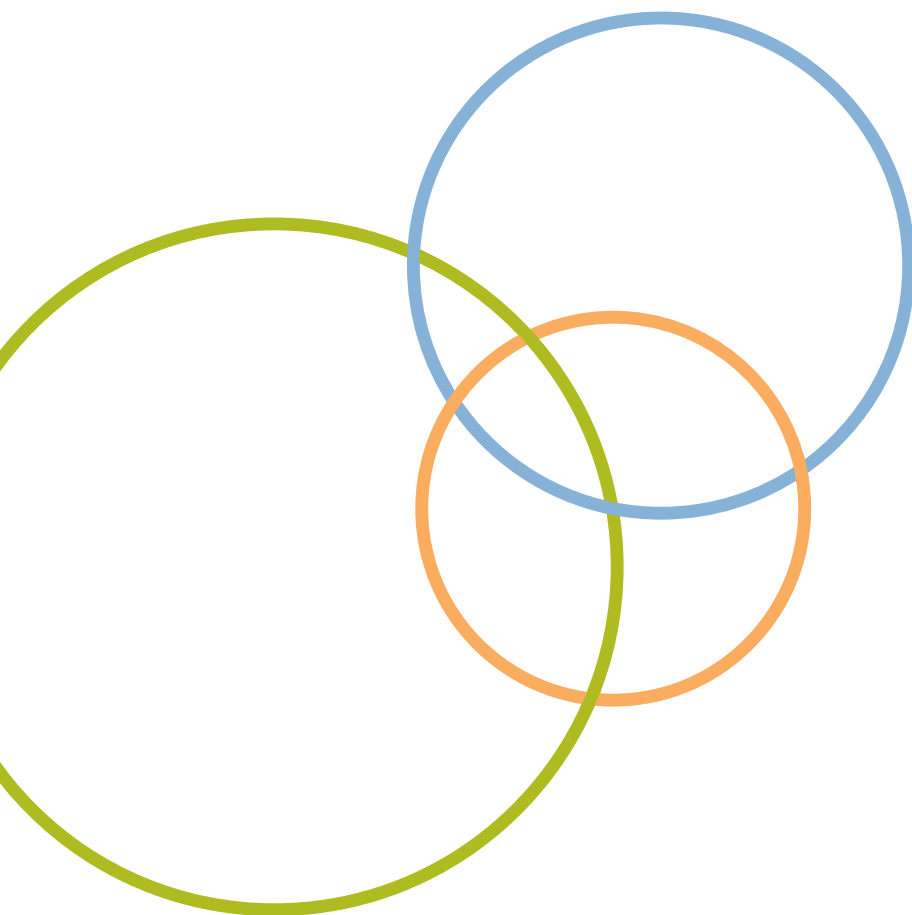


**RIO
TINTO**

Our key relationships

A guide for Group businesses



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Rio Tinto operates in an increasingly competitive and complex world. There are a multitude of influences that can affect our ability and our licence to operate.

We take a highly professional approach to Public Affairs. We recognise that the quality of our relationships with political, industry and civil society stakeholders plays a crucial role in protecting and enhancing both Rio Tinto's short and long term value and reputation.

We have developed an extensive but focused network of external relationships and this document provides a brief description of those. The objective of this publication is to ensure that the basics of these relationships are understood around the Group so that maximum benefit can be derived from them.

This document focuses on the principal international, regional and national relationships that have been developed to meet specific business objectives. We receive and reject numerous approaches from many organisations because they do not coincide with our objectives and we constantly review and prioritise our existing relationships. I do encourage business units to adopt a similarly focused approach to their own similar relationships.

The intended audience for this publication is managing directors and other external affairs practitioners around the Group to help ensure that they are aware of these relationships, the reasons behind them and so that they can be utilised where appropriate.

Andrew Vickerman

London, June 2005

Industry associations and representative bodies

The National Mining Association (NMA) - www.nma.org

The voice of the American mining industry in Washington, D.C., represents the interests of mining to Congress, the Administration, federal agencies, the judiciary and the media.

Global Mining Initiative (GMI) – www.icmm.com/gmi.php

The GMI, concluded in 2002, was an industry leadership programme to develop a sustainable development model for the mining, minerals and metals industry, through an independent analysis of key issues (MMSD), a global conference on mining, metals and sustainable development (Toronto May 2002) and the creation of an industry association, the ICMM (see following).

