



Press statement: Eleven CEOs call on the international community to step up the fight against Ebola and welcome President Obama's statement on additional US military support



ArcelorMittal



aureus mining

8 September 2014 - We are a group of eleven companies operating in West Africa. We are understandably concerned about the impact of the Ebola virus on affected countries' economies and the well-being of their people, which is being compounded by subsequent decisions and actions that affect travel to and trade with the region.



Our companies have made long term commitments to these countries and their people and we intend to honour these commitments. We have strong ties to hundreds of local communities that depend on our operations. Despite the challenging environment, we are continuing where possible with normal operations, with the health and safety of our employees being the absolute priority at all times.



We have enormous respect for the organisations and selfless individuals working to contain this outbreak and are committed to support them and the governments concerned to bring the epidemic to an end. As a group we are in regular dialogue with governments, NGOs and other task forces involved to support their work.



We also recognize that a larger coordinated global effort is required. The global community has a strong track record in responding to natural disasters such as hurricanes or earthquakes. We need a similar strength of resolve to tackle an epidemic that has the potential to cause great harm to this region.



We therefore urge the international community to pool its resources and lend support to help reverse the virus and enable these countries to recover as swiftly as possible from dealing with the epidemic. Yesterday's declaration by President Obama concerning US military support in the region is exactly the type of action that is required.



Furthermore there is a risk the measures being taken to restrict travel to the countries most impacted by the virus will aggravate the growing humanitarian crisis.

Ebola is without doubt a horrific virus. But it is a virus that with the right understanding, precautions and processes in place should be avoidable and containable. That's why we are calling for the immediate opening of humanitarian and economic corridors to the affected countries and urge the international community to respect the ECOWAS call to lift any travel bans in accordance with the WHO recommendation.

Without the support of the international community the situation for these economies, many of whom are only beginning to return to stability after decades of civil war, will be even more catastrophic.

African Mining Services

John Kavanagh, General Manager for African Operations

ArcelorMittal

Lakshmi Mittal, Chairman and CEO

Aureus Mining Inc

David Reading, CEO

Dawnus Group

Bob Jones, Managing Director

Golden Veroleum Liberia

David Rothschild, Director

Hummingbird Resources Plc

Dan Betts, CEO

IAMGOLD Corporation

Stephen J.J. Letwin, President and CEO

London Mining Plc

Graeme Hossie, CEO

MonuRent

Tony Carr, CEO

Newmont Mining Corporation

Gary Goldberg, President and CEO

Randgold

Mark Bristow, CEO

Contact information

Martin Barrow, Maitland
T. +44 (0)20 7395 0444
M. +44 (0)7843 068912
mbarrow@maitland.co.uk

Nathalie Falco, Maitland
T: +44 (0)20 7379 5151
M: +44 (0)7788 366056
nfalco@maitland.co.uk