

10 May 2019

**SolGold plc**  
(“SolGold” or the “Company”)

**Strong Copper-Gold Porphyry Results Returned in The Coangos Project,  
Southern Ecuador**

The Board of SolGold (LSE & TSX code: SOLG) is pleased to provide an update from the Company’s regional exploration activities from its 100% owned Coangos Project in southeastern Ecuador, held by wholly owned subsidiary Cruz Del Sol S.A.

**Highlights**

- Initial geochemical sampling has identified 4 anomalous areas in the Coangos Project in the Coangos 2, Chimius and Chimius 2 Tenements (**Figure 2**).
- Two areas of mineralised outcrop have been identified in Anomaly 1 (**Figure 2**).
  - Rock chip samples of mineralised outcrops;
    - R02001026 **9.27% Cu, 91.5g/t Ag**
    - R02001027 **8.31% Cu, 99.8g/t Ag**
    - R02001031 **6.12% Cu, 60.1g/t Ag**
  - Rock chip samples of near-source stream boulders;
    - R02001010 **23.2% Cu, 122g/t Ag**
    - R02001011 **20.6% Cu, 114 g/t Ag**
- A high-grade fault breccia, located in anomaly 2 (**Figure 2**) has been mapped over 200m in length and 1m wide and remains open in both directions.
  - Rock chip samples from the breccia
    - R02001034 **27.98% Cu, 227 g/t Ag, 0.98% Zn**
    - R02001035 **8.37% Cu**
    - R02001036 **6.45% Cu**
- Coangas is now the twelfth 100% owned priority project in SolGold’s regional exploration base.

Commenting on the results, Exploration and Ecuador Country Manager Jason Ward said: **“The strong anomalism in the area , previous works by BHP and the extent of the Coangos system on the well endowed Jurassic Belt, also host to the Fruta del Norte and Mirador projects, both in development by third parties indicate very high potential for a major copper gold porphyry project in the broader tenement area**



## Introduction

Ecuador is located on the copper-gold rich and under-explored northern section of the Andean Copper Belt. The well explored southern portion is renowned as the production base for nearly half of the world's copper (**Figure 1**). SolGold's strategy to become a tier 1 copper and gold producer through systematic exploration continues to yield exciting results. Follow up exploration has focussed on 12 priority projects identified across SolGold's 72 granted regional concessions.

With 12 priority projects now recognised, ongoing exploration by SolGold technical teams is focussed on advancing these priority projects with a view to progress to drill testing as soon as possible. SolGold's high success rate has been achieved by operating multiple field teams comprising 42 Ecuadorean geologists in regional exploration, led by highly experienced national geologists and applying the exploration discovery and appraisal blueprint developed over the last 4 years at Alpala.

The Coangos Project is located on the Southern Jurassic aged belt in Ecuador, which hosts the Fruta del Norte, Mirador and other projects in Ecuador.

## Further Information

Cruz del Sol teams have discovered two areas of mineralised outcrops in the Coangos project in Southern Ecuador, characterised by strong copper-carbonates and copper-oxides exposed mainly in fractures. Stream outcrops are up to 120m in length. Mineralization is hosted in volcanoclastic rocks in Anomaly 1 (**Figure 2 & 4**). The copper-silver zones contain primary chalcocite and chalcopyrite, and secondary copper carbonates and oxides, chrysocolla, malachite, and tenorite. Near-source stream boulders with chrysocolla have returned very high copper and silver grades. The main mineralised vein-joint orientation is 20°/70°E.

