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L'exploitation de la mine souterraine bat tous les records pendant que Kibali continue à livrer des résultats concrets

Kinshasa, République Démocratique du Congo – le 23 octobre 2019 – Barrick Gold Corporation (NYSE:GOLD) (TSX:ABX) – L'exploitation souterraine et la descenderie verticale de la mine d'or de Kibali ont battus des nouveaux records de production minière au troisième trimestre. Ceci permet à la mine d'or de premier rang de Barrick de rester sur la bonne voie afin d'atteindre ou de dépasser ses prévisions annuelles de 750,000 onces[1]. L'alimentation et la récupération au cours du trimestre ont été conformes ou au-dessus du niveau nominal.

Lors de son point de presse tenu aujourd'hui, le Président et PDG de Barrick, Mark Bristow, a déclaré que Kibali – déjà un leader mondial dans l'automatisation – est en train d'atteindre une croisière supérieure avec la mise en service d'un système Newtrax qui pourrait fournir la collecte des données en temps réel, améliorer l'entretien prédictif, suivre et gérer la flotte, et mettre en place un système de sécurité numérique avec suivi du personnel. La mine travaille également à la mise en place d'une démonstration de faisabilité d'un système très avancé qui permettra des opérations avec ou sans surveillance humaine dans la même zone.

« Conformément à notre politique d'emploi et d'avancement professionnel local, nous continuons à transférer les compétences spécialisées requises pour l'exploitation minière automatisée à notre main-d'œuvre congolaise. Le succès de cette politique est évident dans les performances toujours excellentes de Kibali et montre ce qui peut être réalisé avec un actif de classe mondiale dans une région lointaine et sous-développée de l'Afrique, » a déclaré Bristow.

Les résultats positifs des forages obtenus ces dernières années à partir d'Ikamva-Kalimva et de l'exploitation souterraine de KCD devraient se traduire par une croissance nette des réserves après la consommation annuelle. Poursuivant l'exploration, Kibali est maintenant à même de continuer à remplacer les réserves pour les années à venir avec d'autres extensions potentielles à ciel ouvert à Gorumbwa, Sessenge et le potentiel de la super-fosse du KCD, en plus de la définition du nouveau Filon 11000 dans la mine souterraine du KCD.

Il a noté que Kibali maintenait son solide bilan en matière de santé, sécurité au travail et environnement malgré la taille et la complexité de l'opération.

« Suite à la transition du pouvoir politique en RDC, qui s'est déroulée pacifiquement face à de nombreux défis, nous prévoyons d'ouvrir le dialogue avec le nouveau gouvernement pour une révision du Code minier de 2018. Nous croyons qu'il est encore possible d'arriver à une application plus équitable pour l'industrie, » a-t-il déclaré.

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Technical Information

The scientific and technical information contained in this press release has been reviewed and approved by Simon Bottoms, CGeol, MGeol, FGS, MAusIMM, Mineral Resources Manager: Africa and Middle East of Barrick, a "Qualified Person" as defined in National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

Endnotes

[1] 100% basis

Cautionary Statement on Forward-Looking Information

Certain information contained in this press release, including any information as to Barrick's strategy, plans, or future financial or operating performance, constitutes "forward-looking statements". All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. The words "continue", "would", "will", "expect", "believe", "develop", "advance", , "enable", "engage" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. In particular, this press release contains forward-looking statements including, without limitation, with respect to: 2019 operating performance and production guidance with respect to the Kibali mine; potential advancements in automation technology and the transfer of related technical skills including the Newtrax system; value-creating projects including infrastructure and agribusiness projects; engagement with the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo in relation to a new mining code introduced last year; and future contributions to the economy of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Forward-looking statements are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions; including material estimates and assumptions related to the factors set forth below that, while considered reasonable by Barrick as at the date of this press release in light of management's experience and perception of current conditions and expected developments, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. Known and unknown factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements, and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements and information. Such factors include, but are not limited to: the speculative nature of mineral exploration and development; changes in mineral production performance, exploitation, and exploration successes; diminishing quantities or grades of reserves; changes in national and local government legislation, taxation, controls, or regulations and/or changes in the administration of laws, policies, and practices, expropriation or nationalization of property and political or economic developments in the Democratic Republic of Congo; lack of certainty with respect to foreign legal systems, corruption, and other factors that are inconsistent with the rule of law; risk of loss due to acts of war, terrorism, sabotage and civil disturbances; fluctuations in the spot and forward price of gold, copper, or certain other commodities (such as silver, diesel fuel, natural gas, and electricity); timing of receipt of, or failure to comply with, necessary permits and approvals; failure to comply with environmental and health and safety laws and regulations; litigation; damage to the Barrick's reputation due to the actual or perceived occurrence of any number of events, including negative publicity with respect to the Barrick's handling of environmental matters or dealings with community groups, whether true or not; increased costs, delays, suspensions, and technical challenges associated with the construction of capital projects; operating or technical difficulties in connection with mining or development activities, including geotechnical challenges, and disruptions in the maintenance or provision of required infrastructure and information technology systems; the impact of global liquidity and credit availability on the timing of cash flows and the values of assets and liabilities based on projected future cash flows; the impact of inflation; fluctuations in the currency markets; contests over title to properties, particularly title to undeveloped properties, or over access to water, power, and other required infrastructure; employee relations including loss of key employees; increased costs and physical risks, including extreme weather events and resource shortages, related to climate change; and availability and increased costs associated with mining inputs and labor. In addition, there are risks and hazards associated with the business of mineral exploration, development, and mining, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected formations, pressures, cave-ins, flooding, and gold bullion, copper cathode, or gold or copper concentrate losses (and the risk of inadequate insurance, or inability to obtain insurance, to cover these risks).

Many of these uncertainties and contingencies can affect our actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf of, us. Readers are cautioned that forward looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. All of the forward-looking statements made in this press release are qualified by these cautionary statements. Specific reference is made to the most recent Form 40-F/Annual Information Form on file with the SEC and Canadian provincial securities regulatory authorities for a more detailed discussion of some of the factors underlying forward-looking statements, and the risks that may affect Barrick's ability to achieve the expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements contained in this press release.

Barrick disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.