

Paris, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## **Mining: AREVA and Namibia strengthen their strategic partnership**

AREVA CEO Anne Lauvergeon and Erkki Nghimtina, Namibian Minister of Mines and Energy, today signed an industrial partnership in the presence of Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba.

This provides for the creation by the Namibian government and AREVA of a joint mining exploration company for the country's future uranium operations.

Today's agreement confirms AREVA's role as a strategic partner of Namibia, and its commitment to support the government's efforts to maximize the value of its uranium resources and continue to develop local skills through training and higher education.

Commenting on the agreement as she left the Windhoek State House, Anne Lauvergeon said she was "delighted with the trust that the Namibian government has once again placed in AREVA, having already given the group the go-ahead to mine the Trekkopje deposit and build a desalination plant. With this new scope, we will be working with the government in exploring other uranium resources in other regions. It is the decisive first step in a long partnership."

**Press Office**  
Patricia Marie  
Julien Duperray  
Fleur Floquet-Daubigeon  
Pauline Briand  
T: +33 1 34 96 12 15  
F: +33 1 34 96 16 54  
press@areva.com

### **More about**

*All over the world, AREVA provides its customers with solutions for carbon-free power generation and electricity transmission. With its knowledge and expertise in these fields, the group has a leading role to play in meeting the world's energy needs.*

*Ranked first in the global nuclear power industry, AREVA's unique integrated offering covers every stage of the fuel cycle, reactor design and construction, and related services. In addition, the group is expanding its operations in renewable energies, including biomass, wind power and fuel cells. AREVA is also a world leader in electricity transmission and distribution and offers its customers a complete range of solutions for greater grid stability and energy efficiency.*

*Sustainable development is a core component of the group's industrial strategy. Its 75,000 employees work every day to make AREVA a responsible industrial player that is helping to supply ever cleaner, safer and more economical energy to the greatest number of people.*

### **AREVA in Namibia**

*AREVA is currently developing the Trekkopje mining project, which is expected to begin production in 2010. At the same time, AREVA is building a seawater desalination plant to meet the Trekkopje mine's water requirements.*

*One hundred and forty people are currently working on projects and operations at Trekkopje, with 320 new jobs to be created by June 2010. The final headcount at the mine will reach 1100, including 600 mining subcontractors. In addition to this, the desalination plant site currently has 500 employees, with a further 200 working on the project construction site (to reach 1100).*

**Investor Relations**  
Isabelle Coupey  
isabelle.coupey@areva.com  
T: +33 1 34 96 14 85