

AFRICAN MINING PARTNERSHIP (AMP)

Fourth Meeting of the African Mining Partnership Pretoria

3 February 2007

Pretoria Communiqué

The fourth Plenary meeting of the African Mining Partnership (AMP) was held in Pretoria from the 1st to the 3rd February 2007. The Plenary meeting was attended by Ministers from **Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea Republic, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia**, while representatives from **Algeria, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger Botswana, Guinea, Sudan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe** participated. In addition, **China, Chile, Canada, MIASA, the SADC-Secretariat and the business groups** were also represented.

The countries represented re-iterated that member States should show commitment to speedily implement the adopted projects. The meeting also reiterated their commitment to pursuing mining and minerals policies which will significantly contribute to poverty reduction and wealth creation. Progress made on the following projects was reviewed:

- **Beneficiation**

1. Beneficiation strategy for precious minerals (led by South Africa)
2. Development of a retail platform for market access (led by South Africa)

- **Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM);**
 - 1 Development of an appropriate financing strategy for ASM (led by Nigeria)
 2. Development of an appropriate marketing strategy for ASM (led by Ethiopia)
 3. Development a sustainable mining strategy for ASM that addresses Health, Safety and Environment (led by Mali, Egypt and SA)

- **Synergise AMP Sustainable Development Strategy with WSSD Outcomes**
 1. Development of an African sustainable development charter for mining development projects (led by SA)
 2. Implementation of NEPAD infrastructure programme (led NEPAD Secretariat)

- **Human Resource Development (HRD) (led by Ghana);**
 - 1 Review and recommend alignment in mining related curricula to facilitate common HRD standards in all institutions across the African continent.
 - 2 Review and facilitate the development of staff and student exchange programmes across mining institutions in Africa.
 - 3 Promote HRD in industries that add value to primary minerals

- **Promoting foreign investment and indigenous/local participation in mining ventures;**
 - 1 Identify minimum standards required for a mineral and investment information database. (led by Namibia)
 - 2 Share and exchange of geoscientific information in respect of the extension of the Exclusive Economic Zones of coastal countries. (led by Senegal/South Africa)

The meeting evaluated the progress made on the identified projects and recommended that member States increase the level of urgency in achieving the objectives of the projects. To this end, the meeting agreed on the need to develop a resource mobilization plan that focuses on human and financial resources for the projects, whilst long term solutions are being investigated.

The meeting agreed that there was an urgent need for all African mining States to lobby their parliaments and EU member States to ensure that REACH does not impact negatively on African continent. The meeting also encouraged member States to begin putting in place mineral beneficiation strategies to mitigate the effects of REACH on certain mineral commodities.

The meeting re-iterated the need to strengthen relations between the AMP and the African Union (AU). The Secretariat has formally approached the Commission of the AU to facilitate the process of co-operation. The meeting also noted that the Chairperson of the AU Commission has commented that the partnership as suggested would assist in strengthening the AU, particularly in terms of integrating initiatives related to the continent's strategic commodities. It is expected that the request by AMP and others will be considered by the AU policy making organs soon. It was further suggested that the Secretariat should also approach NEPAD in this regard.

Ministers expressed appreciation on the presentation made to the officials by Development Bank of Southern Africa on their project funding programs. Further, the Member States present unanimously agreed that individual countries should spearhead the sourcing of funds for project implementation.

Note was taken of the establishment of Communities Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (CASM) Africa and its work in assisting Small Scale Miners on the continent.

The meeting further noted the establishment of the Association of the African Diamond Producing Countries (ADPA) in November 2006. Angola also invited the Ministers to a council meeting of the ADPA which will be held on 30 March

2007. The Organisation of the African Geological Survey was launched on the 2nd February 2007 in South Africa. This organization represents a major milestone in the technical cooperation of earth science. The executive committee was elected and is chaired by South Africa. The meeting agreed to co-operate with the Intergovernmental Forum in preparing for the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) 2010 meeting, which will review progress on addressing mining related priorities contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

The current executive committee, chaired by Ghana, was re-elected into office for a further 36 months. The meeting also concluded that the mid-term review be held in Nigeria.

The meeting expressed its gratitude to the Government and the people of South Africa for their hospitality and excellent arrangements put in place for hosting the fourth AMP meeting.