A second area of concentrated copper-silver occurrences is associated with regional faults oriented 128°/62°W and 240°/85°W. Chrysocolla – tenorite occur together with k-feldspar, plagioclase, and carbonates in micro-fractures. The following significant results have been obtained from in situ outcrops:

- R02001026      **9.27% Cu, 91.5g/t Ag**
- R02001027      **8.31% Cu, 99.8g/t Ag**
- R02001031      **6.12% Cu, 60.1g/t Ag**
- R02001019      **4.13% Cu, 23.0g/t Ag**
- R02001021      **3.19% Cu, 28.3g/t Ag**
- R02001017      **2.23% Cu, 17.3g/t Ag**

Results returned from near-source boulders occurring in the streams in the area include;

- R02001010      **23.2% Cu, 122g/t Ag**
- R02001011      **20.6% Cu, 114g/t Ag**
- R02001012      **13.5% Cu, 90.4 g/t Ag**

## Mineralised Breccia

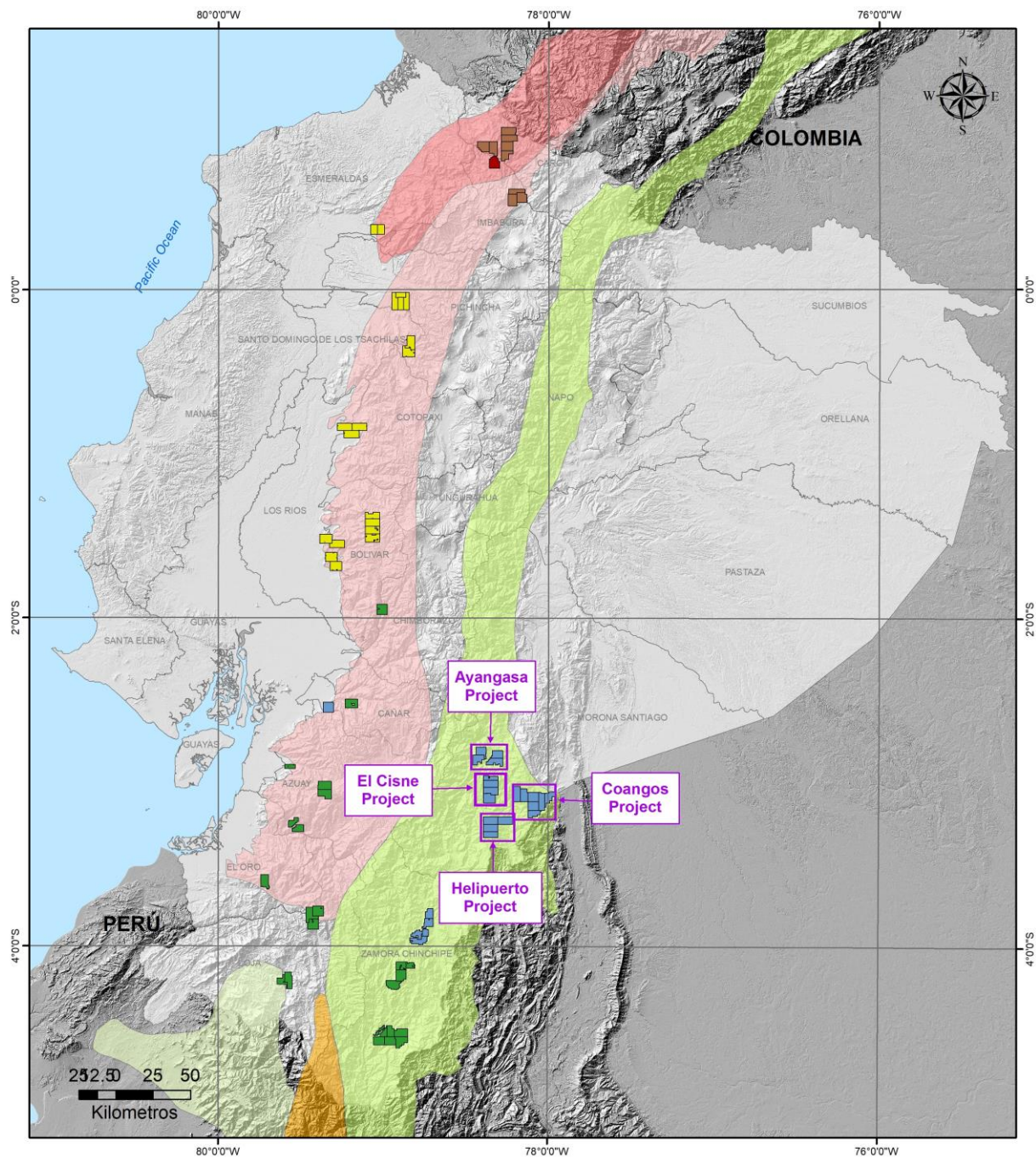
At the head of the Numpaim River in the Coangos 2 Tenement, a breccia structure was mapped and sampled in an area known as Anomaly 2 (**Figure 2**). Mineralisation is associated with a fault breccia 1.5m wide containing quartz veins up to 8mm thick, sugary quartz clasts, rhodochrosite (a manganese carbonate mineral), barite and calcite in a zone of chlorite-sericite alteration (**Figures 3 & 5**).



