## **ASX** Announcement



22 March 2024

## METALLURGICAL TEST WORK PROGRESSING FOR LA DEMAJAGUA CONCENTRATE PROCESSING FACILITY

Antilles Gold Limited ("Antilles Gold" or the "Company") (ASX: AAU, OTCQB: ANTMF) advises that test work is well advanced on establishing oxidation efficiency and gold recoveries from roasting and leaching (CIL) of the gold arsenopyrite concentrate expected to be generated by the proposed La Demajagua mine in Cuba, in order to produce a gold doré.

The Company's 50:50 Cuban joint venture intends to develop a 50,000tpa two-stage fluidised-bed roaster and CIL circuit at the La Demajagua mine site with the aim of increasing profitability by producing a gold doré, while de-risking the original concept of selling discounted refractory concentrate into a limited market.

The delay to construction commencement of the La Demajagua mine caused primarily by expanding the project to include the processing facility, should be more than justified by the resultant financial benefits, and project de-risking.

- The roasting and leaching test work is being undertaken by specialist Chinese engineering group, BGRIMM Technology, in advance of them submitting their proposal to design and construct the processing facility.
- Metallurgical test work by Blue Coast Research in British Columbia has indicated that reverse flotation should produce a gold arsenopyrite concentrate at average grades of 32g/t Au and 27% As, and a gold-silver-antimony concentrate at average grades of ~49g/t Au, 2,022g/t Ag, and 46% Sb.
- These forecasts were included in the Memorandum from JJ Metallurgical Services Inc attached to the Scoping Study results advised to ASX on 30 March 2023<sup>(1)</sup>.
- The anticipated LoM sales revenue of US\$880M reported in the Study was based on receiving 75% of the estimated contained gold in the gold arsenopyrite concentrate (431,500oz), and 55% of the estimated contained gold in the gold-silver-antimony concentrate (73,800oz), at US\$1,800/oz Au, less concentrate shipping costs of approximately US\$107 per tonne.

(1) 30 Mar 2023 - AAU - Financial Results from Scoping Study



- Proceeds from refining a gold doré should be nearly 100% of the contained gold value, and the allowance of ~US\$50M in the Scoping Study for LoM shipping of gold arsenopyrite concentrate would not be incurred.
- Test work is also being carried out on the performance of the planned antimony recovery circuit to be included in the facility which is expected to increase the original quantity of saleable antimony, and as a consequence, increase revenue.
- BGRIMM's test work will confirm recoveries and production quantities for the gold in a doré, and for all metals in the gold-silver-antimony concentrate.
- Forecasts of capital and operating costs will also be provided by BGRIMM, and incorporated in a revised Scoping Study for the project.
- Additional test work is being undertaken by Kemetco Research in Vancouver on the oxidation and stabilization of arsenic to produce a stable non-soluble ferric arsenate precipitate that can be safely stored in the tailings facility.
- Several sources of low-cost iron that are available within Cuba are being tested to determine their suitability as the ferric iron units required for the arsenic stabilisation process.
- Antilles Gold's Technical Director, Dr Jinxing Ji, who is highly experienced with
  the processing and roasting of refractory gold ores, is supervising all test work,
  and liaising on the design for the concentrator and the processing facility, and
  will estimate product quantities and grades for the revised Scoping Study.

**END** 

This announcement has been authorised by the Board of Antilles Gold Limited. For further information, please contact:

Brian Johnson, Chairman, Antilles Gold Limited T: +61 (02) 4861 1740

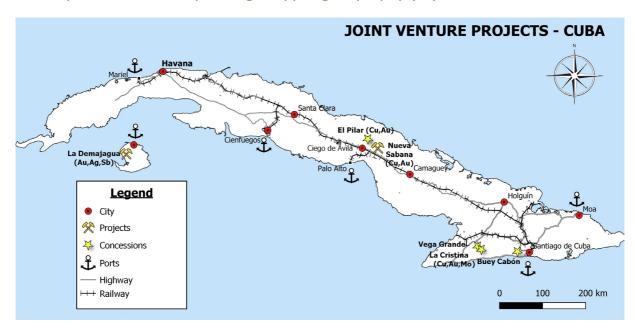
E: brianjohnson@antillesgold.net



## **ABOUT ANTILLES GOLD LIMITED:**

Antilles Gold's strategy is to participate in the successive development of previously explored gold, silver, and copper deposits in mineral rich Cuba.

- The Company is at the forefront of the emerging mining sector in Cuba and expects to be involved in the development of several projects through its joint venture with the Cuban Government's mining company, GeoMinera SA.
- The first project expected to be developed by the 50:50 joint venture company, Minera La Victoria SA, is the proposed Nueva Sabana mine based on the El Pilar gold-copper oxide deposit which overlays a large copper-gold porphyry system in central Cuba.



- The second project is expected to be the development of the La Demajagua open pit mine on the Isle of Youth in south-west Cuba to produce gold arsenopyrite, and gold antimony concentrates. It is planned to process the high arsenic concentrate at a plant incorporating a 200tpd two stage fluid bed roaster, and a 275tpd CIL circuit to produce gold doré.
- The joint venture partners intend to invest part of the expected surplus cash flow from early mine developments to fund exploration of major copper targets, including the El Pilar copper-gold porphyry system, and three highly prospective properties within the Sierra Maestra copper belt in south east Cuba.



- o Antilles Gold is comfortable operating under the applicable law on Foreign Investment in Cuba, and the realistic Mining and Environmental regulations, and has been granted a generous fiscal regime by the Government which is supportive of its objectives.
- o The existing joint venture agreement includes the requirement for all funds to be held in a foreign Bank account with the only transfers to Cuba being for local expenses, which will obviate country credit risk for foreign lenders and suppliers.





Drilling - El Pilar