

AIM Release

17 September 2008

Minerva Resources Plc (AIM:MVA)

('Minerva Resources' or 'the Company')

Placing raises £607,500

Minerva Resources plc, the UK based mineral exploration and development company with prospects in Ethiopia, is pleased to announce that it has successfully raised £607,500 via a placing at 2.5p.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Company has successfully raised £607,500;**
- **Ambrian Capital plc ('Ambrian') has agreed to capitalise the outstanding loan made by Ambrian to the Company, amounting to £334,480;**
- **Following this transaction Ambrian has a 38.2% stake in the Company; and**
- **The proceeds of the placing will be used to develop the Tulu Kapi JORC Inferred Resource and to commence the development of the Tulu Kapi JORC Indicated Resource.**

Shares Placed

The directors of Minerva Resources are pleased to announce that the Company has placed 24,300,000 new ordinary shares of 2.5 pence each (the 'Placing Shares') at 2.5 pence per ordinary share (the 'Placing price') through its broker WH Ireland Limited, and Wills & Co Corporate Ltd (Wills), raising £607,500 gross of expenses (the 'Placing').

In addition, Ambrian has agreed to capitalise the outstanding loan made by Ambrian to the Company, amounting to £334,480, by subscribing for 13,379,200 new ordinary Shares ('Ambrian Shares') at the Placing Price. Following this transaction, Ambrian will hold 57,879,200 ordinary shares in the Company, representing 38.2% of the enlarged share capital of the Company.

The Placing Shares and Ambrian Shares are to be issued together with one warrant entitling the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share in the Company at 4 pence per ordinary Share (the 'Warrants'). The Warrants granted shall be exercisable at any time up to 18 months from the date of admission of the Placing Shares to trading on AIM becoming effective. The warrants will not be admitted to trading on AIM.

Wills will receive 2,070,000 new ordinary shares and 2,070,000 Warrants, entitling the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share in the Company at 4 pence per ordinary Share, in

lieu of fees for a commission on the value of the shares placed by Wills, the production of an initial research note and a corporate finance fee.

Application will be made for the 39,749,200 new ordinary shares to be admitted to trading on Aim and dealings are expected to commence on 30 September 2008. Following the admission of these new ordinary shares, the Company's issued ordinary share capital will consist of 151,492,160 ordinary shares of 2.5 pence each.

Use of Proceeds

The proceeds of the placing will be used to complete Stage 1 of the proposed exploration programme, which is the development of the Tulu Kapi JORC Inferred Resource and commence Stage 2, which is the development of the Tulu Kapi JORC Indicated Resource. The timing of the further development of the Tulu Kapi Project is expected to occur in the first quarter of 2009 and it is anticipated that the Company will seek further funding.

Related Party Transactions

The capitalisation of the Ambrian loan is being treated as a related party transaction, under the AIM rules, as Ambrian is a substantial shareholder. Accordingly, the directors of the Company, with Roger Clegg abstaining, as he is a director of an Ambrian group company, consider that, after consultation with WH Ireland, the Company's nominated adviser, the terms of the transaction are fair and reasonable insofar as the shareholders of Minerva Resources are concerned.

Mr. Terry Ward, as a trustee of the Ward Superannuation Fund, which is the pension fund for Mr. Terry Ward, a director of the Company, and of which he and his wife, Christine Ward, are the only trustees of the Fund, has participated in the placing by subscribing for 1,000,000 new ordinary shares at the Placing Price. Following this transaction, the Ward Superannuation Fund will hold 2,522,400 ordinary shares in the Company, which represent 1.7% of the enlarged share capital. Accordingly, the directors of the Company, with Terry Ward abstaining, consider that, after consultation with WH Ireland, the Company's nominated adviser, the terms of the transaction are fair and reasonable insofar as the shareholders of Minerva Resources are concerned.

Terry Ward, Managing Director, commented today,

"The amount of new monies raised in this difficult climate indicates the confidence that our existing and new shareholders have in the potential of the assets and the ability of the management to develop these assets. We are heartened by the continuing tremendous support from Ambrian Capital plc and welcome the new shareholders on the register.

"We look forward to progressing the Resource at Tulu Kapi to the JORC Inferred standard, the further development of the project and its satellite prospects and the investigation into the potential for these prospects to be combined with the Tulu Kapi Project in the establishment of a 'one treatment plant – multiple feed sources scenario'".

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Notes to Editors

Minerva Resources plc is a UK based mineral exploration and development company quoted on London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM:MVA). The Company is intent on delivering shareholder value by increasing and developing its mineral resources in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

The main focus is resource development in Ethiopia where the Company has first-mover advantage on prospective ground on the Arabian-Nubian shield. Key projects include the gold resources at the Tulu Kapi, Gudeya-Guji, Guji and Dina Prospects and the Yubdo Platinum Mine, located in western Ethiopia, some 560km west of Addis Ababa.

Tulu Kapi was mined in the 1930s by an Italian company. In the 1970s, the United Nations Development Programme mapped and drilled Tulu Kapi. Tan Range Exploration carried out soil sampling, further mapping and drilling in the 1990s. These two phases of work confirmed mineralisation extending over a strike length of 1.5km.

Minerva Resources has completed 25 diamond drill holes to date, at Tulu Kapi, on its resource drilling programme on a 600m section, after encouraging Minerva Resources ground mapping, data reinterpretation and excellent scout drilling results.

Scout drilling programmes have been completed at the Gudeya-Guji, Guji and Dina gold prospects, which are located in close proximity to Tulu Kapi. The drilling has shown mineralised intersections on all three prospects.

The results from the drilling on Tulu Kapi, which are shown in the latest drilling report announcement on the Company's website, www.minervaresources.com, and the satellite prospects and their close proximity point towards a new gold province with the potential for the establishment of a 'one treatment plant –multiple feed scenario'.

The Company is examining the potential to expand the small scale platinum production operations at Yubdo, some 25km from the Tulu Kapi Project. A pilot gravity recovery plant has been installed, a metallurgical research programme has been initiated and further exploration activities have commenced on the 9km by 1.5km surface expression of the orebody.

Minerva Resources also has a presence in Central Asia, operating a Technical Services Division undertaking contract drilling and the provision of geological services from the Kyrgyz Republic.

In Sierra Leone, the Company holds gold, platinum and diamond exploration licences, which will for the most part continue to be developed by existing Joint Venture partners.