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## UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

The Carter Center commends Gécamines' disclosure of financial statements and calls for the generalization of this practice

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lubumbashi-Kinshasa on August 24, 2021– The Carter Center commends the recent publication of Gécamines' 2020 financial statements on its website. The disclosure of these financial statements is a significant step forward in the process of transparency and accountability of state-owned enterprises in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Assuming the statements are accurate, they should provide comprehensive and detailed information on Gécamines' annual revenues and expenses to enable Congolese citizens and civil society organizations to exercise public oversight over the management of this important state-owned company.

"We encourage Gécamines to maintain this good transparency practice that is in the spirit of the EITI Standard and the provisions of the revised mining code," said Fabien Mayani, Director of the Extractive Industries Governance Program at the Carter Center in the DRC. "We also invite other state-owned extractive enterprises to disclose their financial statements at the end of each fiscal year."

The Carter Center and its civil society partners have extensively advocated for the disclosure of state-owned enterprises' financial statements, particularly after the publication of the Carter Center's 2017 report <u>A State Affair</u>, which examined the significant revenues earned by Gécamines through asset sales and joint venture partnerships. To better understand the transactions, we call on managers at Gécamines to also disclose the financial statements for the past decade (2010 to 2019). Transparency and information accessibility are crucial prerequisites to increase accountability, prevent corruption, and improve the governance of the DRC government's natural resource portfolio.

The Carter Center encourages Congolese citizens and civil society organizations to thoroughly analyze Gécamines' disclosed financial statements and engage in a public debate on the findings of their analyses.