ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

IGF 2026

OCTOBER 12–14 | PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

TRUST IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD

Advancing inclusion and resilience in mineral value chains

Secretariat hosted by

IISD International Institute for Sustainable Development

Event hosted by

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA

IGF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- Plenary sessions numbered 1 to 12 will take place in the Tempus room at the Palais des Nations.
- All plenary sessions will include language interpretation for participants in English, French, Spanish, and Russian.
- Information about confirmed speakers and additional sessions will be added to the agenda in the weeks ahead.
- Session details are subject to change.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 – AGM DAY 1

08:00–10:00	Registration
10:00–11:15	**Session 1 | Official Opening | Preparing for What's Next: New capacities for mineral governance in an interdependent economy** The global mineral economy is becoming increasingly interconnected and complex, with governments facing growing demands to strengthen their capacity to govern the mining sector effectively. This opening session sets the stage for discussions on the future of mineral governance, exploring the new skills, knowledge, and institutional capacities needed to respond to emerging challenges and opportunities. It will also mark the launch of the IGF Mining Academy, a new platform designed to support peer learning, training, and capacity development for government officials in the mining sector.
11:15–11:45	Break
11:45–13:00	**Session 2 | Governments as Enablers of Equitable Benefit Sharing: Building trust between mining companies and communities** This session will explore the role of governments in enabling equitable socioeconomic benefit sharing between mining companies and mining-affected communities through Community Development Agreements, Impact Benefit Agreements, community development funds, revenue-sharing mechanisms, and other forms of participatory planning. It will examine how governments can act as conveners, regulators, and guarantors of trust between companies and host communities, including Indigenous Peoples, youth, women and other groups whose rights, livelihoods, and expectations are directly affected by mining.
13:00–15:00	Lunch Break

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 – AGM DAY 1

14:00–14:45

Monday Afternoon Session | Hidden Vulnerabilities: Industrial chemicals and processing auxiliaries as strategic resources in global mineral value chains

This session will explore the industrial chemicals, reagents, and processing auxiliaries that underpin mineral extraction, refining, and manufacturing. Impacting multiple sectors and value chain segments simultaneously, they represent hidden vulnerabilities within industrial mineral value chains, wherein disruptions in their availability, price or transport can constrain mineral production, even where resources are abundant. Exploring the reverberating impacts of recent supply bottlenecks, the session will examine how dependencies on critical processing inputs shape mineral value chains in an increasingly fragmented and geopolitically complex world. Discussion will focus on where vulnerabilities are most acute, how producer governments and industry are responding, and what policy approaches can further strengthen industrial resilience.

15:00–16:15

Session 3 | Global Cooperation and Strategic Agreements in the Critical Minerals Era

The race for critical minerals has triggered a proliferation of bilateral agreements, memoranda of understanding, and government-to-government frameworks aimed at securing supply chains and directing investment into producing countries. These instruments are reshaping the governance landscape, but they are also emerging largely outside conventional structures, raising questions about coherence, transparency, and whether producing countries are getting equitable terms. As the number and variety of these deals grow, so does the need for a neutral space where governments can assess their implications, share experiences, and develop common approaches. This session will examine the impacts of these agreements in global mineral value chains and what implementation looks like in practice.

16:15–16:45

Break

16:45–18:00

Session 4 | Critical Choices: From analysis to actionable critical minerals strategies

Critical minerals strategies are not one-size-fits-all. As the geopolitical stakes increase, governments must move from identifying critical minerals to navigating trade-offs around sequencing, value chain development, and associated socio-economic and environmental impacts. Which minerals and industries should be prioritized? Where should limited resources be focused? How can countries balance extraction, value addition, regional cooperation, market access, environmental stewardship, and community expectations? Drawing on IGF's support to its member countries and regional blocs, this session will explore how governments can translate critical minerals ambitions into tailored, evidence-based, and implementable strategies.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 – AGM DAY 2

09:00–09:45	**Tuesday Morning Commodity Session | Gold in Focus: Emerging trends and policy considerations** This briefing session will explore gold's critical role in the global economy, examining production, reserves, and supply trends. Panelists will discuss evolving gold market dynamics, including changing demand patterns, price movements, supply outlooks, and emerging pressures across global supply chains. The discussion will cover key policy issues shaping the sector, including responsible sourcing requirements, traceability expectations, geopolitical risks, and strategies to strengthen supply chain resilience. Digging deeper, the panel will highlight opportunities and challenges for gold-producing countries, including economic gains, price volatility, governance challenges, and pathways for sustainable sectoral development.
10:00–11:15	**Session 5 | Where Nature Thrives, Communities Trust: Rethinking socioenvironmental performance in mining** This session will explore how effective management of environmental impacts, combined with inclusive community engagement, Indigenous stewardship and development of nature-positive initiatives in mining areas, can safeguard community well-being, and build trust in mining operations. Moving beyond mitigation, it will highlight how environmental stewardship can directly contribute to social outcomes, including gender equality, community health, secure ecosystem-dependent livelihoods, consent, and long-term social licence to operate. The session will identify lessons learned for integrating local and Indigenous knowledge of nature into mining policy, showcasing practical approaches to reducing environmental harm, restoring ecosystems, and generating shared benefits for communities.
11:15–11:45	Break
11:45–13:00	**Session 6 | Strengthening Social Performance: Harmonizing sustainability standards and mining policy (IGF-ICMM-OECD policy dialogue #2)** Governments increasingly face the question of how standards affect public policy and how they can be leveraged to attract responsible investment in mineral value chains. Focusing on social performance, this session will offer examples and space for discussion around how standards and public policy can complement each other to strengthen local trust around mining operations and licence to operate, addressing a key barrier to responsible mining investment. Following the first policy dialogue held at the OECD Critical Minerals Forum in Istanbul, the IGF, ICMM, and OECD are reconvening governments, industry, and civil society actors for a multistakeholder dialogue focused on advancing practical solutions and shared priorities.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 – AGM DAY 2