The breccia outcrop contains up to 7% bornite (rich copper sulphide, 63% copper), 3% chalcocite (a very rich copper sulphide, 80% copper), chalcopyrite 1% (standard copper sulphide mineral, 33% copper) and 5% enargite (a gold complex mineral). The breccia is exposed along strike in two separate streams, located 200m apart. The structure has not been closed off and mapping continues in streams along strike.

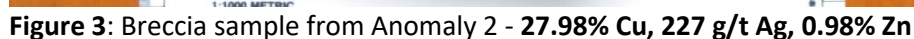
Rock chip samples from the breccia return:

- R02001034 **27.98% Cu, 227 g/t Ag, 0.98% Zn**
- R02001035 **8.37% Cu**
- R02001036 **6.45% Cu**



**Figure 1:** Location plan of the Coangos Project in southern Ecuador.









**Figure 4:** Mineralised outcrops in Anomaly 1



**Figure 5:** Fault breccia outcrop

Sample ID	easting	northing	elevation	lithology	Cu_ppm	Ag_ppm	Mo_ppm	Pb_ppm	Zn_ppm
R02001034	817544	9655458	1140	Volc Breccia	279800	227	745	1980	9760
R02001026	822096	9654911	860	Sandstone	92650	91.5	1.22	20.7	16
R02001035	817722	9655875	1062	Volc Breccia	83740	1.58	1.37	23.8	36
R02001027	822098	9654913	860	Sandstone	83100	99.8	1.1	20.8	9
R02001036	817720	9655876	1062	Volc Breccia	64480	1.64	1.45	42.7	348
R02001030	822067	9654967	799	Tuff	61200	60.5	0.55	27.9	15
R02001019	822232	9654732	951	Volc Sedim	41320	23	1.15	32.9	30
R02001021	822074	9654817	851	Volc Sedim	31860	28.3	1.7	58.1	46
R02001017	821144	9655514	655	Tuff	22350	17.3	0.76	4.3	71
R02001022	822138	9654774	914	Volc Sedim	18870	12.65	0.63	10.8	27
R02001032	817579	9655485	1119	Volc Sedim	16670	4.2	47.4	35.6	530
R02001043	817049	9656708	1198	Volc Breccia	6400	1.28	0.57	10.7	122
R02001016	821145	9655512	655	Volc Breccia	5160	4.95	0.43	5.5	78
R02001047	817333	9655156	1279	Andesite	3310	0.61	2.53	11.2	174
R02001042	817196	9656729	1129	Andesite	3090	0.39	3.74	10.7	121

**Table 1:** Significant in situ rock chip results Coangos Project

Sample ID	easting	northing	elevation	lithology	Au_ppm	Ag_ppm	Cu_ppm	Mo_ppm
R02001010	820579	9656706	423	Conglomerate	0.014	122	232100	4.01
R02001011	821427	9655972	589	Conglomerate	0.013	114	206100	3.46
R02001012	821090	9655757	607	Breccia	0.01	90.4	134800	1.34
R02001033	818947	9657014	659	Volc Sedim	-0.005	9.12	123250	0.72
R02001015	821884	9655908	661	Tuff	-0.005	45	96680	2.17
R02000994	820664	9659570	364	Monzonite	-0.005	19.9	51390	2.59
R02001013	819492	9656529	567	Conglomerate	0.006	15.7	41220	2.11
R02000986	819274	9659628	465	Granodiorite	-0.005	5.35	23220	2.26
R02001014	819580	9656552	554	Conglomerate	0.005	5.26	21710	1.44
R02000989	820773	9658760	365	Dacite	-0.005	7.29	8570	0.19

**Table 2:** Significant transported rock chip results Coangos Project



## Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) Disclosure

Certain information contained in this announcement would have been deemed inside information for the purposes of Article 7 of the Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 until the release of this announcement.

