canada (MAC). The High Commission hosted a Sustainable Mining workshop in November 2025, led by MAC. The workshop showcased the TSM standard, which supports companies in managing environmental and social risks, including those related to human rights, and brought together a wide range of stakeholders from Ghana's mining sector. The High Commission supported commercial delegations of Ghanaian firms and mining sector stakeholders to attend Mining Indaba in South Africa in February and the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) convention in Toronto in March 2026.
<b>Guatemala</b>	The Embassy of Canada in Guatemala reactivated quarterly coordination meetings with CENTRARSE to reestablish the VPI In-Country Working Group, together with the Embassies of Switzerland and the United Kingdom, private companies including Pan American Silver and Bayer, and civil society organizations such as IEPADES (a civil society organization specializing in human rights, security, and sustainable development). The working group promotes the implementation of the VPs in Guatemala and develops practical tools to support companies in their human rights

	<p>due diligence. It also seeks to expand participation among additional civil society organizations, government counterparts, and diplomatic missions. In January 2025, the embassy supported a workshop on Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM), led by Pierre Gratton, President of the Mining Association of Canada (MAC). The workshop highlighted Canadian best practices in sustainable and responsible mining, including environmental stewardship, community engagement, and the management of social and human rights risks. The event also featured the participation of GRENAT (Guatemala’s mining association), which has adopted the TSM standard, reinforcing the promotion of Canadian standards in the Guatemalan mining sector.</p>
<b>Mexico</b>	<p>Security remains a central concern for Canadian mining companies operating in remote areas of Mexico affected by cartel violence. As some operations rely on armed private security, the Canadian Embassy regularly promotes the VPs in its engagement with mining companies. In October, the Mining Commission of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Mexico (CanCham), in collaboration with the Embassy of Canada, signed a Declaration promoting the adoption of the Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) standards by Canadian investors in Mexico’s mining sector. The Declaration commits CanCham Mining Commission members to progressively implement TSM across the life cycle of their operations, including closure. In March 2026, the Mining Association of Canada’s Vice-President, Ben Chalmers, delivered a workshop on implementing TSM in Mexico, including practical guidance and company experiences. The TSM includes protocols on preventing child and forced labour, fostering safe and inclusive workplaces, and supporting Indigenous and community relationships, in line with the VPs.</p>
<b>Mozambique</b>	<p>In December, Canada’s mission in Maputo participated in a country visit led by the UK government and Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF), with the goal of contributing to the development of Mozambique’s National Action Plan as an engaged member of the Voluntary Principles.</p>
<b>Peru</b>	<p>The Voluntary Principles Lima Working Group marked its 15th anniversary on November 28 with a half-day summit, during which the Government of Canada was recognized as a key contributor since the group’s inception in Peru. To mark this milestone, the working group produced an approximately 80-page report documenting its evolution over the past 15 years and highlighting emerging opportunities and challenges, particularly related to artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) and the growing threat of illegal mining. The report will serve as an outreach tool for Canadian companies and national and subnational government authorities.</p>

**7. Describe how the government promotes the Voluntary Principles within its own government.**

Canada's engagement in the VPs is a responsibility of Global Affairs Canada, a government department led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of International Trade, the Minister responsible for Canada-U.S. Trade, Intergovernmental Affairs, Internal Trade and One Canadian Economy, and the Secretary of State (International Development). The portfolios of all ministers intersect with the VPs. Canada's promotion of the VPs and engagement in the VPI involves the engagement of various divisions within Global Affairs Canada (thematic, geographic, trade, legal), as well as Canadian embassies and high commissions abroad, and other Canadian government departments.

Prior to being posted abroad, Canada's Trade Commissioners receive training on Responsible Business Conduct, which includes information on the VPs. This training provides Trade Commissioners with tools to proactively support clients in the planning and implementing of responsible business practices within their organizations and learn how to develop strategies to effectively manage incidents.

#### **8. Describe government engagement in the VPI.**

Canada has been a member of the VPI Government Pillar since 2009, acting as chair in 2011-12, 2016-17 and 2021-23, as well as interim chair in 2026-27. Canada was a member of the Board from 2022-2024, and resumed its role in July 2025. Canada attends the annual plenary meeting and actively engages in working group and discussions with all members.

Canada provided \$CAD 250K in funding to the project "Enhancing Gender Equality through the Voluntary Principles." to enhance the effectiveness of the initiative in addressing gender considerations and to identify the unique human rights risks faced by groups in vulnerable situations. The project, which took place from 2020-2025, published an Implementation Guidance Companion Tool – Operationalizing the Voluntary Principles Through the Lens of Protecting and Respecting the Unique Needs and Rights of Women and Other Disadvantaged Groups.

#### **9. Describe how the government works with companies, communities, and civil society organizations on Voluntary Principles implementation.**

The VPs are part of the internationally recognized guidelines and standards related to responsible business conduct (RBC) that Global Affairs Canada promotes to Canadian companies active abroad. This is done through Canada's Trade Commissioner Service network of over 160 trade offices and over 1,000 Trade Commissioners worldwide. The VPs are used by staff across Global Affairs Canada in the context of international diplomacy and the promotion of human rights in multilateral and bilateral settings.

