



MAGHREB MINERALS PLC

MINING AND METALLURGY SCOPING STUDIES COMMISSIONED FOR GITE DE L'EST DEPOSIT, BOU JABEUR, TUNISIA

Maghreb Minerals Plc ("Maghreb" or "the Company"), the AIM-quoted exploration company developing base metal and industrial mineral deposits in Tunisia, is pleased to announce that, following the encouraging results emerging from its Phase 2 infill and step out drilling programme, it has commissioned mining and metallurgical scoping studies to establish in more detail the technical and economic viability of the Bou Jabeur (Gite de l'Est) deposit in Tunisia.

- Scott Wilson Ltd has been appointed to provide services for resource database management and estimation and to take the overall lead for the scoping studies required to determine the economic viability of the Bou Jabeur (Gite de l'Est) deposit based on the results to date. This study will incorporate an updated resource estimate and is scheduled to be completed by mid-October 2008.
- SGS Lakefield Research Europe Ltd has been appointed with immediate effect to complete scoping flotation metallurgical testwork on lead and zinc circuits along with Net Smelter Returns and bottom line potential revenue, for incorporation in the overall scoping study.

Richard Collier, Chief Executive, commented: *"The scoping studies are designed to give an indication of the technical and economic viability of the Gite de l'Est lead-zinc-barite-fluorite-silver deposit based on all available data including the new step out drill results. With the appointment of independent, internationally renowned consultants to carry out the scoping studies, the Company expects to have greater visibility in terms of resuming mining operations at Bou Jabeur."*

***NOTE FOR EDITORS**

The Phase 2 step out and infill drilling programme to date (MBJ11 to MBJ31 totalling 8,165m) has been completed in accordance with the work programme outlined in June/July 2007. The results have delivered confidence in the continuity of the Bou Jabeur (Gite de l'Est) deposit which has been extended and is still open to depth and laterally.

A significant increase in both tonnage and grade the Bou Jabeur (Gite de l'Est) deposit based on internal estimates, is apparent following the updating of the block model to include Maghreb's MBJ verification drilling and the results from the re-assaying of a significant quantity of recently discovered Office National des Mines (O.N.M.) drill core and pulps from previous drilling and optimisation of the geostatistical methodology.

The core assay results from the first phase of the Maghreb drilling campaign (MBJ1 to MBJ10 series drill holes for a total of 3,404.50m) completed in September 2007 both confirmed and verified the previous O.N.M. drilling results, which showed the presence of significant thicknesses of lead and zinc mineralisation with zones of high-grade zinc mineralisation.

The Company reported in December 2007 an audited Inferred Mineral Resource estimate, prepared in accordance with JORC (2004) reporting standards, using only the historical O.N.M. data for Bou Jabeur (Gite de l'Est). At a 1% lead + zinc ("Pb+Zn") cut off grade, the resource contains 8.836Mt grading combined 3.16% Zn and Pb: 2.17% Zn, 0.99% Pb, 5.06% CaF₂ and 21.66% BaSO₄, and at a 2% Pb + Zn cut off grade, 5.172 Mt grading 4.40% combined Zn and Pb: 3.15% Zn, 1.25% Pb, 6.42% CaF₂ and 27.76% BaSO₄.

Based on the above estimate, the in-situ value of the mineral resource at the 1% Pb + Zn cut off grade is estimated to exceed US\$925 million at December 2007 metal prices.

ENQUIRIES:

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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 all of this information.

The technical content of this press release has been reviewed by the 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.