13:00–15:00	Lunch Break
14:00–14:45	**Tuesday Afternoon Session | When Trust Breaks Down: Preventing and managing disputes in the mining sector** In the critical minerals era, relationships between governments, investors, and communities are under increasing strain, and disputes in the mining sector are becoming both more frequent and more complex. This session examines the factors that give rise to these disputes and explores practical approaches to preventing and managing them throughout the life of a mining project. A multi-stakeholder panel will discuss recent experiences and emerging reform approaches, with particular attention to adaptive governance mechanisms such as periodic review and renegotiation, meaningful community engagement, and effective grievance mechanisms.
15:00–16:15	**Session 7 | Strategies for Developing Post-Mining Transition Governance Frameworks** The development and implementation of effective governance frameworks for the post-mining transition require a strategic, well-planned approach. This session will explore key stages of developing governance frameworks, from identifying the regulatory need and establishing a development team to leveraging IGF expertise, engaging stakeholders, and securing review, approval, and implementation. Case studies will include the development of a mine closure policy framework and guidelines to support the preparation of mine closure plans.
16:15–16:45	Break
16:45–18:00	**Session 8 | Beyond Risk: Managing mine waste and unlocking opportunities in remining tailings** From waste rock piles to active and legacy tailings ponds, this session will examine governance approaches that should be considered when reviewing, approving, and overseeing mine waste structures. The discussion will also explore regulatory frameworks and emerging opportunities for remining and reprocessing tailings.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 – AGM Day 3

09:00–09:45

Wednesday Morning Commodity Session | Silicon in Focus: A building block of the transition

This commodity-focused session will spotlight silicon as a critical building block of energy and digital transitions. From solar photovoltaics and semiconductors to aluminum alloys, silicones and advanced manufacturing, silicon underpins a rapidly expanding range of strategic industries. The session will examine current market dynamics and the outlook for silicon demand, including the sectors expected to drive future growth, evolving supply and processing capacity, geographic concentration of production, price trends and potential supply constraints. It will also explore how technological change, the energy transition and expanding digital infrastructure could reshape silicon markets and value chains in the years ahead, alongside the key environmental and social considerations associated with meeting growing demand.

10:00–11:15

Session 9 | Sustainability Risks at the Exploration Stage

Exploration activities can shape community relationships, environmental outcomes, and project viability long before a mine is developed. This session will examine the key sustainability risks that arise during exploration, including environmental impacts, community engagement, Indigenous rights, and transparency. It will also discuss how governments and companies can build trust early through responsible practices, clear communication, and effective oversight.

11:15–11:45

Break

11:45–13:00

Session 10 | Beyond Formalization: Moving toward more responsible artisanal and small-scale mining

While formalization remains central to artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) policy, many approaches have struggled to deliver lasting benefits. This session will explore how countries can move beyond compliance-driven models toward trust-based governance that makes legality practical, attractive, and economically rewarding. It will examine how responsible sourcing can create shared value for miners and communities while identifying practical policy approaches to strengthen environmental, social, and economic outcomes.

13:00–15:00

Lunch Break

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 – AGM Day 3

14:00–14:45

UNCTAD Session | From Recommendations to Action: Implementing the United Nations Secretary-General's agenda on critical energy transition minerals

The United Nations Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals released its report, Resourcing the Energy Transition: Principles to Guide Critical Energy Transition Minerals Towards Equity and Justice, in September 2024, setting guiding principles and actionable recommendations to promote more equitable, sustainable, and responsible governance of critical energy transition minerals. Implementation of these recommendations formally began in December 2025 with the establishment of the United Nations Task Force on Critical Energy Transition Minerals, an inter-agency platform bringing together over 20 UN entities, to drive coordinated action across the UN system. This session presents the progress made to date, highlighting key initiatives, consultations with stakeholders and rights holders to define priorities and operational pathways, emerging results, and next steps in translating the Panel's recommendations into concrete actions that support a just and sustainable energy transition.

15:00–16:15

Session 11 | State Participation in Mining: Models, opportunities, and trade-offs

As governments seek to capture greater value from their mineral resources, many are looking beyond taxes and royalties and exploring more direct forms of participation in the mining sector. But what models of state participation are available, and under what conditions do they deliver value? This session will examine different approaches to state participation—including state equity ownership, carried interests, national mining companies, strategic partnerships, and innovative financing arrangements. It will also explore the opportunities, risks, and governance challenges associated with each. Drawing on country experiences, participants will discuss how these models can support long-term value creation, particularly in the context of critical minerals. They will also share experiences of public officials sitting in board meetings and discuss whether such approaches can improve trust and help deliver long-term financial returns.

16:15–16:45

Break

16:45–18:00

Session 12 | Official Closing | The Future of Mineral Value Chains: Embedding trust through benefit sharing

As demand for minerals grows, so do expectations that mineral wealth should deliver tangible benefits to people through jobs, economic diversification, stronger local industries, and shared prosperity. At the same time, governments face difficult choices about how to position their countries in increasingly complex and interdependent global value chains. This session will explore how value-addition strategies can contribute to more inclusive and resilient mineral value chains while building trust that mineral development is delivering real benefits to citizens and communities. Participants will discuss how to translate mineral endowments into long-term economic and social development in an interconnected world.