



GLOBAL ALUMINA UPDATES STATUS OF PROJECT

TORONTO, ON – January 31, 2008 – Global Alumina Corporation ("Global Alumina" or the "Company") (TSX: GLA.U) announced today that on January 25th, the Board of Directors of Guinea Alumina Corporation, Ltd. held meetings in Brisbane, Australia. Guinea Alumina Corporation, Ltd. is the joint venture among Global Alumina Corporation, BHP Billiton, Dubai Aluminium Company Limited and Mubadala Development Company PJSC that is developing a world class alumina refinery and associated infrastructure project in the Republic of Guinea. The joint venture's senior management made detailed presentations of the project's bankable feasibility study work in progress to the Board, comprised of senior executives of its shareholders including Global Alumina. The joint venture retained Bechtel and other specialized consultants for key elements of the feasibility study. As a result of these presentations, Global Alumina Corporation is providing the following project updates prior to the conclusion of the feasibility study.

- The schedule to complete the feasibility study has been extended to the middle of March 2008 from the end of December 2007.
- As a result of further design optimization, Global Alumina expects the refinery's production capacity to be increased by an additional 100,000 metric tons to 3.3 million metric tons per year for the first two processing lines. The refinery is laid out to accommodate construction of a third processing line that would increase the project's total capacity to 5.0 million metric tons per year.
- The estimated cost to complete the construction of the project has experienced a significant increase due to a number of factors including: i) a significant decline in the value of the US dollar; ii) a significant rise in the cost of diesel and fuel oil affecting both transportation and construction costs; iii) continued increases in the price of key bulk construction materials such as structural steel, cement, piping and electrical cable; iv) higher than expected increases in labour costs due to the tight world wide labour market; and v) the increasingly heated market for industrial equipment and construction services. Global Alumina currently expects an approximately 35% increase in the estimated costs to complete the construction of the first two processing lines from the previously estimated US\$3.2 billion to approximately US\$4.3 billion.
- Global Alumina now expects first alumina shipments to commence in September 2011.
- Although the alumina refinery's operating costs are expected to be higher than originally planned, Global Alumina expects the operating costs to be among the lowest 10% in the world.
- As a result of higher forecasted aluminum prices and broader interest in providing debt financing to the project, the project's debt capacity is expected to increase to US\$2.5 billion from US\$2 billion.
- Project financing commitments are now expected to be secured by the middle of this year with financial closing anticipated to follow in September 2008.

Global Alumina will provide a further update upon completion of the bankable feasibility study, now expected in the middle of March 2008.

“Although the magnitude of the estimated construction cost increases is disappointing, the Guinea Alumina refinery project is the largest ever green-field alumina refinery project and, in our view, continues to represent the most attractive alternative among all currently proposed new alumina refineries around the world,” stated Bruce Wrobel, CEO of Global Alumina. “With its low projected operating costs, its easy access to abundant, high quality bauxite, its significant opportunities for expansion and its marquee joint venture partners, we believe that this strategic asset will continue to generate significant interest throughout the aluminum industry.”

About Global Alumina

Global Alumina and its joint venture partners are developing a 3.3 million metric tons per annum alumina refinery located in the bauxite-rich region of the Republic of Guinea. Its joint venture partners are BHP Billiton, Dubai Aluminium Company Limited and Mubadala Development Company PJSC. The Guinea Alumina refinery project is one of the most advanced new projects in Guinea with the refinery already in feasibility stage and critical path infrastructure and site work already underway. Global Alumina is positioned to be one of the only companies focused solely on alumina production and sales. The Company offers a first mover advantage over other projects in the region and an opportunity for socially responsible investing in a country that holds over one-third of the world's bauxite resources. Global Alumina is headquartered in Saint John, New Brunswick with operations in Boké, Guinea and has administrative offices in New York, London, Montreal and Conakry, Guinea. For further information visit the Company's website at www.globalalumina.com.

