

## Orano signs a partnership agreement in Uzbekistan

Paris, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Orano has signed a partnership agreement with the Uzbek State, represented by the State Committee for Geology and Mineral resources (GoscomGeology) to develop mining exploration and operations activities in Uzbekistan.

The two partners have decided to create a joint venture which will be established in few months, with 51% held by Orano and 49% held by GoscomGeology.

This agreement formalizes the desire of both parties to work together on Uranium mining projects in Uzbekistan, in particular in the Navoiy region in a desert area at the heart of the uranium-rich province of Kyzylkum.

The two partners plan to conduct borehole drilling works in the area to improve the classification of resources already identified by GoscomGeology and discover new Uranium resources. The first works in the field are planned to commence in the first half of 2020.

Nicolas Maes, Senior Executive Vice President of Orano's Mining Business Unit declared: "We are happy with and proud of this agreement which is part of the geographical diversification of the group's mining activities and consolidates its presence in Central Asia. It helps to strengthen relations within the framework of cooperation between France and Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan has extensive experience in the mining of uranium deposits by ISR<sup>1</sup>, and combined with Orano's experience, this gives this project the solid foundations expected to move into new territories and develop innovative solutions capable of improving our productivity and thus meet our customers' expectations".

Bobir Islamov, Chairman of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources said: "Uzbekistan is rich in mineral resources and has a developed mining industry. The country mines major deposits such as the Muruntau gold deposit, the Kalmakyr porphyry copper deposit, and the Uchkuduk uranium mines in the province of Kyzylkum. The partnership agreement we are signing with Orano is about consolidating our efforts and carrying out mutually beneficial projects in order to diversify our uranium industry and create new production capacities by combining the expertise and experience of both parties. We believe cooperating with a reliable partner such as Orano, which has vast expertise and experience as well as a stable place in the global uranium market, will contribute to the success of the projects carried out by the JV we are creating. The agreement signed today is a symbolic event and will, without doubt, contribute to the development of a good relationship and friendship between France and Uzbekistan".

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<sup>1</sup> In Situ Recovery

### About Orano

Orano transforms nuclear materials so that they can be used to support the development of society, first and foremost in the field of energy.

The group offers products and services with high added value throughout the entire nuclear fuel cycle, from raw materials to waste treatment. Its activities, from extraction to dismantling, as well as conversion, enrichment, recycling, logistics and engineering, contribute to the production of low-carbon electricity.

Orano and its 16,000 employees bring to bear their expertise and their mastery of cutting-edge technology, as well as their permanent search for innovation and unwavering dedication to safety, to serve their customers in France and abroad.

Orano, giving nuclear energy its full value.

### About GoscomGeology

GoscomGeology is the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Geology and Mineral Resources. GoscomGeology coordinates and provides for geological exploration of minerals, fulfillment of tasks for increasing reserves of hydromineral resources, solid nonmetallic minerals, ferrous and rare metals, rare earth elements and geological tasks for the formation, strengthening and expansion of the Republic's mineral and raw materials base (except hydrocarbon raw materials, precious and non-ferrous metals, uranium) and other works in the field of geological study of the territory of the Republic. GoscomGeology carries out the rights and duties of the owner on geological and other information about the subsoil, obtained from public funds through the GoscomGeology system; and carries out its accounting, storage and systematization for all types of minerals obtained as a result of geological exploration work both financed by state funds and own resources of users of subsurface resources.



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