**FORUM:** Environment Commission

**QUESTION OF:** Measures for Mitigating Environmental Destruction Caused by Nickel Mining on New Caledonia Island

**MAIN SUBMITTER:** Sudan

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** Peru, Iceland, United Kingdom, China, Saudi Arabia, Niger, Japan, Angola, Djibouti, Libya

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION,

*Notice* that New Caledonia relies heavily on nickel mining where it contributes to 5.6% of global nickel production, 20% of its GDP, and 90% of its exports,

*Deeply concern* the current situation of the reduction of natural habitats and biodiversity resulting from the release of harmful substances due to nickel mining,

*Aware of* the presence that nickel is an essential metal that plays a significant role in various industries and everyday life, which is why New Caledonia heavily relies on nickel mining,

*Concerned* that nickel mining is causing unexpectedly high levels of multiple substances in rivers and lakes,

*Recognize* that the need for nickel increases as the use of electrical vehicles increases since nickel is essential in manufacturing batteries which increases the energy density in the batteries,

1. Suggests the development of alternative materials or research support for the substitution of nickel, such as but not limited to:
	1. suggesting some material intended to replace nickel that is less environmentally harmful and cost-effective including but not limited to:
		1. lithium,
		2. iron,
	2. supporting for global researchers developing materials that can substitute for nickel but not limited to:
		1. the researchers who are in action in Texas, the research team led by a Korean scholar currently affiliated with a university in Texas has developed lithium-sulfur batteries, which can serve as an alternative material to nickel, a key component in electric vehicles,
		2. France government team is well known for its long-term objective of reducing environmental pollution and producing nickel in an environmentally friendly manner;
2. Recommends an Ecological Restoration Program to Restore the Ecosystem of the Region, such means but not limited to:
	1. utilizing rapidly growing plants to restore ecosystems that have been polluted due to mining activities through ways such as but not limited to:
		1. an educational program was implemented to encourage local students to engage in tree-planting campaigns, utilizing example plants such as Epipremnum aureum and Anthurium,
		2. planting the original plant which was in that region for the restoration of the original state,
	2. strengthening the system for recycling items made of nickel that have been previously used, such as but not limited to:
		1. promotion activities should be equipped so that people can gain a thorough understanding of this system,
		2. creating policies that encourage the recycling of nickel so that individuals will comply;

1. Highly encourages to establish compensation programs to assist residents impacted by nickel mining and encourage their participation in environmental protection activities, including but not limited to:
	1. conducting education on the impacts of nickel mining in collaboration with residents:
		1. engaging teachers who conduct activities tailored to the developmental level of elementary school students, thereby providing an opportunity for a more in-depth understanding of nickel mining,
		2. teachers should effectively guide middle and high school students in acquiring knowledge related to nickel mining,
	2. making a Public service advertisement that encourages people to reduce the use of nickel;
2. Invite experts to find innovations for reducing nickel and improve the machines used during the nickel mining that cause pollution but not limited to:
	1. providing financial support to experts:
		1. get financial support from NGOs what organization to support economically,
		2. get donations from citizens by spreading awareness, make the department for experts who work to reduce nickel,
	2. providing a department for the experts in the UN that for experts who search the new ways to innovate the technology in nickel mining;
3. Calls to attention about electrical vehicle batteries consuming nickel, which causes more nickel mining but not limited to:
	1. encourage more people in developed countries to travel through public transportation services or non-motorized transportation methods to reduce the use of vehicle batteries through ways such as:
		1. decreasing the payment required for public transportation services, so that more people will choose public transportation,
		2. advertise public transportation services through social media so that more people will acknowledge their benefits,
	2. promote more construction of infrastructure related to public transportation which provides convenience for people, such as:
		1. railroads,
		2. subway lanes;
4. Recommend UN to make policies and organizations to help the regions, including New Caledonia, that the economic system relies too much on nickel mining and restrain nickel mining but not limited to:
	1. making an organization that provides funding for people in regions that rely too much on nickel mining from highly developed countries or an NGO,
	2. UN makes policies to restrain nickel mining:
		1. if the nickel export limit is exceeded, more taxation will be imposed,
		2. make a policy to restrict the use of nickel by companies;
5. Strongly encourage the governments in nickel mining countries to compensate their residents who live in regions polluted by nickel mining and get harmed because of that but not limited to:
	1. establishing shelters within nickel-mining regions for residents to avoid being affected by pollution caused by nickel-mining,
	2. supporting the Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission, known as the ​Administrative Compensation has a deliberation and decision-making process in place, so citizens who have suffered damages may submit a compensation application to the District Review Committee and, consequently, receive compensation accordingly,
	3. supporting the initiation of a civil lawsuit for state compensation directly in the competent court without going through the decision of the aforementioned Compensation Deliberation Council, in accordance with the principle of mandatory pre-litigation decision-making.