



PROGRESS REPORT - EXPLORATION PROGRAMME IN TUNISIA (05-Jan-06)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Phase 1 drilling at the Fej Lahdoum prospect is nearing completion and significant lead zinc mineralisation has been intersected in 9 drill holes. The drilling completes the Company's 3,000 metre drilling commitment to the Tunisian Government, a condition necessary to exercise the Company's option on the Fej Lahdoum Mine Concession. Following a review of the results for the Phase 1 programme, more drilling is planned.
- At Djebba, located 10 km north of the Fej Lahdoum mine concession, ground gravity and magnetic surveys are scheduled for completion mid-January 2006. The surveys are targeted at the delineation of possible extensions of the known lead – zinc mineralisation and an interpreted feeder structure intersected in recent drilling.
- Drilling at Djebba will commence in January 2006 based on the results of the geophysical surveys. A second rig has been ordered and when mobilised will concentrate on the known mineral resource with the aim of moving this to the reserve category.
- Based on the success of the programme to be undertaken at Djebba in early 2006, the Company anticipates moving ahead on a pre-feasibility study at Djebba later this year.

Maghreb Minerals Plc ("Maghreb Minerals" or "the Company", MMS.L) is pleased to announce that it has received results from its recent drilling programme on its Fej Lahdoum property in Tunisia. Following confirmation by Maghreb Mineral's drilling of economic grade mineralisation previously identified by the Office National des Mines (ONM) at the Dar N'Hal Sud deposit, the Phase 1 drilling was targeted to define the down-dip and lateral extent of the mineralisation over a strike length of 1,200m between Dar N'Hal Nord mine and the Dar N'Hal Sud deposit. The drill holes still to be completed for Phase 1 are located to the north of Dar N'Hal Nord mine to test the extent and grade of the resource blocked out by ONM in that area. Maghreb Minerals' drill holes will verify the results from previous ONM drill holes DNH 25 (7m @ 16.4% Pb/Zn) and DHN 26 (5.8m @ 21.19% Pb/Zn). Such verification would extend the projected surface area of the mineral resource at the Dar N'Hal Nord deposit in the order of 20%.

A total of 15 drill holes have been completed at Fej Lahdoum totalling 4,335m to depths ranging between 80m and 465m.

Assays have been received for 11 drill holes. Eight drill holes intersected lead/zinc mineralisation, and the best intervals are as follows:

Drill Hole	From (m)	To (m)	Pb + Zn wt%
MFL 8	321.00	400.80	5 intervals ranging from 3% to 5%

of which	382.35	384.60	14.6%
MFL 9	289.45	322.20	3 intervals ranging from 4.5% to 5.98%
of which	313.50	322.20	6.3%
MFL 11	251.60	257.60	One interval at 13.0%

Of the drill holes to the north of Dar N'Hal Nord mine, MFL18 (inclined at 70⁰), near DNH 25 has just been completed and has intersected the mineralised host Transition Zone between 195m and 255m (60m) within which there is 15m of massive mineralisation which looks promising. The core is being prepared to be sent for assay. MFL 20, a vertical drill hole from the same platform, is in progress.

The drilling data from the current programme, along with a large amount of information recently received from Dar N'Hal Nord mine archives, has highlighted the complexity of mineralisation at Fej Lahdoum. The Company is undertaking a review and modelling of the data and has commissioned an external review of structural data for the area along strike to the north east of Dar N'Hal Nord mine. Results from these studies are expected later this month.

The focus of the Company's exploration in Tunisia has necessarily shifted to the Djebba property following the encouraging results of the verification drilling previously announced by the Company. A gravity and magnetic survey commenced on 27 December 2005 and will be completed by mid-January 2006. The survey aims to identify extensions to the known mineral resource identified from drilling by ONM and also a possible feeder zone for the mineralisation.

The interpretation of the geophysical survey results will form the basis for the next phase of drilling at Djebba, which will aim to verify and enlarge upon the previous resource estimate there of 2.7Mt grading 6.14% Zn and 3.34% Pb within which there was an open pit reserve estimate of 800,000t grading 6.59% Zn and 4.09% Pb, based upon an open pit feasibility study by the Canadian Group SIDAM-Minorex in 1987-1989.

Chairman, Gordon Riddler said, *"Phase 1 drilling results at Fej Lahdoum, whilst establishing continuity in the mineralisation, have highlighted the structural complexity of the known deposit. Phase 2 drilling at Fej Lahdoum will start only after the Company has fully reviewed the large amount of data and information, some of which has only recently been made available to the Company. The high grade mineralisation encountered in verification drilling on the nearby Djebba property, results for which have previously been announced, has raised the priority of this area. The Company plans to focus its efforts of expanding the known 2.7 Mt resource and in moving this from resource to reserve category. We believe that, if the drilling programme planned for early 2006 meets our expectations, we could be in a position to commence a pre-feasibility study on Djebba later this year."*

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