

Minera IRL Announces 2009 Year-End Results

London, 28 April 2010: Minera IRL Limited (“Minera IRL” or the “Company”), (TSX:IRL) (AIM:MIRL) (BVL:MIRL) Latin America focused gold mining, development and exploration company, today announced its audited results for the year ended December 31, 2009 and outlined Company developments during the same year.

2009 Highlights:

- **Corihuarmi gold mine production of 33,012 ounces in 2009 above expectations, at a cash operating cost of US\$341 per ounce**
- **Gold sale average price of US\$988 per ounce**
- **EBITDA of US\$11.3 million, profit before tax of US\$5.4 million and profit after tax of US\$3.0 million**
- **Successful placing of shares raised US\$14.2 million net of expenses**
- **Cash at 31 December 2009 of US\$14.2 million**
- **Major gold discovery at Ollachea; positive scoping study based upon 1.3 million ounces and pre-feasibility study commenced**
- **Acquisition of Hidefield Gold, including the Don Nicolas project in Patagonia, Argentina, with a resource base of 359,000 ounces**
- **Resource inventory increased from 0.1 million ounces to 1.8 million ounces**

Highlights subsequent to year-end:

- **Completion of listing on Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX:IRL)**

“In 2009, we advanced mine development initiatives on two new projects, Ollachea and Don Nicolas, and established a solid resource base of 1.8 million ounces,” said Courtney Chamberlain, Executive Chairman of Minera IRL. “Our Corihuarmi Gold Mine continues to provide good cash flow and the financial flexibility to support our project pipeline. The Company continues to evolve and has been accepted on the main board of the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) providing us with improved exposure to a marketplace with a sophisticated mining audience.”

Financial Results

Production from the Corihuarmi Gold Mine yielded sales revenue of US\$31.9 million (2008: US\$43.6 million). This reduction from revenues in 2008 was fully expected by the management and was the result of the lower grade of the Susan deposit, which accounted for most of the ore mined during the year. Mining and treatment of 13% more ore in 2009 also resulted in an 8% increase in the cost of sale to US\$18.8 million (2008: US\$17.3

million). The combined effect was a reduced gross profit of US\$13.1 million (2008: US\$26.2 million). At the same time, administrative expenses and exploration write offs were reduced to US\$6.6 and US\$1.7 million respectively, and the acquisition of Hidefield Gold PLC yielded a credit to income of US\$1.1 million which represents the excess of the fair value of the assets acquired over the price paid. The result was an operating profit of US\$5.8 million (2008: US\$15.6 million). The tax charge, which arises solely in Peru, remained at a similar level to 2008 because in 2009 there were no accumulated losses to offset against the profit for the year, as had been the case in 2008.

The group spent a total of US\$16.4 million on exploration during the year (2008: US\$6.7 million), excluding the acquisition of the Hidefield group, of which US\$14.7 million was added to the intangible assets of the group (US\$11.9 million for the Ollachea project) and US\$1.7 million was recognised as a cost in the income statement.

At the end of 2009 the group had a cash balance of US\$14.2 million, leaving the company in a strong position to enter the next phase of its development.

Projects

Corihuarmi Gold Mine

The Corihuarmi Gold Mine continued to perform well throughout the year producing strong cash flow for the Group. Mining moved from the Diana Pit to the larger, but lower grade, Susan Pit in early 2009. A total of 33,012 ounces was produced, which was above expectations, at a cash cost of US\$341 per ounce. The Company policy of remaining unhedged continued with an average sale price of US\$988 per ounce achieved during the year, which was US\$119 per ounce higher than 2008. A new Life-of-Mine plan was produced with the updated ore reserve more than replacing depletion in 2008, which extends the mine life to at least mid 2013. In addition, more than 50,000 ounces of broken scree material below the Susan and Diana cliff faces has been classified as an Inferred Resource and is expected to give a further significant extension to Corihuarmi's life.