International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) – www.icmm.com

ICMM members believe that the mining, minerals and metals industry acting collectively can best ensure its continued access to land capital and market as well as build trust and respect by demonstrating its ability to contribute successfully to sustainable development. ICMM provides a common platform for the industry to share challenges and responsibilities as well as to engage with key constituencies on issues of common concern at the international level, based on science and principles of sustainable development. See www.icmm.com/newsletter for further details of work programmes, good practice website and working group meetings.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) – www.iccwbo.org

The ICC is the voice of world business championing the global economy as a force for economic growth, job creation and prosperity. ICC activities cover a broad spectrum from arbitration and dispute resolution to making the case for open trade and the market economy system, business self-rights fighting corruption and combating commercial crime. Rio Tinto's membership is through the ICC UK national committee – www.iccuk.net

Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) – www.minerals.org.au

The MCA is the principal industry organisation representing Australian exploration, mining and minerals processing industry, nationally and internationally, in its contribution to sustainable development and society. Its strategic role centres around promoting leading operational principles and practices, engagement with opinion leaders and stakeholders and public policy advocacy. The Australian Minerals Industry Code for Environmental Management commits organisations to integration of environmental, social and economic considerations into management, consistent with the goals of sustainable development.

World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) – www.wbcd.org

The WBCSD is a coalition of 170 international companies united by a shared commitment to sustainable development through economic growth, ecological balance and social progress. It provides business leadership as a catalyst for change towards a sustainable development and promotes the role of eco-efficiency, innovation and corporate social responsibility. Its direction is focused on business leadership, policy development, best practice and global outreach.

World Economic Forum (WEF) – www.weforum.org

The WEF is a global community of business, political, intellectual and other leaders of society committed to improving the state of the world. The forum is an independent international organisation not for profit foundation engaged in sectoral work projects. Rio Tinto supports the annual WEF Global Corporate Citizenship Statement.

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) related memberships

Deakin University Corporate Citizenship Unit (Australia) – www.deakin.edu.au/ccr

Rio Tinto has a research partnership with the Corporate Citizenship Research Unit (CCRU) of Deakin University, Melbourne. The partnership focuses on researching CSR trends and issues in Australia and internationally and conducting analysis and review of Rio Tinto's corporate partnership programme.

International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF) – www.iblf.org

The IBLF is a not for profit organisation established to promote responsible business practices that benefit business and society and that contribute to sustainable developments. Rio Tinto supports a unique course in cross sector partnership, developed and delivered by the University of Cambridge Programme for Industry and the IBLF. The postgraduate certificate course attracts participants from a broad range of sectors from around the world.

Transparency International (TI) – www.transparency.org

TI is an international non government organisation devoted to combating corruption bringing civil society, business and governments together in a powerful global coalition. TI raises awareness about the damaging effects of corruption, advocates policy reform, works towards implementation of conventions and monitors compliance. It focuses on prevention and reform of systems to make long term gains against corruption. Rio Tinto is a member of TI's Steering Committee for the Business Principles for Countering Bribery.

United Nations Global Compact – www.unglobalcompact.org

The UN Secretary General launched the Global Compact initiative in 2000 to bring companies together with UN agencies, labour organisations and civil society to support ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. The compact is a voluntary corporate citizenship initiative with the objectives of embedding the ten principles into business activities around the world and to motivate actions in support of UN goals. Rio Tinto was an early endorser of the Global Compact and communicates its progress against the Compact Principles each year. Additionally, Rio Tinto is a member of the UK Global Compact Forum.

Corporate partnerships

Rio Tinto's partnership programme develops business based strategic alliances with selected community, not for profit and other organisations. The programme aims to position the Group and its businesses within targeted stakeholder networks through joint activities that add legitimate value to both the business and the partnering organisation.

Australian Museum

The Australian Museum is one of Australia's leading natural history and scientific institutions, with specialist expertise in biodiversity.

The partnership involving Rio Tinto Australia, Rio Tinto's Western Australia businesses through the WA Future Fund, and Coal & Allied, aims to increase knowledge of biodiversity and develop new ways to apply this information to natural resource management. The partnership includes documenting native species, identifying areas of conservation significance, developing an on line biodiversity mapping programme and encouraging community participation in biodiversity research.

Australian Science Innovations (ASI)

Rio Tinto and the ASI have been working together to develop and promote science education in Australia since 1997. Over the next few years, the focus will be on further development of the Rio Tinto Big Science Competition a science initiative open to every secondary school student throughout Australia. The programme aims to showcase the importance and relevance of science and technology and give students at all secondary levels an opportunity to discover an interest or talent in science.

BirdLife International

The partnership aims to enhance the conservation of birds and their habitats globally, in the context of sustainable development, and seeks to improve knowledge and interest in birds as indicators of environmental health throughout Rio Tinto's operations; improve habitats for birds at Rio Tinto sites; contribute to wider conservation initiatives; and link with local communities on conservation matters. Annual birdwatching events are held at Rio Tinto's operating sites.

Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) (Australia)

CAT is a not for profit organisation that researches, develops and implements appropriate technologies and delivers technical training to Indigenous people living in remote communities in Australia. The partnership, aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness of science and technology in indigenous communities, includes a targeted employee fellowship programme. The programme enables Rio Tinto to gain a greater understanding of the challenges facing remote indigenous communities, while giving CAT access to specialist technology, engineering and planning skills that reside in Group businesses in Australia.

Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA)

CVA is a not for profit organisation that recruits volunteers from Australia and around the world to work on a range of practical, on the ground conservation projects. The partnership was formed in recognition of growing community interest in both conservation and volunteering. The partnership aims to develop programmes and tools that help raise the standard of management of volunteer based conservation work around the world. CVA also has a number of relationships with Rio Tinto businesses, where new practices are being applied to manage volunteers on conservation projects around Rio Tinto sites.

Dundee University Centre for Petroleum, Energy and Mineral Law and Policy (UK)

The CEPMLP is a leading international academic institution providing postgraduate teaching and research in mineral law, policy and economics. Both Rio Tinto and the CEPMLP are enhancing the role of law in the context of sustainable development and appropriate regulatory structures. Rio Tinto supports postgraduate scholarships for lawyers from relevant countries.

Earthwatch Institute

Earthwatch has developed the most extensive scientific field research programme in the world. The long standing partnership between Earthwatch and Rio Tinto is focused on the Group biodiversity strategy. Programme activity includes the development of biodiversity management performance processes and measures, site based research and community capacity building.

Eden Project (UK)

The Eden Project, in Cornwall, south west England, is an educational visitor attraction devoted to promoting the sustainable use of the planet's resources. The project was developed on the site of a depleted china clay pit and is an example of sustainable post mining regeneration. The partnership has established programmes to develop a Global Centre for Post Mining Regeneration and an exhibit on copper which aims to illustrate the dependence of humans on metals and minerals.

Fauna and Flora International (FFI)

Founded in 1903, FFI is the world's longest established international conservation body. It acts to conserve threatened species and eco-systems worldwide, choosing solutions that are sustainable, based on sound science, and taking account of human needs. Through the partnership, both Rio Tinto and FFI aim to improve understanding of the links between sustainable economic development and biodiversity issues from a social and environmental perspective.

Royal Botanic Gardens (UK)

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is a scientific amenity and educational organisation devoted to increasing knowledge and public understanding of plant diversity. The partnership was established in 2001, and aims to enhance and achieve improved environmental management through practical scientific work and increased awareness of biodiversity and conservation within the context of sustainable development.

United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre was established in 2000 as the world biodiversity information and assessment centre of the United Nations Environment Programme. As a significant global land manager, Rio Tinto is an active user of the biodiversity information and interpretative expertise of UNEP – WCHC.

Worldwide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF)

Rio Tinto and World Wide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF) signed a formal partnership agreement in late 1999, building on a long standing relationship between the two organisations. The partnership sought to develop a programme around frog conservation in Australia – WWF Frogs! – which included the support of research, community outreach and education initiatives as well as the facilitation of a cohesive national network of frog specialists and enthusiasts. The programme reached a successful end in September 2004. Rio Tinto and WWF Australia have agreed to continue working together on issues of mutual interest and concern, including the identification and implementation of joint water projects.

The Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry

In June 2002, Rio Tinto entered into an agreement with the Australian Federal Government to create a management framework for research and technical development focused on the sustainable development issues facing resource businesses, to locate that capability in Australia, and to manage activities under the framework of the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry.

The foundation is an initiative involving federal government funding of A\$35 million, by way of an interest free loan to Rio Tinto. Rio Tinto intends to contribute a similar level of funding. The foundation seeks to support research and technical development that will help the minerals industry face the challenges of sustainable development, with a particular emphasis on environmental goals.

Government affairs

Rio Tinto maintains government affairs networks in Australia, Canada, UK/Europe and the US. These encourage regular liaison with business unit government affairs practitioners and coordinate meetings and issues with federal governments.

Rio Tinto government affairs advisers provide regular monitoring and advice to business units on public policy, government contacts and regulatory developments likely to affect operations or products. Advisers strengthen relationships with government and cross party parliamentary influences and engage them on a range of Rio Tinto related issues from trade liberalisation and corporate governance to climate change and tax issues. They brief government departments on Rio Tinto's global operations and interests and maintain active participation in key industry associations to ensure Rio Tinto's views are well considered.

Rio Tinto's federal and supranational government affairs advisers are based in London, Melbourne and Washington.

Stakeholder Database

Rio Tinto has developed a stakeholder communications software tool which is available to all Group businesses. The database tool has been developed to support strategic and targeted stakeholder communications. The basic function of the database is the identification, selection and categorisation of opinion leaders for the purposes of efficiently targeting and distributing key messages about the business and its activities. The database is actively managed and supported by the Melbourne office.



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