



MAGHREB MINERALS PLC

Discovery of mineralised core from previous drilling at Bou Jabeur - Gite de l'Est adds significant value to the current resource assessment programme

Maghreb Minerals Plc ("Maghreb" or "the Company"), the AIM-quoted exploration company developing base metal and industrial mineral deposits in North Africa, is pleased to announce a significant boost to its exploration programme with the discovery of mineralised core from the former drilling programmes completed by the Office National des Mines ("O.N.M.") at the Bou Jabeur – Gite de l'Est deposit between 1977 and 1986. The core was discovered in storage which was either inaccessible or unknown to the Company. This unexpected find will mean that the amount of drilling necessary for the compliant resource statement to International Reporting Standards currently being prepared is significantly reduced.

Highlights

- Two sets of mineralised core and milled core sample assay pulps from the former O.N.M. drilling programmes at Bou Jabeur – Gite de l'Est have been discovered. These comprise 3,803 metres (m) of mineralised sections of core and represent approximately one third of the 10,465m from 31 completed drill holes. A total of 47 holes were drilled by the O.N.M. at Bou Jabeur - Gite de l'Est.
- The core is in good condition and can be used for the compilation of the compliant resource statement currently being undertaken.
- This core significantly reduces the number of verification drillholes planned by the Company. Drilling therefore can be redirected to providing additional drillholes targeted at extending the mineral deposit laterally and at depth.
- The value of this core, in terms of savings in drilling costs, is estimated at approximately £870,000 based on a cost of £80 per meter.

The first set of cores (10 drillholes, 2,166m, 650 samples of half core and 95% of the milled core sample assay pulps) were found in a building at the Bou Jabeur mine with the assistance of a former Bou Jabeur mine geologist. A second set (21 drillholes, 1,637m, 1,298 samples of half core) was discovered in the basement of the old mine office behind a sealed brick wall during a search by Company staff. There were no milled core sample assay pulps for the second set of cores.

Gordon Riddler, Executive Chairman commented:

" These discoveries by the Maghreb field team at such an early stage in the resource assessment programme, will significantly speed up verification of the known deposit at Bou Jabeur - Gite de l'Est as well as work on extending the known deposit, establishing a resource to International Reporting Standards and determining the

parameters for the redevelopment of mining operations at the deposit as quickly as possible, saving the Company considerable time and money."

Editor's Note

In January 2007, Maghreb announced the successful conclusion of its negotiations with the O.N.M. to acquire the rights to the Bou Jabeur deposit, whereby Maghreb has the right to earn a 90% interest in the Bou Jabeur exploration permit. The Bou Jabeur exploration permit covers the ground referred to in the Maghreb AIM Admission document, December 2004, as the Bou Jabeur mine concession, which covers a significant area of mineralisation including the Gite de l'Est zinc-lead-fluorite-barite mine. In 2000 the operators of Bou Jabeur Gite de l'Est quoted proven, probable and possible reserves (not to International Reporting Standards) totalling 5.1 million tonnes with a grade of 1.38% Pb, 3.76% Zn, 33.2% BaSO₄, and 9.3% CaF₂.

The in-situ value of the deposit is estimated to be in excess of US\$1 billion, based on recent prices*. (*Zn US\$1.75/lb, Pb US\$0.71/lb, BaSO₄ US\$35/t, CaF₂ US\$230/t.)

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The sources of some of the information in relation to the Bou Jabeur mine were sourced from O.N.M. The Company has not been able to independently verify the accuracy of some of this information.

The technical content of this press release has been reviewed by the Executive Chairman of Maghreb Minerals plc, Gordon Riddler, BSc, MBA, FIMMM, CEng, CSci. who has 40 years of experience in the mining sector and is a Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, a recognised professional association.