### Qualified Person:

Information in this report relating to the exploration results is based on data reviewed by Mr Jason Ward ((CP) B.Sc. Geol.), the Chief Geologist of the Company. Mr Ward is a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, holds the designation FAusIMM (CP), and has in excess of 20 years' experience in mineral exploration and is a Qualified Person for the purposes of the relevant LSE and TSX Rules. Mr Ward consents to the inclusion of the information in the form and context in which it appears.

By order of the Board  
Karl Schlobohm  
Company Secretary





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## ABOUT SOLGOLD

SolGold is a leading exploration company focussed on the discovery and definition of world-class copper and gold deposits. In 2018 SolGold's management team was recognised by the "Mines and Money" Forum as an example of excellence in the industry, and continue to strive to deliver objectives efficiently and in the interests of shareholders. SolGold is the largest and most active concession holder in Ecuador and is aggressively exploring the length and breadth of this highly prospective and gold-rich section of the Andean Copper Belt.

### ***Ecuador dedicated to become a serious mining nation***

Ecuador has, over the last 5 years, been recognised globally as a frontrunner in emerging mining nations as it develops regulatory and fiscal frameworks to facilitate the development of a fiscally, socially and environmentally strong and responsible mining industry.

### ***Dedicated stakeholders***

SolGold employs a staff of over 560 and at least 98% are Ecuadorean. This is expected to grow as the operations at Alpala, and in Ecuador generally, expand. SolGold focusses its operations to be safe, reliable and environmentally responsible and maintains close relationships with its local communities. SolGold has engaged an increasingly skilled refined and experienced team of geoscientists using state of the art geophysical and geochemical modelling applied to an extensive data base to enable the delivery of ore grade intersections from nearly every drill hole at Alpala. SolGold has 86 geologists, of which 11% are female, on the ground in Ecuador looking for copper and gold.

### **About Cascabel and Alpala**

The Alpala deposit is the main target in the Cascabel concession, located on the northern section of the heavily endowed Andean Copper Belt, the entirety of which is renowned as the base for nearly half of the world's copper production. The project area hosts mineralisation of Eocene age, the same age as numerous Tier 1 deposits along the Andean Copper Belt in Chile and Peru to the south. The project base is located at Rocafuerte within the Cascabel concession in northern Ecuador, an approximately three hour drive on sealed highway north of Quito, close to water, power supply and Pacific ports (**Figure 1**).

Alpala has produced some of the greatest drill hole intercepts in porphyry copper-gold exploration history, as exemplified by Hole 12 (CSD-16-012) returning 1560m grading 0.59% copper and 0.54 g/t gold including, 1044m grading 0.74% copper and 0.54 g/t gold.

Having fulfilled its earn-in requirements, SolGold is a registered shareholder with an unencumbered legal and beneficial 85% interest in ENSA (Exploraciones Novomining S.A.) which holds 100% of the Cascabel concession covering approximately 50km<sup>2</sup>. The junior equity owner in ENSA is required to repay 15% of costs since SolGold's earn in was completed, from 90% of its share of distribution of earnings or dividends from ENSA or the Cascabel concession. It is also required to contribute to development or be diluted, and if its interest falls below 10%, it shall reduce to a 0.5% NSR royalty which SolGold may acquire for US\$3.5m.

