



# Mining Tax Incentives: Pre, During, and Post COVID-19

Secretariat hosted by

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# **Key Messages:**

- 1. Pre-COVID: tax incentives are less relevant to attracting mining investment.
- 2. During COVID: mining not uniformly affected any incentives must be targeted.
- 3. Post-COVID: re-think mining fiscal policy to re-build developing country finances.



# **Pre-COVID**







### Tax incentives are ineffective

- Mineral resources are location-specific and cannot be moved.
- Quality of the resource, access, and prices are primary drivers of mining investment.
- Consequently, mining investment is less mobile and responsive to tax incentives.





# Yet, they are prevalent

Figure 1. Mining tax incentives by region (IGF mining tax incentives database)

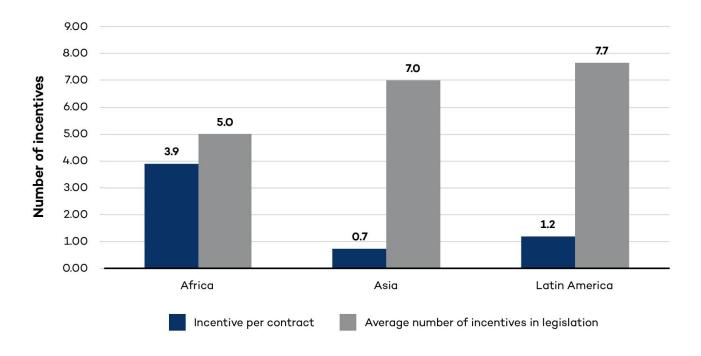
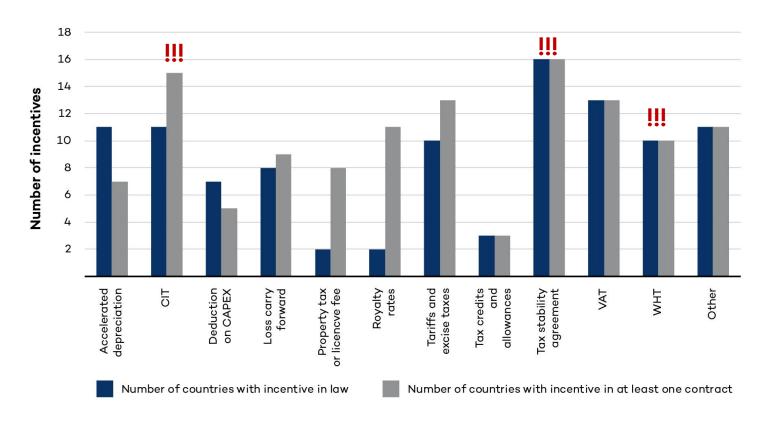




