

# International Scene

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## INTRODUCTION

In 2004, the international activities of the Minerals and Metals Sector (MMS) were focused on achieving results through regional and multilateral intergovernmental activities as a means of promoting the sustainable development of minerals and metals. Key initiatives include reaching agreement to launch an Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development; playing a pivotal role in reaching agreement to develop a ministerial-level conference for APEC Ministers Responsible for Mining; and participating in preparatory meetings for the VII Mines Ministries of the Americas (CAMMA) Ministerial Conference. In addition, international business development activities supported Canada's suppliers and exporters of equipment and services for the mining sector through MMS presence and financial support during three key international mining trade shows in South Africa and Chile.

## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE MISSIONS

### EXPOMIN 2004

Held in April 2004, EXPOMIN 2004 provided an excellent opportunity to promote Canada as a world leader in the minerals and metals sector and to develop partnerships that will continue to have a significant contribution to strengthen the mining industry throughout the world. A total of 96 Canadian companies were represented with participation in 52 booths. Canada was one of 17 countries with an exhibition. EXPOMIN is a biennial international trade show that is rated, in terms of participation, as the world's second largest mining trade show after Minexpo in Las Vegas, Nevada. EXPOMIN covers a wide spectrum

of products and services for the mining industry and brings together more than 2000 exhibitors with about 40 000 visitors.

At EXPOMIN 2004, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) developed collaborative partnerships with other government departments and organizations in order to best showcase Canada's mining expertise and cutting-edge technology, as well as its commitment to the sustainable development of Canada's natural resources. The partnership consisted of the Canadian Embassy in Chile, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the Canadian Association of Mining Equipment and Services for Export, Export Development Canada, the Canadian Commercial Corporation, and the Ontario and Quebec provincial governments. NRCan received financial assistance from DFAIT, under the Team Canada Inc.'s Brand Canada Program, to promote the image and visibility of Canada at EXPOMIN 2004.

As part of the cultural activities of the Brand Canada Program, an Inuit stone carver, Bill Nasogaluak, showcased stone-carving techniques for visitors to the Canadian Pavilion. The participation of Mr. Nasogaluak at this trade fair provided an opportunity to enhance and build partnerships with Canadian Aboriginal businesses and to continue collaborating in joint business development initiatives.

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### ELECTRA MINING 2004

Held every two years, ELECTRA MINING is the premier mining event in Africa and the only trade show that offers Canadian suppliers of equipment and services an opening to this large regional mining market. Since its inception 30 years ago, ELECTRA MINING has grown to become the largest specialized industrial exhibition in Africa and ranks amongst the three largest mining shows in the world.

The 2004 edition of ELECTRA MINING took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, September 6-10, 2004. There were about 36 000 visitors and over 600 exhibitors participating in ELECTRA MINING 2004 from Chile, Australia, Canada, the Ukraine, Saudi Arabia, India, and China.

Approximately 24 Canadian companies were represented in 10 booths. Funds from the Brand Canada Program were made available to enhance the quality and visibility of the Canadian Pavilion. The Canada Pavilion, also called "Canada Place," was awarded a prize of Excellence by the show organizers for being an outstanding Pavilion.

The program included a regional debrief from the Trade Office of the Canadian High Commission and a networking reception. ELECTRA MINING 2004 provided participants with many opportunities to showcase Canada's innovative approaches and expertise in mining and technology, and to establish and develop contacts with key African decision-makers.

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## INDABA 2004

The 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Investing in African Mining Conference (INDABA 2004) was held in Cape Town in February 2004. With about 2000 visitors and over 100 exhibitors from over 50 countries, this conference is now Africa's most important mining event, attracting leaders not only from Africa, but from the entire world. Every year, Canadian participation is increasing, demonstrating the interest that not only the mining community has for Africa, but also the financial sector's interest with the presence of some of the key Canadian financial institutions.

The Government of Canada booth was the result of cooperation between DFAIT, NRCan and EDC, and served as a point of contact for any inquiry coming from visitors regarding the presence of Canadian companies in Africa and from many government officials of African countries, especially related to governance issues. As a result, many bilateral meetings took place, several of them aimed at obtaining firm support for the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, a joint Canada-South Africa initiative from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

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## INTERNATIONAL-MULTILATERAL PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES

### Global Dialogue to the Intergovernmental Forum

In June 2004, over 70 delegates from countries involved in the Global Dialogue on Mining/Metals and Sustainable Development met in Geneva to complete negotiations to establish the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development. This meeting completed the work initiated at a meeting of the Global Dialogue in Geneva held October 1-3, 2003. The Terms of Reference, Draft Rules of Procedures, membership procedures, and Guidance Document for the Programme of Work were agreed upon. The new Forum will come into effect once 25 countries send their membership notice to Canada or South Africa. Canada has accepted to act as Secretariat of the Forum for the initial five-year period.

