



# African Mining Partnership (AMP)

## AFRICAN MINING PARTNERSHIP (AMP)

Southern Sun, Cape Sun

Cape Town, South Africa

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*“Optimising Africa's Minerals Potential for Peace and Prosperity”*

The AMP was launched in 2004 to further the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) objectives through mining and minerals initiatives in the quest for economic development in the continent. Countries were assigned projects to spearhead and ensure that they contribute significantly towards growing Africa's economy through its mineral wealth.

African Ministers responsible for mining have successfully lobbied that the AMP should be located under the African Union, meaning this will be the last AMP taking place under the auspices of **NEPAD**. Locating the AMP within the AU will greatly improve its standing and will hopefully attract more countries to participate. Ghana is the chairman of the AMP with South Africa as the secretariat and organiser of the event.

This merger will also give AMP access to the AU's financial resources and help it achieve its vision of increasing the benefit of Africa's mineral wealth for its own people.

AMP attracts the industry due to the presence of the African Ministers responsible for mining, hence it provide opportunity for networking.

**Various initiatives were undertaken by the AMP to alleviate poverty in the continent. These include:**

**Beneficiation:** Established beneficiation framework intended to maximise the economic benefit of mineral value addition and to increase Africa's productive capacity, revenue generation and employment creation from the exploitation of mineral resources within the continent.

**Small-Scale Mining:** Finalised base case studies in respect of marketing, financing as well as Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) strategies for Artisanal and small scale mining.

**African Mining Policy framework:** A mining policy framework for Africa, which seeks to harmonise Africa's mining regulatory environment to attract investment and achieve socio-economic development.

**Sustainable Development Charter:** Established a Sustainable Development Charter to provide a collective framework for a “vision” on Sustainable Development for Africa in the mineral and mining sector.

**Human Resources Development framework:** Human Resources Development framework to address the skills gap to fully develop the mineral sector in Africa and recommended the creation of centres of excellence across the Continent.

**Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ):** Developed a framework and procedures for the member countries with coastlines to apply for an extension of their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ).

**Additional projects:**

Established an Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS) to serve as a platform for exchange of geo-scientific data intended to promote investment in exploration and mining development.

During the AMP Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009 in Durban, South Africa, member countries were urged to submit their respective assessments of the impact of Registration, Evaluation, and Authorisation of Chemical Substances (REACH) and to continue lobbying their parliaments and the European Union (EU) on REACH and to identify beneficiation opportunities intended to mitigate the impact of REACH in Africa. Through the AMP the African continent arrived at a collective position to challenge the classification of nickel carbonates as a carcinogenic-1 substance without scientific base.

A voluntary organisation, the AMP has been seeking affiliation with the AU since its inception in South Africa in 2003. The announcement by the heads of State of the African Union (AU) Assembly to merge the African Mining Partnership (AMP) with the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resource Development (CAMRMRD), under the auspices of the AU Commission of Trade and Industry was made by the Commissioner, at the AMP's sixth meeting, held in Durban from February 3 to 5 2009. This AMP meeting was attended by 15 African Ministers responsible for mineral resource development, as well as 20 representatives of other African countries, representatives of the AU Commission and various mining organisations.

The meeting also recommended that the African Mining Policy Framework and AMP Projects should be reconsidered and aligned to the African Mining Vision and that the Sustainable Development Charter for the Minerals and Mining Sector in Africa should be implemented.

Member States with coastlines were urged to remember the deadline of May 19 to submit claims to the United Nations for extension of their exclusive economic zones beyond the 200 nautical miles.

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