Over 189,984m of diamond drilling has been completed on the project. With numerous rigs currently active on the project, SolGold produces up to approximately 10,000m of core every month. The Cascabel drill program is currently focussed on extending and upgrading the status of the Alpala Resource, as well as further drill testing of the rapidly evolving Aguinaga prospect. Drill testing of the Trivinio target has commenced, whilst the numerous other untested targets, namely at Moran, Cristal, Tandayama-America and Chinambicito, are flagged for drill testing as overall program demands allow.



Since the publication of the Alpala Maiden Mineral Resource Estimate in January 2018, which outlined a contained metal inventory of 5.2 million tonnes of copper and 12.6 million ounces of gold, the Company has nearly doubled both drilled and reported meterage.

The November 2018 Alpala MRE update, dated 15 November 2018, was estimated from 68,173 assays. Drill core samples were obtained from total of 133,576m of drilling comprising 128 diamond drill holes, including 75 drill holes comprising, 34 daughter holes, 8 redrills, and 11 over-runs, and represents full assay data from holes 1-67 and partial assay data received from holes 68 to 75. In contrast, the Dec 2017 Maiden MRE was estimated from 26,814 assays obtained from 53,616m of drilling comprising 45 drill holes, including 10 daughter holes and 5 redrills.

The November 2018 Alpala updated Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) totals a current:

- 2,050 Mt @ 0.60% CuEq (at 0.2% CuEq cut-off) in the Indicated category, and 900 Mt @ 0.35% CuEq (at 0.2% CuEq cut-off) in the Inferred category.
- Contained metal content of 8.4 Mt Cu and 19.4 Moz Au in the Indicated category.
- Contained metal content of 2.5 Mt Cu and 3.8 Moz Au in the Inferred category.

Investors should consult the technical report dated 3 January 2019 for a detailed account of the assumptions on which the estimates were based as well as any known legal, political, environmental and other risks that could materially affect the development of the resources.

#### ***Getting Alpala advanced towards development***

SolGold has appointed feasibility management to initially address the production of a preliminary economic assessment (PEA), prior to the prefeasibility and feasibility studies.

The resource at the Alpala deposit boasts a high grade core which, in the event of the construction of a mine, is targeted to facilitate early cashflows and an accelerated payback of initial capital. SolGold is currently investigating development and financing options available to the company for the development of Cascabel on reaching feasibility.

#### **SolGold's regional push**

SolGold is using its successful and cost efficient blueprint established at Alpala, and Cascabel generally, to explore for additional world class copper and gold projects across Ecuador. SolGold is the largest and most active concessionaire in Ecuador having recognised as early as 2014 that the country hosted the same untested prospectivity as the Northern Chilean section of the Andean Copper Belt, which accounts for some 25% of the world's copper resources.

The Company believes Alpala is just the beginning for SolGold in Ecuador. The Company wholly owns four other subsidiaries active throughout the country that are now focussed on twelve high priority gold and copper resource targets, several of which the Company believes have the potential, subject to resource definition and feasibility, to be developed in close succession or even on a more accelerated basis from Alpala.

SolGold is listed on the London Stock Exchange and Toronto Stock Exchange (LSE/TSX: SOLG). The Company has on issue a total of 1,846,321,033 fully-paid ordinary shares; 139,012,000 share options exercisable at 60p and 21,250,000 share options exercisable at 40p.





See [www.solgold.com.au](http://www.solgold.com.au) for more information. Follow us on twitter @SolGold\_plc

## CAUTIONARY NOTICE

News releases, presentations and public commentary made by SolGold plc (the "Company") and its Officers may contain certain statements and expressions of belief, expectation or opinion which are forward looking statements, and which relate, inter alia, to interpretations of exploration results to date and the Company's proposed strategy, plans and objectives or to the expectations or intentions of the Company's Directors. Such forward-looking and interpretative statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors beyond the control of the Company that could cause the actual performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from such interpretations and forward-looking statements.

Accordingly, the reader should not rely on any interpretations or forward-looking statements; and save as required by the exchange rules of the TSX and LSE or by applicable laws, the Company does not accept any obligation to disseminate any updates or revisions to such interpretations or forward-looking statements. The Company may reinterpret results to date as the status of its assets and projects changes with time expenditure, metals prices and other affecting circumstances.

