

Press Release

4 May 2018



West African Resources raises \$35 million to advance pre-development work at Sanbrado Gold Project

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Highlights

- Firm commitments to raise \$35 million from existing shareholders and leading global institutional investors
- Funds raised will enable:
 - the commencement of key pre-development activities at the Sanbrado Gold Project, including underground access into the high-grade at M1 South deposit, on site water storage for construction and an upgrade of camp facilities;
 - acceleration of infill and extensional resource drilling at M1 South and M5; and
 - an expansion of the regional exploration programme.
- Upgrade to Feasibility Study on track for completion end Q2 2018
- Post completion of the placement WAF will have \$47m cash at bank

West African Resources Limited (ASX, TSXV: WAF or the “Company”) is pleased to announce that it has received firm commitments to raise A\$35 million through a placement of 109.375 million shares at A\$0.32 per share (“Placement”).

The Placement was heavily over-subscribed, and supported by existing shareholders, as well as several new large institutional investors from European, North American and Australian markets.

Commenting on the success of the Placement, Managing Director Mr Richard Hyde said:

“The demand for the Placement is a strong endorsement of the quality of the Sanbrado Gold Project and our strategy to bring forward early development activities, in particular, commencing the underground decline into the high-grade M1 South deposit.

Accessing M1 South from the underground earlier will enable infill and extensional to continue in a more targeted and cost-effective manner.

WAF is now well positioned to deliver an updated Feasibility Study incorporating concurrent open-pit and underground mining this quarter, and press on towards the development of the Project later this year.”.

In respect to the exploration programme, Managing Director Mr Richard Hyde said:

"We have a very substantial mineral endowment in the wider Sanbrado project area to explore, and as such, we have an objective to drill at least 60,000 metres per annum to continue building the mining inventory. This placement ensures we can maintain this pace of drilling."

We are on track to deliver an updated Mineral Resource estimate this quarter, as well as the results of updated Feasibility Study incorporating open-pit and underground mining. The Feasibility Study will integrate the high-grade gold from M1 South into the mine plan, which is expected to deliver transformational changes to the annual production, cost profile and life of mine."

Hartleys Limited and Sprott Capital Partners, a division of Sprott Private Wealth LP, together were the Joint Lead Managers and Bookrunners to the Placement. Euroz Limited, Cormark Securities Inc. and Macquarie Capital Markets Canada Ltd. were Co-Managers to the Placement.

The Placement will be completed in one tranche, within the Company's issuance capacity pursuant to ASX Listing Rules 7.1 (86,101,834 shares) and 7.1A (23,273,166 shares). As WAF has a secondary listing on the TSX-Venture Exchange (the TSX-V), the completion of the Placement will be conditional upon the approval of the TSX-V, which the Company anticipates to receive shortly.

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Forward Looking Information

This announcement contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian and Australian securities legislation. All statements in this news release, other than statements of historical fact, that address events or developments that WAF expects to occur, are "forward-looking statements". Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts and are generally, but not always, identified by the words "expects", "does not expect", "plans", "anticipates", "does not anticipate", "believes", "intends", "estimates", "projects", "potential", "scheduled", "forecast", "budget" and similar expressions, or that events or conditions "will", "would", "may", "could", "should" or "might" occur. Specific forward-looking statements and forward-looking information herein includes statements regarding the size of the Placement, the intended use of the net proceeds from the Placement, the continuation of drilling programs and completion of a resource update and feasibility study update, and the expected time for receipt of conditional approval of the Placement from the TSX-V.

All such forward-looking statements are based on the opinions and estimates of the relevant management as of the date such statements are made and are subject to certain assumptions, important risk factors and uncertainties, many of which are beyond WAF's ability to control or predict. Forward-looking statements are necessarily based on estimates and assumptions that are inherently subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In the case of WAF, these facts include their anticipated operations in future periods, planned exploration and development of its properties, and plans related to its business and other matters that may occur in the future. This information relates to analyses and other information that is based on expectations of future performance and planned work programs.

Forward-looking information is subject to a variety of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual events or results to differ from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking information, including, without limitation: inherent exploration hazards and risks; risks related to exploration and development of natural resource properties; uncertainty in WAF's ability to obtain funding; gold price fluctuations; recent market events and conditions; risks related to the uncertainty of mineral resource calculations and the inclusion of inferred mineral resources in economic estimation; risks related to governmental regulations; risks related to obtaining necessary licenses and permits; risks related to their business being

subject to environmental laws and regulations; risks related to their mineral properties being subject to prior unregistered agreements, transfers, or claims and other defects in title; risks relating to competition from larger companies with greater financial and technical resources; risks relating to the inability to meet financial obligations under agreements to which they are a party; ability to recruit and retain qualified personnel; and risks related to their directors and officers becoming associated with other natural resource companies which may give rise to conflicts of interests. This list is not exhaustive of the factors that may affect WAF's forward-looking information. Should one or more of these risks and uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in the forward-looking information or statements.

This announcement also contains references to estimates of mineral resources. The estimation of mineral resources is inherently uncertain and involves subjective judgments about many relevant factors. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. The accuracy of any such estimates is a function of the quantity and quality of available data, and of the assumptions made and judgments used in engineering and geological interpretation, which may prove to be unreliable and depend, to a certain extent, upon the analysis of drilling results and statistical inferences that may ultimately prove to be inaccurate. Mineral resource estimates may have to be re-estimated based on, among other things: fluctuations in commodity prices; results of drilling; results of metallurgical testing and other studies; changes to proposed mining operations, including dilution; the evaluation of mine plans subsequent to the date of any estimates; and the possible failure to receive required permits, approvals and licences. Estimations of mineral resources should not be construed or considered as an estimate of the ultimate amount of material that may be mined, should a mine ever be developed.

WAF's forward-looking information is based on the reasonable beliefs, expectations and opinions of their respective management on the date the statements are made and WAF does not assume any obligation to update forward looking information if circumstances or management's beliefs, expectations or opinions change, except as required by law. For the reasons set forth above, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. For a complete discussion with respect to WAF and risks associated with forward-looking information and forward-looking statements, please refer to WAF's financial statements and related MD&A, all of which are filed on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Neither the TSX-V nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX-V) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

The securities described herein have not been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act"), or any state securities laws, and accordingly, may not be offered or sold to, or for the account or benefit of, persons in the United States or "U.S. persons," as such term is defined in Regulation S promulgated under the U.S. Securities Act ("U.S. Persons"), except in compliance with the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities requirements or pursuant to exemptions therefrom. This press release does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any of the Company's securities to, or for the account or benefit of, persons in the United States or U.S. Persons.