Forward Looking Information

Certain information in this release is "forward looking information", which reflects management's expectations regarding the Company's future growth, results of operations, performance and business prospects and opportunities. In this release, the words "may", "would", "could", "should", "will", "intend", "plan", "anticipate", "believe", "seek", "propose", "estimate" and "expect" and similar expressions, as they relate to the Company, are often, but not always, used to identify forward looking information. Such forward looking information reflects management's current beliefs and is based on information currently available to management. Forward looking information involves significant risks and uncertainties, should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be accurate indications of whether or not or the times at, or by which, such performance or results will be achieved. In particular, this release contains forward looking information pertaining to the following: the achievement by the joint venture company, Guinea Alumina Corporation Ltd. ("Guinea Alumina"), of certain milestones set out in the subscription agreement among Guinea Alumina and its shareholders, the joint venture partners, (the "Subscription Agreement"); the decisions of the joint venture with respect to the Guinea Alumina refinery project ; the timing of completion of a feasibility study of the Guinea Alumina refinery project and the making of a decision to proceed with the development of the refinery project ; expectations regarding the debt financing of the Guinea Alumina refinery project, the terms, timing and amount of such financing and the sources of financing; the amount, nature and timing of capital expenditures to complete the refinery project; the timing of refinery construction and mine start up; bauxite reserve and resource quantities; the ultimate recoverability of reserves; future production levels; expectations regarding the negotiation of contractual rights; prices for alumina and aluminium; operating and other

costs; treatment of Guinea Alumina under the fiscal terms of the "tax exhibit" to the Basic Agreement with the Government of Guinea (as described in the Company's Annual Information Form dated March 29, 2007, the "AIF") and the negotiation and terms of agreements relating to the access of Guinea Alumina to and use of certain infrastructure required for the development and operation of the Guinea Alumina refinery project and business strategies and plans of management with respect to the Guinea Alumina refinery project. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward looking information, including, but not limited to: the failure or delay of Guinea Alumina to fulfill the conditions precedent necessary for the subsequent subscription payments under the Subscription Agreement to become available to the Company; the limited control by the Company of the assets and operations of the Guinea Alumina refinery project and its inability to make major decisions with respect to the Guinea Alumina refinery project without agreement from the other joint venture partners; the requirement that the Company hold 85% of subscription proceeds received pursuant to the Subscription Agreement in escrow and the possibility the Company may need to seek additional financing to fund corporate expenses and its share of Guinea Alumina refinery project costs; a delay in finalizing debt financing for the Guinea Alumina refinery project and/or the amount of such financing being insufficient to fund the Guinea Alumina refinery project to complete development; the inability of the Company to raise sufficient financing to fund its share of the development costs of the Project; the possibility that the Company's interest will be diluted if it is unable to meet a capital call with respect to the Guinea Alumina refinery project; the current political and economic risks of investing in a developing country; the failure of the joint venture partners to approve plans for the development of the Guinea Alumina refinery project after completion of the feasibility study; construction risks such as cost overruns, delays and shortages of labour, materials or equipment; the Company's dependence on an interest in a single mining property; the possible forfeiture of the Mining Concession (as defined in the Company's AIF) in certain circumstances; operational risks such as access to infrastructure and skilled labour; currency fluctuations; price volatility of alumina, aluminium or raw materials; and certain other factors related to the Guinea Alumina refinery project discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's AIF.

The forward looking information contained in this discussion is based on the following principal assumptions: that the feasibility study will be completed by March 2008 to the satisfaction of the joint venture partners and that the joint venture partners will decide to proceed with the development of the Guinea Alumina refinery project; that general economic conditions will not become adverse to the completion of financing for the project and will have no material adverse impact on the project; that the negotiations with prospective project lenders and between the prospective project lenders and the Guinean government will be successfully concluded shortly thereafter; that the bidding process for contracted work in connection with the project will be completed in a competitive manner and that actual costs to complete work will be within the range of quotes provided by contractors to date; that the joint venture will be able to acquire necessary labour at currently assumed labour costs and productivity rates; that the development plan for the project is conducted according to schedule; that general economic factors and trends relating to construction costs remain constant; and that the future political and economic climate in Guinea has no material adverse effect on the Guinea Alumina refinery project. Although the forward looking information contained in this release is based upon what management of the Company believes are reasonable assumptions, the Company cannot assure investors that actual results will be consistent with this forward looking information. If the assumptions underlying forward looking information prove incorrect or if other risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated in this release. This forward looking information is made as of the date of this release, and the Company assumes no obligation to update or revise it to reflect new events or circumstances, except as required by law.

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