



**ANGLO**GOLDASHANTI

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## Press Statement

### AngloGold Ashanti Ghana update on Ghana Minerals Commission directive

**Accra, 10 October 2016** – AngloGold Ashanti Ghana is currently monitoring the outcome of the Ghana Minerals Commission directive issued last week that all illegal miners will vacate the company's Obuasi concession by latest Monday, October 10 2016. At this point, we cannot confirm whether this movement will happen or is feasible by today.

The fact remains that for over eight months, thousands of illegal miners have operated at AngloGold Ashanti Ghana's concession without fear of consequence, endangering lives and causing irreparable damage to Obuasi's ore body. The situation is all the more tragic in that at least 130 of these miners are estimated to have died in accidents since the initial invasion in early February. Unless and until the concession areas are fully cleared of illegal mining activity and the company can assess the damage caused, the company remains subject to a state of force majeure as, as declared in February 2016 at the outset of the incursion.

The Government of Ghana has made similar claims before, but there has yet to be tangible, sustained action. However, in late July, the government was able to facilitate the orderly clearance of illegal miners from the Sansu Lizard Face and Wawase areas, showing it was within its power to peacefully and speedily restore law and order at the mine in this instance. We'll await to see if this latest announcement will yield a lasting solution at Obuasi Mine.

For more background on Obuasi and recent security updates, please see [www.futureofobuasi.com](http://www.futureofobuasi.com)