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**Mining Book Launch – Global Challenges for Innovation in Mining  
Industries**

organized by  
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

**Geneva, June 21, 2022**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

*prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO*

Venue

WIPO Geneva Headquarters, 34, chemin des Colombettes, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland,  
Room A

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

14.00 – 14.10 **Welcome address**

Mr. Marco M. Alemán, Assistant Director General, IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector (IES), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva

14.10 – 14:25 **Global challenges for innovation in mining industries**

Mr. David Humphreys, Honorary Lecturer, Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP), University of Dundee, Dundee United Kingdom

Ms. Giulia Valacchi, WIPO Consultant, Department for Economics and Data Analytics (DEDA), IES, WIPO, Geneva

14.25 – 15:40 **How can innovation in mining promote the energy transition?**

Moderator: Mr. Julio Raffo, Head, Innovation Economy Section, DEDA, IES, WIPO, Geneva

Panelists: Mr. Eduardo Bitran Colodro, Professor, Engineering School, University Adolfo Ibañez, Santiago de Chile

Ms. Pamela Chávez Crooker, Biotech Researcher and Entrepreneur, Founder of Aguamarina and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Domolif, Santiago de Chile

Ms. Joëlle Noailly, Head of Research of the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES), Lecturer, International Economics, Graduate Institute of Geneva, and Associate Professor in Environmental Economics at the Vrije Universiteit (VU), Amsterdam

Mr. José Ignacio Noguera, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, GCM Mining, Medellín, Colombia

Mr. Carl Weatherell, Executive Director and CEO, Canada Mining Innovation Council (CMIC), Ottawa, Canada

15.40 – 15:55 **Questions and comments**

15.55 – 16:00 **Closing remarks**

Background:

**How can innovation in mining promote the energy transition?**

Meeting the world's mineral needs while staving off the effects of mineral depletion and controlling mining costs requires constant innovation in the mining sector; Innovation for the discovery of new mineral deposits, innovation for improving mineral recoveries, innovation in mineral transportation, and innovation in the safe disposal of mineral wastes. A raft of new digital Industry 4.0 technologies, including satellite imaging, the Internet of things (IoT) and increased automation, have the potential to add new impetus to mining's quest for innovation.

Innovation has a critical contribution to make to the energy transition. Innovation is required in the deployment of metals in the wind turbines, solar panels, battery systems and power distribution networks that the energy transition implies. However, no less importantly, innovation is required to improve the identification and recovery of these metals in an efficient and environmentally responsible manner.

A new book\*, sponsored by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), provides a global overview of the state of innovation in the mining sector today. Using WIPO's unique database on mining-related patents and drawing on the expertise of researchers in countries around the world, the study provides an in-depth look at who is innovating, what motivates innovation, what are the major targets of innovation as well as providing case studies from several important mining countries.

The meeting will focus on the role of innovation in mining and explore the role that it has to play promoting the energy transition through providing a cost-effective supply of the minerals the energy transition requires.

The discussion will address:

- Is innovation in mining taking place at a pace sufficient to meet the competing pressures from rising demand and mineral depletion? Are Industry 4.0 technologies delivering?
- Which areas of innovation offer the greatest potential to address the challenges posed by the need for the industry to decarbonize and to manage waste streams more effectively? What is needed for a breakthrough?
- How do we create an enabling environment for innovation in mining? What are the most promising models of innovation support and cooperation? What is the appropriate role of government?

\* **Global Challenges for Innovation in Mining Industries**  
edited by Alica Daly, David Humphreys, Julio Raffo and Giulia Valacchi  
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press – WIPO, 2022



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