

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rwanda Mines, Petroleum and Gas Board (RMB) has received complaints at various times regarding conflicts arising from subcontracting arrangements made between license holders and other individuals or parties seeking to invest in the mining sector to enhance mine productivity.

The recurring issues stem from poor management leading to fraud, treachery, and a lack of knowledge.

Such subcontracting arrangement is a harmful practice where some license holders delegate their rights and responsibilities granted by the license to other individuals/parties through leasing these licenses, which is illegal under the law and regulations governing the mining sector.

After reviewing information from various sources, including miners, RMB reminds all miners and mineral traders that such subcontracting practice is illegal and detrimental to the mining sector. Those who obtain mining rights through such means often operate without complying with standards, leading to environmental devastation, employing unskilled workers with inadequate equipment, and causing disputes with local communities over damaged or encroached properties without compensation. Such practices also include evading authorities and engaging in other harmful activities. In some cases, subcontractors make significant but improper investments due to fear of legal consequences.

However, when subcontracting is not intended to rent licenses but aims to assist the license holder in gaining financial or technical support to conduct mining and trading activities, it must be reported to RMB.

RMB emphasizes that mining operators found leasing or engaging in unlawful subcontracting of licenses will face severe penalties, including license revocation. License holders are reminded of their responsibility to safeguard and develop their concessions.

Done at Kigali, on 01/8 /2024

KAMANZI Francis
Chief Executive Officer

