



Statement from the Organizers

The ECOWAS Commission, the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and AME Trade Ltd, were delighted to host +500 plus delegates and nearly 2000 visitors to ECOMOF 2018, the Second ECOWAS Mining and Petroleum Forum, which took place 10 – 12 December 2018 at the Sofitel Hotel Ivoire, in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

ECOMOF is an initiative established by the ECOWAS Commission following recommendations that a regional mining and petroleum forum was required as part of the activities to promote and develop the mining and oil potentials of Member States. Held under the theme “Strategies to Promote the Development of West Africa’s Mining and Petroleum Industries”, ECOMOF 2018 was organized with the following objectives in mind:

- Promote and develop the mining and oil potentials of Member States.
- Help ensure the socio-economic integration within the West African region.
- Harmonise legal, regulatory and taxation instruments.
- Catalyse and develop artisanal and small-scale mining.
- Establish, develop and organize geological, mining and oil databases for Member States.
- Develop human resources and create a network of experts.
- Use the mining and petroleum industries to develop community infrastructure.
- Add value to mining and petroleum products and strengthen trade in these products.
- Promote corporate social responsibility and increase stakeholders’ awareness of the development issues of their local communities.

“Your presence at the same time numerous and distinguished is proof of the great interest that exists in the mining and petroleum sectors which, more and more, play an important role in the policies of economic growth and development of each of our countries.” – Jean-Claude KOUASSI, Minister of Mines and Geology, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire during ECOMOF 2018.

ECOMOF 2018 was praised as a resounding success and we thank all the participants for their contributions to the debates and the networking activities that occurred during the event. A special word of thanks to the sponsors of the event, Sodemi, Endeavour Mining, IDC Drilling Company, Sama Nickel, Concrete Canvas, Exploration and Mining Suppliers, Manas Resources, EMICI and Perseus Mining. We would also like to thank the Government and the People of Cote d'Ivoire for their hospitality in hosting this second edition of ECOMOF.

Once again, thank you very much and we look forward to seeing you again next edition!