



Paris, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## PRESS RELEASE

### Combined Shareholders' General Meeting of May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- **Significant dividend maintained: €1.80/share**
- **Sound financial situation maintained thanks to crisis response measures**
- **Upturn confirmed in current operating income for 1<sup>st</sup> half 2010 vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2009 if current market conditions continue**
- **A strategy of profitable growth and greater diversification on fast-developing markets**

ERAMET's shareholders, at their General Meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Paris chaired by Patrick BUFFET, passed all the draft resolutions recommended by the Board of Directors and rejected the draft resolutions proposed by Carlo Tassara France.

The results of the votes for each resolution will be published on ERAMET's website ([www.eramet.com](http://www.eramet.com)).

- **Significant dividend maintained: €1.80/share payable in stock or cash**

The Shareholders' General Meeting approved the dividend proposed with respect to financial 2009, i.e. €1.80 per share. Maintaining a significant dividend is a sign of confidence in the Group's outlook beyond the crisis.

Every shareholder may choose to receive the dividend payment in cash or in new ordinary shares in the Company.

This option must be exercised between May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 inclusive. Failing exercise of the option within the set timeframe, the dividend will be paid in cash only.

The issue price of the new ordinary shares that will be distributed as payment of the dividend is set at 229.32 Euros per share. This price corresponds to 90% of the average listed price of the ERAMET share for the 20 trading sessions prior to the date of the present General Meeting, minus the price of the dividend, rounded up as the case may be to the nearest euro cent.

The dividend will be detached from the share on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and paid out in cash or stock from June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010.

- **Appointment of a new director**

The General Meeting ratified the co-opting of Mr Pierre FROGIER as a director of ERAMET in succession to Mr Harold MARTIN, who resigned. Mr FROGIER, who was co-opted in November 2009, is a member of parliament who has represented the 2<sup>nd</sup> constituency of New Caledonia since 1993 and is President of the Southern Province Assembly of New Caledonia.

- **Following the General Meeting, Patrick BUFFET, Chairman and CEO of ERAMET, stated:**

"2009 was heavily marked by the crisis. Nevertheless, the Group showed great responsiveness and so safeguarded a sound financial situation. This enables it to maintain its medium and long-term goals.

Beyond the current crisis, ERAMET is very well positioned on fast-growing markets in emerging countries, first among which China.

Through its strategic project, the Group intends to develop and diversify its positions from a base of robust activities and strengths, with special emphasis on the following avenues:

- Broadening global leadership positions in alloying metals for the steel industry (in its current metals and in new metals with high growth potential),
- Strengthening positions in upscale metallurgy, particularly by creating integrated activities and securing supplies of strategic raw materials,
- Diversifying the portfolio of special metals for fast-growing sectors (energy storage, high technologies, etc.) where the Group can leverage its know-how,
- Stepping up sustainable development activities by continuing to enhance the recycling component, a "secondary mine", both in current metals and as a source of new metals.

ERAMET has an extensive portfolio of growth projects. The Group's strategic project will lead to substantial prospects for value creation, resulting from:

- A major acceleration of growth, in preparation today for the long timeframes that characterise mining businesses,
- And greater diversification, not only in terms of products and markets, but also geographically with the new facilities under consideration, enabling the Group to distribute risks better."

### *Warning*

*The option for dividend payment as described above complies with French law. It is not open to shareholders residing in any country in which such an option would require registration with or obtaining an authorisation from local stock market authorities. Shareholders must inform themselves about any conditions with respect to this option that may apply pursuant to local law. When they decide whether to opt for payment of the dividend in stock, shareholders must take into consideration the risks related to investing in shares. For any further information on the company and its activity, strategy, financial results and the risks relating to its activity, please consult our document de référence (available on the Company's website).*

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## **ABOUT ERAMET**

ERAMET is a leading global producer of:

- alloying metals, particularly manganese and nickel, used to improve the properties of steel,
- high-performance special steels and alloys used in industries such as aerospace, power generation and tooling.

ERAMET also plans to develop in new metals with high growth potential such as lithium and in recycling.

The Group employs approximately 15,000 people in 20 countries. ERAMET is part of Euronext Paris Compartment A and is listed on the MSCI index.

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