Dear Directors,

We have learned that tomorrow, 26 October 2010, the Board of EBRD Directors will be hearing the question of Centerra Gold. The information about Centerra's efforts to receive new funding from EBRD for its Kumtor Project was confirmed on 15 October 2010 by the Bishkek Office of EBRD. In summer we were in correspondence with Kevin Bortz, EBRD director for Natural Resources, about enduring environmental and social problems of the Kumtor Project. Mr Bortz confirmed the possibility of engaging with Centerra Gold at a group level and assured us that any such project would need to be in compliance with the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy, which means transparency and public consultations.

We are sorry to inform you that no such consultations have been held. The public in Kyrgyzstan should be given enough time to carry out the consultation process with integrity and credibility. We believe that EBRD is sincere when it says it wants to improve the life of the people of our region. A hasty approach to the consultations, not to mention an option of "no consultation" will not only substantially limits the value of these proceedings, but will also undermine the EBRD credibility.

On the other hand, the title - "Centerra Revolving Debt" - may have a purpose to identify this proposal as an "old" project that would mean reduced or no obligations to undergo public consultations and EIA. But Kevin Bortz was quite definite - both during the AGM in Zagreb and in his letter, when he explained that EBRD was "considering engaging in a possible new project with Centerra Gold".

We, therefore, request you to decline any proposal by the EBRD management to present you this project without preliminary public consultations and comments. It is absolutely imperative to ensure that the consultations actually represent an opportunity for all stakeholders to make their opinions clearly heard by the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Kalia Moldogazieva, Center for Human Development "Tree of Life",
Natalia Ablova, Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law,
Anara Dautalieva, NGO "Taza Tabigat",
Erkingul Imankojoeva, NGO "Karek",
Gulnara Jurabaeva, Center "Interbilim"