

AURUM MINING PLC

**INTENTION TO FLOAT ON THE ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET
OF THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE**

Aurum Mining plc (Aurum), a company formed to acquire gold and other mineral extraction projects in the Former Soviet Union (FSU), announces its intention to seek admission for its shares to trade on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) by way of a Placing.

- Aurum has a strong management team led by Chairman Sean Finlay, who has more than 30 years' experience in the mining industry and who was formerly the managing director of Celtic Resources Holdings plc.
- The price of gold has been rising steadily since the middle of 2001, enhancing the economics of gold extraction projects. The Directors believe the price of gold is likely to remain buoyant.
- Aurum has secured the services of David Bryans, who has more than 10 years' experience of assessing mining projects in the FSU and who was instrumental in the formation of Celtic Resources Holdings plc. Mr Bryans's company, Tyry Services Limited, will work exclusively to bring suitable projects for review by Aurum.
- Haresh Kanabar, Executive Business Development Director, will take responsibility for Aurum's finances until a finance director is appointed, which is expected at around the time of the Company's first acquisition. Mr Kanabar, who has extensive business experience, qualified as an accountant in 1986.
- On Admission, Aurum will have no trading businesses, although a number of potential mining projects have been identified as possible acquisitions.
- Through its Chairman, and the consultancy contract with Tyry Services Limited, Aurum has access to an extensive pool of experience of mining operations in the FSU, which the Board believes offers opportunities for the profitable development of gold and other mineral extraction projects.
- Aurum's strategy is based on the Directors' belief that:
 - there are a number of Soviet era mineral finds that are documented but have been unexploited or underdeveloped

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- record keeping of mineral finds in the Soviet era was generally good with a tendency towards conservatism in the estimate of reserves
- the use of modern technologies for the extraction and treatment of ores allows older finds to be reappraised and values to be adjusted
- political development within the FSU is towards stronger government and an improved rule of law, enabling business to be conducted more easily.
- Aurum is raising gross proceeds of £1.5 million by way of a Placing.
- The funds raised will be used for carrying out due diligence on potential mining projects.
- It is expected that dealings in Aurum shares will commence at the beginning of May.
- W H Ireland is the Company's nominated adviser and broker.

On the plans for flotation, Sean Finlay, Aurum's non-executive Chairman, said:
"The continuing demand for gold, the opportunities provided by the Former Soviet Union and our vast experience of the region give us confidence that we will be able to identify and secure acquisitions and thereby create value for our shareholders."

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