Ollachea Project

Excellent progress has been made at the Ollachea Project in the Puno District of southern Peru. Two diamond rigs have been drilling continuously since October 2008 and thus far, more than 80 holes with over 30,000 meters have been completed. The strike length of the central Minapampa Zone has been extended to almost 700 meters and has provided the basis for a Scoping Study which was completed by Coffey Mining in November 2009. The estimated Inferred Resource in this zone, based on 15,400 meters of drilling, totaled 8.9 million tonnes grading 4.5 grams per tonne gold and containing 1.3 million ounces.

The Scoping Study indicated that a viable development was possible with an underground mine producing 1 million tonnes per annum for treatment through a conventional carbon-in-leach plant. A projected 117,000 ounces per annum will be produced over a nine year mine life at a cash cost of approximately US\$400 per ounce. Capital cost is estimated at US\$156 million. With these positive indications, the Company has embarked upon a pre-

feasibility study. If all goes to plan, the mine could be up-and-running during 2014.

The Minapampa Zone has not been closed off along strike nor down dip. Exploration continues over a strike length of almost two kilometers, including the Minapampa Zone, with many encouraging intersections.

Patagonia

In December 2009 the Company completed the acquisition of Hidefield Gold Plc for a consideration of 9,767,291 Minera IRL Limited shares. This transaction has brought the Company a new business unit in mining friendly Santa Cruz State in the Patagonia region of Argentina. Key to this transaction is the Don Nicolas Project with a resource base of 359,000 ounces, management believes can be advanced to become the Group's next mine by late 2012 or early 2013. A feasibility study is underway and two drill rigs are working on better defining and extending the known resources.

Another benefit of this Patagonia initiative is the very large exploration license of more than 2,500 square kilometers in a geological region known as the Deseado Massif within the Hidefield portfolio. A number of important discoveries have been made in recent years within the region and our ground is highly prospective with many identified targets. A new exploration program is underway.

Other Projects

During the year the Company has moved ahead on a number of new exploration initiatives. An Agreement was signed with Minera Monterrico Peru SAC in which the Bethania ground package was consolidated. This project is only 10 km from Corihuarmi and presents a large gold copper porphyry target. A 12 hole preliminary drilling program was completed in early 2010 and results are being assessed.

Another gold porphyry is being drill tested in the Maricunga District in Chile where Minera IRL has an option to earn a 75% interest. Early in the year, the Company acquired an option for 100% of the Quilivara Project in southern Peru where Newcrest had sampled encouraging gold surface samples over a wide area. In addition, Minera IRL acquired an option over the Veca Project in Peru, and having assessed it, decided not to continue.

The Report and Accounts for the year ended December 31, 2009 will be posted to shareholders shortly and are available from sedar.com and the Company website www.minera-irl.com.

This press release was reviewed by Donald McIver, VP Exploration of the Company, MSc Exploration and Economic Geology, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AUSIMM), who is recognized as a Qualified Person for the purposes of National Instrument 43-101.

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Minera IRL Limited is the AIM and Lima, Peru listed holding company of precious metals mining and exploration companies focused in Latin America. Minera IRL is led by an experienced senior management team with extensive industry experience, particularly in operating in South America. The Group operates the Corihuarmi Gold Mine and the emerging Ollachea Gold Project in Peru as well as the Don Nicolas Project in Argentina.

The Toronto Stock Exchange neither approves nor disapproves the information contained in this News Release.

Some of the statements contained in this release are forward-looking statements, such as estimates and statements that describe the Company's future plans, objectives or goals, including words to the effect that the Company or management expects a stated condition or result to occur. Since forward-looking statements address future events and conditions, by their very nature, they involve inherent risks and uncertainties.

