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PRESS RELEASE

MAGHREB MINERALS PLC ACQUIRES AN 85% INTEREST IN THE TAN CHAFFAO GOLD RICH POLYMETALLIC PROJECT IN ALGERIA

HIGHLIGHTS

- Maghreb Minerals is pleased to announce that it has acquired an 85% interest in the Tan Chaffao gold rich base metal project, and a 100 sq. km Exploration License, in Algeria.
- The O.R.G.M. has estimated a resource at Tan Chaffao of 6.6 Mt grading 1.6 g/t Au (300,000 ounces contained gold), 0.55% Cu, 1% Pb and 1.6% Zn.
- Tan Chaffao occurs adjacent to the deep NS fault with which the gold deposits of Tirek and Amesmessa and Pb-Zn mineralisation in the south of Algeria are associated.
- Maghreb Minerals will commence an exploration programme at Tan Chaffao at the beginning of the field season (late September 2005).
- Maghreb Minerals looks forward to a strong working relationship with the O.R.G.M., on this project and on other projects in Algeria, where Maghreb Minerals and the O.R.G.M. have a strong mutual interest.

Maghreb Minerals PLC ("Maghreb Minerals" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that it has acquired an 85% interest in the Tan Chaffao gold rich, base metal project in Algeria. The Company, through an Algerian subsidiary, will be the operators of the project. The remaining 15% interest is to be held by GOLDIM FILIALE O.R.G.M., the investment arm of the Algerian O.R.G.M. (Office National de Recherche Géologique et Minière).

Commenting on the acquisition of this advanced exploration project, Maghreb Minerals' Chairman Gordon Riddler said, "This is Maghreb Minerals' first step in its planned strategy to extend its exploration efforts throughout the under explored mineral rich region of North Africa. The Company looks forward to working closely with the O.R.G.M to advance this project rapidly. In addition the Company looks forward to a strong working relationship on this project as well as on other projects in Algeria where Maghreb Minerals and the O.R.G.M have a strong mutual interest."

The polymetallic (Zn, Pb, Cu, Au) orebody of Tan Chaffao is located about 250km northwest of Tamanrasset in the Hoggar region of Algeria. Discovered in 1971, it was explored during two field seasons (1972 and 1973) by Russian supervised ORGM

teams. The work consisted of geological and geophysical studies and a 10 drill-hole programme (to a depth ranging between 100m and 200m).

The ORGM has estimated a resource at Tan Chaffao of 6.6 Mt grading 1.6 g/t Au (300,000 ounces contained gold), 0.55% Cu, 1% Pb and 1.6% Zn, from surface. The mineralisation is open at depth and along strike.

Mineralisation at Tan Chaffao occurs as disseminated and massive sulphide within volcano-sedimentary formations of upper Proterozoic age. Structurally the mineralisation occurs within a large north-south trending syncline, adjacent to the deep seated north-south fault with which the gold deposits of Tirek and Amesmessa and Pb-Zn mineralisation in the south of Algeria are associated.

Several other mineralised occurrences have been identified within the immediate surroundings of the known Tan Chaffao resource. Only limited exploration has been carried out of the remainder of the 100 sq. km exploration licence. In addition, Maghreb Minerals has the option to extend the area covered by the Exploration License and will seek an early exercise of this option.

Maghreb Minerals' 85% interest in Tan Chaffao is subject to the Company undertaking an exploration programme. Maghreb Minerals will commence an exploration programme at the beginning of the field season (late September 2005) to explore the known orebody further and identify other economic mineralisation within the area covered by the exploration licence.

Maghreb Minerals' proposed exploration programme will entail detailed geophysical, geochemical and geological ground survey over the area of the known orebody at Tan Chaffao, in order to better define drilling targets. Drilling, to target extensions to the known mineralisation, is planned to commence in late 2005. A reconnaissance survey will be conducted over the remainder of the exploration licence to identify additional areas of potential mineralisation.

Maghreb Minerals has been assisted in Algeria by CSA Group Limited. CSA has substantial experience in Algeria and has a close relationship with the ORGM, having assisted them with their restructuring over the past 2 years and worked with them on a number of exploration programmes.

John Cole-Baker of CSA has commented that "Algeria has great underdeveloped mineral potential. The recent revision of the mining legislation allied to the policy of the Government to Algeria to encourage foreign investment provides an opportunity for Maghreb to play an early role in realising that mineral potential. The Tan Chaffao project is, we believe, a good example of the potential to prove a significant resource by applying modern exploration methods in Algeria".