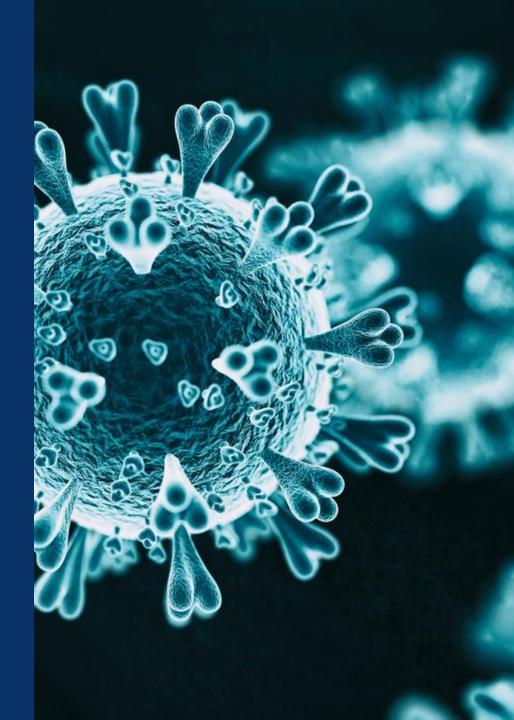


Figure 2. Mining tax incentives by type





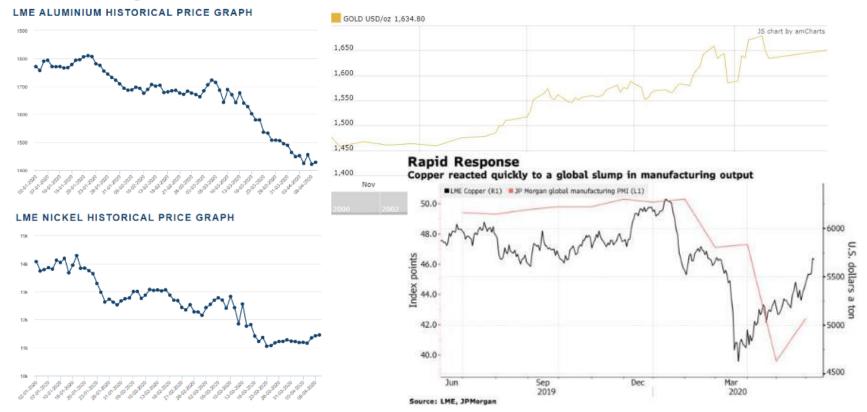
# **During-COVID**







# Mining not uniformly affected







# Limited instances of specific relief

#### South Australia halts fees for mineral exploration licences

Nickolas Zakharia



The South Australian Government has cut all exploration and licence fees in the minerals sector to soften the blow of the inclustry's coronavirus. containment procedures.

The fee relief will extend the due date for licenses until the 31 December 2020.

Kellarco copper-gold project erus

Latest News

Kalamazoo to uncover exploration potential of Ashburton

UPDATE 1-Zambia to suspend import duty on mineral concentrates, export duty on precious metals

(Adds quotes, more details)

LUSAKA, March 27 (Reuters) - Zambia will suspend import duty on mineral concentrates and export duty on precious metals as part of measures to support the economy amid the global coronavirus pandemic, Finance Minister Bwalya Ng'andu said on Friday.





## Not out of the woods yet...

- Any tax relief should be targeted.
  - Know your industry / commodity
  - Phase of production
  - Size of workforce
- Conditions should be set quid pro quo
  - Government equity participation / loan
  - Retain workers
  - Abandon tax avoidance arrangements
- Pre-payment of royalties and taxes?



Natural Resource Fiscal Regimes: Tax Policy Response<sup>1</sup>





### **CAPEX** down, but will resume

- Down by 19 percent in 2020.
- Containment + uncertainty + finance.
- New investment will be critical post-COVID.
- Some companies requesting tax cuts.

Company -	Original capex (\$m)	Revised capex (\$m)	Capex % change	Original production	Revised production	Production % change
Anglo American (carats m)	5,250	4,250	-19.1%	33	26	-21.2%
Anglo American (palladium)	82	1923	8	1.4	1.1	-21.49
Anglo American (platinum moz)		resi	81	2.1	1.6	-23,89
Anglopiat (PGMs moz)	386	330	-14.5%	4.4	3.35	-28.99
Antofagasta	1,500	1,300	-13.3%		88	-
First Quantum Minerals (copper kt)	850	675	-20.6%	855	780	-8.8%
First Quantum Minerals (gold koz)	84	889	8	290	260	-10.3%
Freeport-McMoRan (copper mt)	2,800	2,000	-28.6%	1.6	1.4	-12.5%
Glencore (copper mt)	5,500	4,250	-22.7%	1.3	1.25	-3.8%
Lundin Mining (copper kt)	620	440	-29.0%	284	278.5	-1.9%
Newmont Goldcorp (moz)	1,525	1,225	-19.7%	6,4	6	-6.3%
Norilsk Nickel	2,650	2,350	-11.3%		25	
Norsk	952	757	-20.5%	8	9	9
Rio Tinto (copper kt)	7,000	5,500	-21.4%	550	497	-9.6%
Sibanye Stillwater	270	210	-22.2%	8		5
Vale (copper kt)	5,000	4,600	-B.0%	400	370	-7.5%
Vale (iron ore mt)	12		¥	347	320	-7.8%
Vale (nickel kt)	9	(2)	2	205	187.5	-8.5%
Total capex cuts (\$m)	34,303	27,887				
Total copper production cuts (mt)				4.98	4.60	





### **Avoid incentives**

- Comparatively unscathed, or better off.
- Investors will return as markets stabilise and finance becomes available.





# **Post-COVID**







# Global impetus for mining tax reform

- Some countries considering mining tax increases (e.g. Ghana).
- General trend towards higher mining taxes.
- Mining has been relatively resilient.
- Falling oil revenues place further pressure on mining revenues.





### The Future of Resource Taxation









Are governments able to maximise revenues from mining under the dominant fiscal regime (royalties and taxes)?

How are changes in the industry likely to impact taxation, and what are the implications for future fiscal regimes?

- Automation
- Demand for energy minerals
- Environmental policies

# THANK YOU

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