

mm&P

mines minerals & PEOPLE

Constitution

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Preamble: The Basis for Unified Action

The Exponential increase of mining has left a deep scar on many areas and in the psyche of the people. The economic development model pursued and its consequent drive to higher consumption levels is increasing the threat of mining induced impoverishment among a large section of the society. While environment is being incessantly degraded, the current processes and institutional mechanism are designed to exploit the local communities, the workers and even the State. Increasingly, in its urgency to liberalise the economy, the State is too playing a helping hand in this impoverishment. Realising this situation a number of groups and affected communities have come together in the past five years and on the basis of these interactions a formal basis for the alliance is being dawn up:

- ***mm&P*** directs all its efforts with the Constitutional framework of the Country in its true spirit;
- ***mm&P*** recognizes that efforts needed in pre-mining, mining and post mining situations are varied
- ***mm&P*** will endeavor to bring together complementary skills to address various issues;
- ***mm&P*** recognizes that the alliance has to traverse beyond barriers of individual institutions and focus on the specific concerns and larger implications.
- ***mm&P*** considers that mining could be the last option in terms of land use as every region has scope for building its economy on the basis of the surface resources, if managed optimally.

Article 1) Name & Symbol

- Section 1) The Alliance will be known as *mines minerals & PEOPLE*, and *mm&P* in short. Hence forward for the purpose of this Constitution to be referred to as the Alliance
- Section 2) The symbol for the Alliance is the abbreviation *mm&P* and full name *mines minerals & PEOPLE*

Article 2) mm&P Secretariat

- Section 1) Location of Alliance secretariat will be decided by Executive Council
- Section 2) The Alliance Secretariat will be managed by an Office Staff, comprising of a team of persons the number and responsibilities of whom will decided by the Executive Council.

Article 3) mm&P New Delhi Centre

- Section 1) The Executive Council shall also maintain the New Delhi Centre as the Capital Centre

Article 4) Membership

- Section 1) There will be two types of membership in the alliance.
- a) Struggle group membership: comprise of the Groups directly working at the grassroots, groups working on mining issues, workers cooperatives, Artisan groups and Labour group from the unorganized sector.
- The membership fees for this type is Rs 50/- annually to be paid for a term of two years.
- b) Support Group membership: These are members who comprise of NGO's, Individuals, Fraternal Alliances, Academics, Lawyers, Media people, Trade Unions etc.
- The membership fees will be 500/- Rupees to be paid for a term of two years.

Both types of members will have voting rights.

Section 2)

- 1) The first batch of members will be all those who participated in any of the Three National Conventions or the 7 regional Conventions held so far.
- 2) Membership in the Alliance is only on invitation of Executive Council and supported by two members from the region and to be ratified by the General Assembly.
- 3) Removal of Membership:
Members who do not abide by the Constitution can be terminated from the membership by the Executive Council. Based on 2/3rd majority in the Executive council.

Article 5) The General Assembly

- Section 1) General Assembly will be the highest body of the Alliance.
- Section 2) It should meet once in 2 year for a minimum of two days. One day should be set aside for the Business and Organisational matters. The other day should be set aside for the discussing strategies and programmes of the Alliance.
- Section 3) The quorum for all meetings will be one third.
- Section 4) Every members of the Alliance will send two delegates to the General Assembly but will have only one vote for member.

Article 6) The Executive Council

- Section 1) The General Assembly will elect an Executive Council from among its members, for a term of two years.
- Section 2) The Executive Council will appoint the Chairperson and from among the Executive members.

- a) The Executive council will also appoint conveners as per requirement and one of the conveners will be exclusively responsible for handling all financial matters of the alliance.
 - b) The conveners should be appointed from among the Executive Council only.
- Section 3) No person can be a member of the Executive Council for more than two consecutive terms.
- Section 4) The suggested number for the Executive Council is a minimum of Fifteen and a maximum of Twenty one persons
- Section 5) The composition of the Executive Council must have a proper, fair and proportionate representation from among the members of the General Assembly
- Section 6) The Executive Council will meet not less than 4 times per year preferably in different regions.
- Section 7) The Executive Council members may be recalled by one third of the general Assembly after registering a complaint with the Chairperson and on the placement of scrutiny report of a disciplinary committee to the Executive Council.
- Section 8) The chairperson and Executive members will represent or delegate members of the Working Team along with relevant members of the Alliance, where the Alliance has been invited to participate in i.e. Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and other training programmes.
- Section 9) The Executive Council, Conveners, Working Team or any member of the Alliance will not represent a member organisation at any negotiation unless authorized to by the member organisation.

Article 7) The Working Team

- Section 1) The Working Team will be comprise of The Convener, the staff recruited by the Executive Council and their term will be for a period of two years
- Section 2) The Working Team can also comprise of ordinary members of mm&P and such groups or individuals working on the specific subject.
- Section 3) The Working Team will be responsible for the implementing of the decisions taken in the General Assembly.
- Section 4) The Working team will work under the instruction of the Executive Council.

Article 8)

- Section 1) Chairs the meetings of the General Assembly, the Executive Council, and the Working Team.
- Section 2) The Chairperson will be the official Spokesperson for the alliance
- Section 3) Supervise the implementation of the activities of the Alliance with the help of Executive Council and the Working team.

Article 9) Amendment to the Constitution

- Section 1) The General Assembly is the highest body of the Alliance and the authorized body to make any amendments to this Constitution
- Section 2) Amendment to this Constitution is allowed by a vote of 2/3 of the members of the General Assembly.
- Section 3) All request and suggestions for Amendments shall be first submitted in writing to the Chairperson at least one month prior to the General Assembly.

Article 10) The Advisory Council

Section 1) The Executive Council may if it finds it necessary appoint an Advisory Council of experts from different professions i.e. Geologist, Social Medicine, Indigenous and Dalit matters, Lawyers, etc They can be from within or outside of the membership base of the Alliance.

Article 11) Assets and Resources

Section 1) The alliance will not acquire any asset and these if required will be provided and retained by the constituent organization.

Section 2) No financial resources on behalf of Alliance shall be raised by any member without the permission of the Executive Council.