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### Minerals and Metals in the APEC Region

The economies of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) include not only major producers of minerals and metals, but also major users of metals and mineral products. Many economies, as a result, have a direct interest in the long-term viability of the minerals and metals sector. Three fora that address minerals and metals issues exist within APEC: APEC Ministers Responsible for Mining, the Expert Group on Mineral and Energy Exploration and Development (GEMEED), and the Nonferrous Metals Dialogue.

In 2004, GEMEED organized and supported the first meeting of APEC Ministers Responsible for Mining held in Antofagasta, Chile. The Antofagasta Declaration reflected the two themes of the meeting, recognizing: the contribution that the minerals and metals sector made to economic and social development; and the need for trade and investment liberalization and facilitation so that all APEC economies, both producers and users of minerals and metals and their products, could benefit.

Delegations agreed to develop a working plan to promote collaboration among economies and to raise the profile of minerals and metals issues in APEC. This working plan will be developed and coordinated by GEMEED. As a specific activity, Chile was charged with writing to the European Commission to express the concerns of APEC economies about the possible trade implications of the EU's new Chemicals Policy (REACH).

The Nonferrous Metals Dialogue, which is chaired by Chile (government) and Russia (industry), created a steering group of interested APEC economies that met in Chile to finalize plans for the first meeting of the Dialogue, which will take place in Korea in 2005. The Dialogue has a broad mandate covering the promotion of cooperation and interaction to facilitate nonferrous metals trade and to enhance competitiveness and sustainable development of the industry in the Asia-Pacific region.

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### **Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)**

In 2002, the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Governing Council adopted a proposal to develop a strategic approach to international chemicals management (SAICM) that was subsequently endorsed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and launched under the auspices of the UNEP. The objectives is to ensure that, by 2020, "chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment."

Following an organizational meeting in 2003, the second Preparatory Meeting (PrepCom 2) for SAICM took place in Nairobi, Kenya, October 4-8. Canadian objectives were to promote more effective, efficient implementation of existing international instruments, more strategic approaches to sustainable capacity building, and more effective sharing of scientific information and decisions made on chemicals. The meeting was convened jointly by UNEP, the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, and the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals. More than 300 government representatives and more than 40 intergovernmental organizations, industry, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attended. In addition to reaching agreement that an overarching policy strategy, a global plan of action, and a high-level declaration will be adopted by Ministers at the inaugural meeting of the International Council planned for early 2006 in Vienna, NRCan played a key role in preparations for PrepCom 2 and participated on the Canadian Delegation, serving as the rapporteur for the contact group established to identify possible concrete measures to support the future global plan in support of five main objectives: risk reduction, information and knowledge, governance, capacity building and technical cooperation, and preventing international illegal traffic.

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## **REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES**

### **Annual Mines Ministries of the Americas Conference (CAMMA)**

In 2004, the Secretary of State of Industry and Commerce of the Dominican Republic continued as the Executive Secretariat of CAMMA. At the request of the Dominican Republic government, the Minerals and Metals Sector (MMS) provided assistance and guidance to the Executive Secretariat as an advisor and member of CAMMA's Coordinating Committee.

In March 2004, on the margins of the PDAC Trade Show and Conference in Toronto, MMS organized an Executive Planning Meeting for members of CAMMA's Coordinating Committee. Representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Mexico, and Venezuela participated. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss host country options for the VII CAMMA ministerial conference, which had to be rescheduled from its originally planned date in early 2004. Discussions also reviewed the ongoing financial challenges to the viability of the regional forum.

In April 2004, MMS chaired a meeting of the Mining and Communities working group that took place in Santiago, Chile, on the margins of the EXPOMIN 2004 mining trade show. Participating countries included Argentina, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Peru. Jamaica was the only working group member absent. The working group approved a draft project outline and agreed to pursue the development of country-specific multi-stakeholder working groups comprising government, industry and NGOs. Members also agreed to develop a detailed project proposal to seek potential funding partners in their respective countries.

In September 2004, also in Santiago, Chile, a preparatory meeting of CAMMA officials took place. Representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and the United States attended, as well as representatives of the United Nation's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Organization of Latino Mining (OLAMI). It was agreed that Argentina would be the host for the VII CAMMA ministerial conference. Tentative dates were confirmed as May 5-6, 2005. A draft agenda for the ministerial conference was developed. Proposals for a program of future work were also considered by members and will be further explored with members via Coordinating Committee teleconferences and the ministerial conference. In recognition

of the considerable level of technical support provided to CAMMA by ECLAC, it was proposed, and agreed to by members present, that ECLAC should be recognized formally by CAMMA at the VII CAMMA ministerial conference as a Technical Secretariat to CAMMA members.

