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Eurasian Resources Group in Africa

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **ERG's Metalkol becomes the first tailings reprocessing site to commence The Copper Mark assurance process, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable development**

**15 October 2024 - La Compagnie de Traitement des Rejets de Kingamyambo S.A ("Metalkol S.A"), a facility wholly owned by Eurasian Resources Group (ERG), is pleased to announce that it has officially commenced The Copper Mark assurance process, after being accepted to participate in the globally recognised practice for responsible copper production.**

Undertaking the assurance process reflects Metalkol's commitment to upholding responsible and sustainable practices, in line with the principles and goals stated in the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals. This is according to a letter of commitment signed by Metalkol and The Copper Mark on 12 September 2024.

The Copper Mark is a leading assurance framework launched in 2020 to address growing international demand for the responsible sourcing and production of minerals, promoting best practice across the copper, nickel, molybdenum and zinc value chains. The assurance process is a voluntary, transparent, and independent award based on third-party assessments by approved assessors that will verify that Metalkol meets the requirements for responsible production practices.

**Michèle Brühlhart, Executive Director of the Copper Mark**, said: *"We welcome Metalkol as the first tailings reprocessing site to commit to the Copper Mark Assurance Process. Reprocessing of mine waste is an important part of ensuring responsible production both in terms of minimizing the site's long-term impact, and maximizing its efficiency."*

*"The acceptance of our application into The Copper Mark assurance process is a significant milestone for both ERG in Africa and the whole Group"* said **Mr Nicolas Treand, CEO of ERG Africa**. *"Undergoing this assurance process reflects our commitment to adhere to the highest sustainability standards and contribute to the responsible development of the mining sector in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is essential for the future of the country and its people,"* added **Mr Treand**.

Achieving The Copper Mark award will align with ERG Africa's sustainable production commitments, outlined in its Clean Cobalt & Copper Framework. The Framework, first introduced in 2018 as the 'Clean Cobalt Framework', and extended to include copper in 2021, aims to ensure high standards of responsible cobalt and copper production, value chain assurance, and improved living conditions for local communities near ERG Africa's operations. The seven goals outlined in the framework are achieved through a comprehensive set of management systems, processes, controls, and investments designed to comply with, and go beyond, the OECD Due Diligence Guidance. The framework is independently assured annually by PwC.

The Framework also commits Metalkol to the Responsible Mineral Initiative's Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP) for which it is already annually certified.

The Copper Mark requirements cover all material Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues. Copper producers who achieve The Copper Mark certification will automatically meet the London Metal Exchange's (LME) three responsible sourcing requirements. These include sourcing management systems, environmental management systems and occupational health and safety management systems.

Learn more about ERG's Clean Copper & Cobalt Framework [here](#).

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**About Eurasian Resources Group:**

**Eurasian Resources Group (ERG)** is a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg, with integrated mining, processing, energy, logistics, and marketing operations. The Group is a major employer in the industry with over 80,000 people working for it globally. ERG sells products in more than 40 countries. The Group's main shareholder (40% stake) is the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

ERG is one of the world's largest producers of cobalt and ferrochrome and is a large international supplier of copper and iron ore. In Eurasia, it is a leading supplier of alumina and is the only producer of high-grade aluminium in Kazakhstan.

Overall, in Kazakhstan, ERG represents one third of the metals and mining sector. The Group operates many of the country's leading production entities, including Kazchrome, SSGPO, Kazakhstan Aluminium Smelter, Aluminium of Kazakhstan, Eurasian Energy Corporation, and others. The Group is a key power supplier and a large railway operator in Central Asia.

ERG Africa also forms a core part of the Group's international asset portfolio. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Frontier is the cornerstone of the Group's copper business and Metalkol is a major tailings reprocessing operation, which has become one of the world's largest producers of cobalt and a major producer of copper. The Group also has a copper and cobalt business in Zambia and development projects in South Africa and Zimbabwe which are focused on other minerals and products. In addition, the Group has its own supply chain on the continent through its logistics company SABOT.

In Brazil, ERG is developing BAMIN, an integrated mining and logistics project in the State of Bahia, which comprises the Pedra de Ferro high-grade iron ore mine, the Porto Sul deep-water port and the associated stretch of the new FIOLE broad-gauge railway.

ERG is a founding member of the Global Battery Alliance (GBA), which includes more than 180 leading businesses, international organizations, NGOs and research institutes.

[www.ergafrica.com](http://www.ergafrica.com)

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### **About The Copper Mark:**

The Copper Mark is the leading independent assurance framework that promotes responsible practices in the copper, molybdenum, nickel and zinc industries, focusing on environmental protection, social responsibility, and corporate governance. Through its assurance process, The Copper Mark empowers companies to demonstrate their commitment to responsible practices and accountability. The Copper Mark explicitly targets the entire value chain. Producers in mining, smelting/refining and manufacturing can apply for the Copper Mark, the Molybdenum Mark, the Nickel Mark and/or the Zinc Mark by meeting the responsible production and sourcing criteria as defined in the Risk Assessment (RRA) Criteria Guide jointly issued by The Copper Mark and the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI). In total, this covers 33 different criteria, independently assessed on site by third parties.