This release may contain "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. Forward-looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements regarding the Company's plans for developing its properties. Generally, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or state that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved".

Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking information, including but not limited to: transaction risks; general business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties; future prices of mineral prices; accidents, labour disputes and shortages and other risks of the mining industry. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.

The Company and its officers do not endorse, or reject or otherwise comment on the conclusions, interpretations or views expressed in press articles or third-party analysis, and where possible aims to circulate all available material on its website.

The Company recognises that the term "World Class" is subjective and for the purpose of the Company's projects the Company considers the drilling results at the growing Alpala Porphyry Copper Gold Deposit at its Cascabel Project to represent intersections of a "World Class" deposit. The Company considers that



"World Class" deposits are rare, very large, long life, low cost, and are responsible for approximately half of total global metals production.

"World Class" deposits are generally accepted as deposits of a size and quality that create multiple expansion opportunities, and have or are likely to demonstrate robust economics that ensure development irrespective of position within the global commodity cycles, or whether or not the deposit has been fully drilled out, or a feasibility study completed.

Standards drawn from industry experts (1) Singer and Menzie, 2010; (2) Schodde, 2006; (3) Schodde and Hronsky, 2006; (4) Singer, 1995; (5) Laznicka, 2010) have characterised "World Class" deposits at prevailing commodity prices. The relevant criteria for "World Class" deposits, adjusted to current long run commodity prices, are considered to be those holding or likely to hold more than 5 million tonnes of copper and/or more than 6 million ounces of gold with a modelled net present value of greater than USD 1 Billion.

The Company and its external consultants prepared an initial mineral resource estimate at the Cascabel Project in December 2017. Results are summarised in **Table B** attached.

The Mineral Resource Estimate was completed from 53,616m of drilling, approximately 84% of 63,500m metres drilled as of mid-December 2017, the cut-off date for the maiden resource calculation. There remains strong potential for further growth from more recent drilling results, and continue rapid growth of the deposit.

Any development or mining potential for the project remains speculative.

Drill hole intercepts have been updated to reflect current commodity prices, using a data aggregation method, defined by copper equivalent cut-off grades and reported with up to 10m internal dilution, excluding bridging to a single sample. Copper equivalent grades are calculated using a gold conversion factor of 0.63, determined using an updated copper price of USD3.00/pound and an updated gold price of USD1300/ounce. True widths of down hole intersections are estimated to be approximately 25-70%.

On the basis of the drilling results to date and the results of the Alpala Maiden Mineral Resource Estimate, the reference to the Cascabel Project as "World Class" (or "Tier 1") is considered to be appropriate. Examples of global copper and gold discoveries since 2006 that are generally considered to be "World Class" are summarised in **Table A**.

#### References cited in the text:

1. Singer, D.A. and Menzie, W.D., 2010. *Quantitative Mineral Resource Assessments: An Integrated Approach*. Oxford University Press Inc.
2. Schodde, R., 2006. *What do we mean by a world class deposit? And why are they special*. Presentation. AMEC Conference, Perth.
3. Schodde, R and Hronsky, J.M.A, 2006. *The Role of World-Class Mines in Wealth Creation*. Special Publications of the Society of Economic Geologists Volume 12.
4. Singer, D.A., 1995, *World-class base and precious metal deposits—a quantitative analysis*: Economic Geology, v. 90, no.1, p. 88–104.
5. Laznicka, P., 2010. *Giant Metallic Deposits: Future Sources of Industrial Metal, Second Edition*. Springer-Verlag Heidelberg.