While these forward-looking statements, and any assumptions upon which they are based, are made in good faith and reflect our current judgment regarding the direction of our business, actual results will almost always vary, sometimes materially, from any estimates, predictions, projections, assumptions or other future performance suggestions herein. Except as required by applicable law, Minera IRL Limited does not intend to update any forward-looking statements to conform these statements to actual results.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for
the year ended 31 December 2009**

	Notes	2009 US\$000	2008 US\$000
Revenue		31,856	43,568
Cost of sales		(18,804)	(17,344)
Gross profit		13,052	26,224
Administrative expenses		(6,637)	(8,447)
Exploration costs written off		(1,739)	(2,185)
Excess of fair value of assets acquired over consideration	2	1,134	-
Operating profit		5,810	15,592
Finance income		36	151
Finance expense		(402)	(657)
Profit before tax		5,444	15,086
Income tax		(2,473)	(2,563)
Profit for the year attributable to the equity shareholders of the parent		2,971	12,523
Earnings per ordinary share (US cents)			
- Basic		4.3	20.2
- Diluted		4.3	18.0

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2009

	Notes	2009 US\$000	2008 US\$000
Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	25,390	26,249
Intangible assets	4	34,197	10,504
Available for sale investments	2	1,567	-
Deferred tax asset		426	-
Other receivables		2,808	-
Total non-current assets		64,388	36,753
Inventory		1,526	773
Other receivables and prepayments		1,714	8,170
Cash and cash equivalents		14,218	8,992
		17,458	17,935
Non-current assets held for sale	2	600	-
Total current assets		18,058	17,935
Total assets		82,446	54,688
Equity			
Share capital		65,784	41,459
Foreign currency reserve		129	129
Share option reserve		1,363	1,173
Accumulated losses attributable to the equity shareholders of the parent		(3,400)	(6,371)
Total equity		63,876	36,390
Liabilities			
Provisions		1,463	1,235
Other long term liabilities		1,843	3,081
Total non-current liabilities		3,306	4,316
Interest bearing loans		3,511	6,000
Current tax		951	2,385
Trade and other payables		10,802	5,597
Total current liabilities		15,264	13,982
Total liabilities		18,570	18,298
Total equity and liabilities		82,446	54,688

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2009

Note	Share capital US\$000	Foreign currency reserve US\$000	Share option reserve US\$000	Accumulated losses US\$000	Total US\$000
Balance at 1 January 2008	41,423	129	543	(18,894)	23,201
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	12,523	12,523
New share capital subscribed	36	-	-	-	36
Reserve for share option costs	-	-	630	-	630
Balance 31 December 2008	41,459	129	1,173	(6,371)	36,390

Note	Share capital US\$000	Foreign currency reserve US\$000	Share option reserve US\$000	Accumulated losses US\$000	Total US\$000
Balance at 1 January 2009	41,459	129	1,173	(6,371)	36,390
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	2,971	2,971
New share capital subscribed	25,166	-	-	-	25,166
Cost of raising share capital	(841)	-	-	-	(841)
Reserve for share option costs	-	-	190	-	190
Balance 31 December 2009	65,784	129	1,363	(3,400)	63,876

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2009

	Note	2009 US\$000	2008 US\$000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Operating profit		5,810	15,592
Depreciation		5,509	5,394
Impairment of exploration assets		-	51
Share option costs		190	630
Provision for mine closure costs		228	233
Loss on disposals of assets		28	64
Excess of fair value of assets acquired over consideration	2	(1,134)	-
Foreign exchange losses relating to non-operating items		250	-
Increase in inventory		(753)	(745)
Decrease/(increase) in other receivables and prepayments		5,097	(4,620)
Increase in trade and other payables		709	1,289
Corporation tax paid		(4,473)	(887)
Net cash flow from operations		11,461	17,001
Interest received		36	151
Interest paid		(140)	(337)
Net cash outflow from operating activities		11,357	16,815
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of subsidiaries net of cash received	2	(1,843)	-
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(3,581)	(11,588)
Acquisition of intangible assets (exploration expenditure)		(12,416)	(4,512)
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(17,840)	(16,100)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from the issue of ordinary share capital		15,300	36
Cost of raising share capital		(841)	-
Repayment of loans		(2,500)	3,000
Net cash inflow from financing activities		11,959	3,036
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		5,476	3,751
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		8,992	5,241
Exchange rate movements		(250)	-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		14,218	8,992