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## African Mining Partnership

Twenty-one African ministers responsible for mining gathered in Cape Town on February 9 to launch the African Mining Partnership (AMP) to which Canada, represented by Natural Resources Canada and the Department of Foreign Affairs, has been invited as an observer. The idea of establishing a network of Mines Ministers was first initiated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in July 2001 as part of the discussions on the establishment of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and was later endorsed by African Mining Ministers attending the World Mines Ministries Forum (WMMF) in March 2002 in Toronto.

AMP's principal objective is to improve the national governance of mineral resources in Africa by providing local administration with the tools they need to enhance the contribution of the mineral sector to sustainable development and to poverty alleviation. The implementation of AMP offers African governments a unique opportunity to deliver on the key elements of a strategy aimed at addressing key governance issues affecting the management of their natural resources. World institutions (World Bank, UNECA, UNCTAD) have indicated so far that they would welcome the establishment of such a network in Africa and considered that Canada, as a natural leader in natural resources management and mineral development, can make a significant contribution to Africa's social and economic development through the transfer of its expertise in this area.

At their February 2004 meeting, African Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of meetings and decided to support a number of priorities in the following areas:

- Beneficiation;
- Artisanal and small-scale mining;
- Human resources development;
- Environment/sustainable development; and
- Promoting foreign investment and indigenous/local participation in mining ventures.

Ministers also decided to take a proactive role in the establishment of the Global Dialogue and to collaborate on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. Ministers indicated that the extractive industries are a high priority

for many African countries as they can be considered an effective means of poverty alleviation and a component of their sustainable development strategy. In this respect, Ministers were concerned with the recommendations of the Extractive Industries Review (EIR), which could have a negative impact on the development of the continent's mineral sector at the expense of any progress being made to improve the governance of this key economic sector.

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## Canada-Africa Mining Forum: Leveraging Opportunities With Canada

The Minerals and Metals Sector, in conjunction with the Toronto Stock Exchange and Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP, organized a workshop entitled *Canada-Africa Mining Forum: Leveraging Opportunities with Canada*, on Monday, February 9, 2004. The workshop was held just prior to the Investing in African Mining Conference/Indaba in Cape Town and consisted of two separate but linked information and networking sessions.

The first session focussed on trying to connect Black Empowerment Enterprises (BEEs), who have lands on which to explore or develop but require expertise, with Canadian companies who have exploration and mining expertise, funds for exploration, and experience in raising capital on the TSX/TSX-V. The session covered legal, financial and regulatory issues that must be considered by both parties prior to entering into any deal concerning a mining or exploration project in South Africa.

The second session focussed on why and how to list on the TSX/TSX-V. This covered issues such as the pros and cons of becoming a publicly trade company and the minimum listing and ongoing reporting requirements. Over 65% of the world's mining companies are listed on the TSX/TSX-V exchanges. Both sessions, which targeted slightly different audiences, were well attended (70+ persons for each session).

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## BILATERAL PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES

In October 2004, a Brazilian delegation met with MMS officials in Ottawa to explore possible opportunities for greater bilateral activity surrounding Canadian experiences and case studies on Aboriginal participation in the mining sector. The Brazilian delegation announced that

future mining opportunities in Brazil were largely located on indigenous territories and that Canadian legislation and policy in this area could provide Brazil with informed policy on this subject. It was noted by the Brazilians that there currently are a large number of Canadian companies conducting exploration in Brazil that may be affected by a change in the investment climate in Brazil related to future access to land. Agreement was reached to identify some specific activities, with a possible MOU on information exchange and the exchange of experts/meetings, that could be incorporated into a future bilateral project.

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## **PARTNERSHIPS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Environmental Management in the Mining Sector (EMMS) of Zambia**

The EMMS project was designed to focus on both technical training on environmental issues related to mining and the environment, and on operational issues related to the creation of a more sustainable and efficient Mines Safety Department (MSD) for the regulation of health, safety and environment within the mining sector in Zambia. Approximately mid-way through the project, it became clear that the Government of Zambia was unlikely to take significant steps towards addressing the chronic lack of suitable resources (personnel, equipment and supplies) at MSD, at least within the planned life of the EMMS project. Despite the completion of project activities aimed at addressing the lack of resources, including a Resource and Revenue Plan and draft Cabinet Memo for MSD, as well as a mining sector education trust program (ZAMSET), the project was officially terminated by CIDA on August 4, 2004, following a review of their programming priorities in Zambia. The project office in Kitwe was closed in October 2004 and project assets were distributed amongst MSD and a Canadian-run orphanage. All outstanding accounts were settled and a final project report is due in 2005.

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Notes: (1) Information in this review was current as of November 30, 2005. (2) This and other reviews, including previous editions, are available on the Internet at [www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/cmy/2004CMY\\_e.htm](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/cmy/2004CMY_e.htm).

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