Canada's diplomatic missions abroad provide support to Canadian companies for implementation of RBC best practices, including the VPs, which members of the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) have also committed to implementing. Where development programming in the extractives sector is delivered in partnership with companies, including in artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) contexts, Canada promotes alignment with the Voluntary Principles.

Since 2019, Canada has supported in-market initiatives through a dedicated Responsible Business Fund. This fund allows Canadian missions abroad through Canada's Trade Commissioner Service to facilitate workshops, seminars, roundtables, and information product dissemination to promote international guidelines and best practices, including the VPI.

**10. Describe how the Government engages with companies on issues related to company risk assessment.**

Canada is engaged in international norm-setting initiatives such as the OECD Due Diligence Guidelines for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas, which promotes a risk-based approach and provides risk mitigation measures. Canada participates in the working group for the OECD Due Diligence guidance for Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement in the Extractive Sector, which assists companies in identifying potential human rights impacts of security operations and recommends implementation of the VPs. Canada participates in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to regulate the international trade in rough diamonds and reduce the flow of conflict diamonds. Canada contributed to the development of the 2021 Kimberley Process Declaration on Supporting Principles for Responsible Diamond Sourcing as Best Practices.

Canada's Trade Commissioner Service network is an information and support focal point for Canadian companies operating abroad, including in conflict-sensitive areas. Canada makes extensive use of Trade Commissioners at missions abroad to implement Canada's RBC approach and advise Canadian firms on responsible business practices. Moreover, Canada is a vocal supporter of the Model Clauses for Agreements between Government Security Forces and Companies with Respect to Security and Human Rights, a tool that is included in Canada's promotion of the VPs.

**11. Describe how the Government engages with companies around public and private security forces.**

Canada supports efforts to ensure that territorial, contracting and home states involved in the services of private military and security companies (PMSCs) understand, respect and act in a manner that is consistent with international human rights and humanitarian law. Canada was one of 17 States involved in the development of the "Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict" in 2008. It was also involved in the development in 2010 of the "International Code of Conduct (ICoCA) for Private Security Service Providers" to promote respect for human rights, compliance with international humanitarian law (IHL) and the responsible provision of security services by PMSCs. In 2016, Canada became one of seven state members of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers' Association" (ICoCA) – which oversees implementation of the code of conduct – and became a board member in December 2025. Canada continues to promote these instruments in its embassy contracting policy for PMSCs.

In public procurement bidding processes, Global Affairs Canada favourably evaluates security firms that are ICoCA members and which include human rights awareness and training as an integral part of their

corporate mandate and/or mission statement. In 2018, consistent with Canada’s policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse, Canada helped develop ICoCA’s guidelines in this regard.

#### D. LESSONS AND ISSUES

##### **12. To help determine what best practices and lessons learned can be leveraged going forward, provide a summary of issues from this reporting year, as well as plans or opportunities to advance the Voluntary Principles for the government.**

- Canada officially assumed the Interim Chair of the VPI government pillar for 2026-27 after the UK recused itself in March 2026 amid restructuring at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). Canada, who rejoined the VPI Board in July 2025, will assume the government pillar Chair role in a caretaker capacity until Switzerland takes over for 2027-29.
- The new 2026-2029 VP strategy is set to reflect Canada’s focus on improving supply chain efficiency and linking development and trade objectives. The strategy positions the VPI to respond to emerging economic and geopolitical pressures – such as the global energy transition, soaring gold prices, and heightened competition for critical minerals – factors that are reshaping the security and human rights landscape. The strategy will be put to a vote in the first half of 2026, following a review by the incoming Executive Director.
- Canada is also looking to address issues related to artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) through the VPI platform in the coming year. At the 2026 Annual Plenary, ASM was recognized as posing a main security challenge for the extractives sector due to rising commodity prices (especially gold and some critical minerals). Criminal elements are increasingly active in the sector, which in turn increases the risk of human rights abuses for companies and governments alike.
- Canada will continue to encourage the VPI to strengthen strategic collaboration with ICoCA (the International Code of Conduct Association) and identify opportunities for resource efficiencies between the two organizations.
- Canada will continue to support efforts to secure global supply chains by addressing challenges in ASM in the gold and critical minerals sectors.
- Canada will continue to advance integration of gender and conflict sensitive considerations across VPI tools and activities, including promoting and encouraging the implementation of international standards to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse. For example, VPI guidelines on engagement with public and private security actors could more explicitly integrate Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) guidelines, drawing on the language of the Common Approach to Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment (CAPSEAH) to clearly recognize sexual exploitation and abuse as a form of gender-based violence and a form of human rights violation.
- Canada will support onboarding of the new VPI Executive Director and help recruit new government members, while advancing governance reforms to make it easier for additional governments to join the Initiative.