



West African awarded Environmental Permit for Tanlouka, Appoints Key Management

Gold developer West African Resources Limited (ASX, TSXV: WAF) is pleased to report that it has received environmental approval for the Company's 100%-owned Tanlouka Gold Project, Burkina Faso.

Highlights

- **Environmental Approval for Tanlouka Gold Project received from Burkina Faso Government**
- **Company now has all major permits required in advance of obtaining Mining Licence**
- **Mr Lyndon Hopkins appointed Chief Operating Officer**
- **Ms Joanne Thompson appointed Sustainability Manager**
- **Feasibility study on track for completion Q1 2017**
- **\$19m cash at bank and no debt**

Managing Director Richard Hyde commented:

"The approval of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) is a major achievement and brings us to the final stages of the permitting process for Tanlouka.

"We would like to thank the government of Burkina Faso and its permitting bodies as well as our key stakeholders and local communities for the strong support they have shown for the project. We now have all the major permits required in advance of obtaining our Mining Licence for the project

"I am also pleased to advise that Mr Lyndon Hopkins has been appointed Chief Operating Officer. Lyndon has been an asset to the Company in leading our CIL Feasibility Study and will make a seamless transition into the Chief Operating Officer role.

"I also welcome Ms Joanne Thompson to our team as Sustainability Manager. Joanne is highly qualified to guide our community engagement processes, environmental programs and sustainable development protocols.

"These key appointments are integral to building a quality team to advance the Tanlouka Gold Project towards production."

Environmental Permit Awarded

West African is pleased to announce that the Burkina Faso Ministry of the Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change has approved the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment ("ESIA") for the Company's 100%-owned Tanlouka Gold Project. This milestone is the penultimate step before the Company is fully permitted for the development of the project.

The next and final stage of the mine permitting process is well advanced and West African anticipates to be granted a Mining Licence from the Burkina Faso Ministry of Mines before the end of Q1 2017.

Key Management Appointments

Mr Hopkins is a geologist with more than 20 years' experience in gold exploration, development and production. Mr Hopkins was Chief Operating Officer of Equigold NL's Ivory Coast operations and managed the in-country aspects of the project development and feasibility study for the Bonikro Gold Mine which commenced production in 2008. More recently, he was Mine Manager for the construction of Regis Resources Ltd's Rosemont Gold Mine. He has been involved with numerous gold operations in Australia and Africa in various roles with Equigold and Regis and his experience will strengthen WAF's development team. WAF will add further operational and corporate strength to the management team and board over the coming months.

Ms. Thompson's primary responsibilities will be to continue development of the Company's community engagement policies and programs, establish and implement environmental management systems (including compliance and monitoring), and manage the overall sustainability plan. Ms. Thompson's work experience includes Senior Closure and Reclamation Planner, Mine Operations Environmental Officer, and Environmental Officer positions with Newmont Mining at their in Australia and internationally. More recently, Ms. Thompson worked with leading international resource consultancy SRK in Denver, Colorado specializing in areas of environment and community engagement in USA, Canada, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Republic of Congo. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree (Geographical Sciences) from the University of Queensland and a Bachelor of Laws from Queensland University of Technology.

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