Deposit Name	Discovery Year	Major Metals	Country	Current Status	Mining Style	Inventory
LA COLOSA	2006	Au, Cu	Colombia	Feasibility - New Project	Open Pit	<sup>1</sup> 469Mt @ 0.95g/t Au; 14.3Moz Au
LOS SULFATOS	2007	Cu, Mo	Chile	Advanced Exploration	Underground	<sup>2</sup> 1.2Bt @ 1.46% Cu & 0.02% Mo; 17.5Mt Cu
BRUCEJACK	2008	Au	Canada	Development/Construction	Open Pit	<sup>3</sup> 15.6Mt @ 16.1 g/t Au; 8.1Moz Au
KAMOA-KAKULA	2008	Cu, Co, Zn	Congo (DRC)	Feasibility - New Project	Open Pit & Underground	<sup>4</sup> 1.3Bt @ 2.72% Cu; 36.5 Mt Cu
GOLPU	2009	Cu, Au	PNG	Feasibility - New Project	Underground	<sup>5</sup> 820Mt @ 1.0% Cu, 0.70g/t Au; 8.2Mt Cu, 18.5Moz Au
COTE	2010	Au, Cu	Canada	Feasibility Study	Open Pit	<sup>6</sup> 289Mt @ 0.90 g/t Au; 8.4Moz Au
HAIYU	2011	Au	China	Development/Construction	Underground	<sup>7</sup> 15Moz Au
RED HILL-GOLD RUSH	2011	Au	United States	Feasibility Study	Open Pit & Underground	<sup>8</sup> 47.6Mt @ 4.56 g/t Au; 7.0Moz Au
XILING	2016	Au	China	Advanced Exploration	Underground	<sup>9</sup> 383Mt @ 4.52g/t Au; 55.7Moz Au

Source: after MinEx Consulting, May 2017

<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.mining-technology.com/projects/la-colosa>

<sup>2</sup> Source: <http://www.angloamerican.com/media/press-releases/2009>

<sup>3</sup> Source: <http://www.pretivm.com/projects/brucejack/overview/>

<sup>4</sup> Source: <https://www.ivanhoemines.com/projects/kamoa-kakula-project/>

<sup>5</sup> Source: [http://www.newcrest.com.au/media/resource\\_reserves/2016/December\\_2016\\_Resources\\_and\\_Reserves\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.newcrest.com.au/media/resource_reserves/2016/December_2016_Resources_and_Reserves_Statement.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Source: <http://www.canadianminingjournal.com/news/gold-iamgold-files-cote-project-pea/>

<sup>7</sup> Source: <http://www.zhaojin.com.cn/upload/2015-05-31/580601981.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Source: [https://mrdata.usgs.gov/sedau/show-sedau.php?rec\\_id=103](https://mrdata.usgs.gov/sedau/show-sedau.php?rec_id=103)

<sup>9</sup> Source: [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-03/29/content\\_28719822.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-03/29/content_28719822.htm)

**Table A:** Tier 1 global copper and gold discoveries since 2006. This table does not purport to be exhaustive exclusive or definitive.

Grade Category	Resource Category	Tonnage (Mt)	Contained Metal					
			Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	CuEq (%)	Cu (Mt)	Au (Moz)	CuEq (Mt)
Total >0.2% CuEq	Indicated	2,050	0.41	0.29	0.60	8.4	19.4	12.2
	Inferred	900	0.27	0.13	0.35	2.5	3.8	3.2

**Table B:** Alpala Mineral Resource Estimate updated effective 16 November 2018.

#### Notes:

- Mr. Martin Pittuck, MSc, CEng, MIMMM, is responsible for this Mineral Resource estimate and is an "independent qualified person" as such term is defined in NI 43-101.
- The Mineral Resource is reported using a cut-off grade of 0.3% copper equivalent calculated using [copper grade (%)] + [gold grade (g/t) x 0.6] based on a copper price of US\$2.8/lb and gold price of US\$1,160/oz.
- The Mineral Resource is considered to have reasonable potential for eventual economic extraction by underground mass mining such as block caving.
- Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.
- The statement uses the terminology, definitions and guidelines given in the CIM Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (May 2014).
- The MRE is reported on 100 percent basis.
- Values given in the table have been rounded, apparent calculation errors resulting from this are not considered to be material.
- The effective date for the Mineral Resource statement is 16 November 2018.