



## Global Alumina Releases First Quarter 2009 Results

TORONTO, ON – May 8, 2009 – Global Alumina Corporation (TSX: GLA.U) (the "Company" or "Global Alumina"), a corporation participating in a joint venture to develop an alumina refinery, mine and associated infrastructure in the bauxite-rich region of the Republic of Guinea (the "Project"), announced today its financial and operating results for the three month period ended March 31, 2009. The text of the quarterly unaudited financial statements and management's discussion and analysis can be viewed or printed from the Company's SEDAR reference page at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). All dollar amounts are in U.S. dollars.

### First Quarter 2009 Financial Highlights<sup>1</sup>

- For the three months ended March 31, 2009, the Company contributed capital to the Project joint venture totalling \$20.0 million to fund its one-third share of construction and development costs.
- As of March 31, 2009, the joint venture company, Guinea Alumina Corporation, Ltd. ("Guinea Alumina"), has capitalized into construction in progress \$560.4 million, of which \$45.0 million relates to first quarter 2009.
- The board of directors of Guinea Alumina approved a cumulative work plan and budget of \$65.7 million from January 2009 through June 2009.
- In January 2009, the Company received the second deferred subscription payment of \$33.3 million from its joint venture partners. A third deferred subscription payment of \$33.3 million remains due to the Company on achievement of specified milestones.
- As at March 31, 2009 and May 8, 2009, respectively, the Company had unrestricted cash of \$12.4 million and \$23.1 million and restricted cash totalling \$81.2 million and \$69.9 million in its escrow account to fund future Project capital calls.
- For the three months ended March 31, 2009, the Company reported a net loss of \$1,373,878 (\$0.01 per share), compared with a net loss of \$1,479,363 (\$0.01 per share) for the same period in 2008.
- Interest income for the quarter was \$288,404.

The Company expects that funds on hand as of May 8, 2009 will be sufficient to enable it to meet its corporate operating expense requirements through 2012 and to fund its one-third share of Project development cash calls at least through to finalization of debt financing for the Project.

---

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all financial figures discussed in this announcement are unaudited, prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial statements, expressed in U.S. dollars as at March 31, 2009, and represent comparisons between the three month period ended March 31, 2009 and the equivalent period ended March 31, 2008.

## **Significant Corporate Events**

### *Receipt of subscription monies*

On December 30, 2008, the Company and the joint venture partners entered into a deed of acknowledgement and release (the "Deed of Acknowledgement and Release") pursuant to which the second deferred subscription payment of approximately \$33.3 million was made in January 2009. The parties also agreed that upon the official publication of the order transferring the Project's Guinean mining concession from the Company to Guinea Alumina's operating subsidiary and the expiration of a 65 day challenge period, the parties would deem the Title Transfer Date (as defined in the subscription agreement between the Company, its subsidiary, Guinea Alumina and the joint venture partners) to have occurred and certain warranties and indemnities provided by the Company to the joint venture partners in connection with title to Project's mining concession would be terminated and \$11.3 million, representing 15% of the first and second deferred subscription payments, would be released from escrow and become freely available. The order was published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Guinea on December 22, 2008 and the challenge period expired on February 25, 2009.

Upon a review by the joint venture partners of the minutes of a report of a bailiff of the Guinean Courts certifying no challenges to the order had been raised during the challenge period, each of the joint venture partners confirmed in April 2009 their satisfaction with the process of transfer of the title to the Project's mining concession, and pursuant to the Deed of Acknowledgement and Release the parties deemed the Title Transfer Date to have occurred.

### *Project development timing*

During the first quarter, the joint venture board directed management to conduct a comprehensive review of the Project's proposed development plan with the intention to examine ways to capture the cost reduction opportunities provided by a cooling world economic climate and to enhance the Project's readiness in the near term by maintaining work in Guinea and improving the capacity of Guinean individuals and institutions through training and skills development. The revised development plan will be considered at a future meeting of the joint venture partners. Global Alumina expects a revised development plan to be approved no later than the end of 2010, although the timing and outcome of any decision remains uncertain. Meanwhile, Guinea Alumina's management team is preparing for board approval detailed plans and budgets for the period from July 2009 through December 2010 that Global Alumina expects to total no more than \$94 million, of which the Company would be responsible for its one-third share.

## **About Global Alumina**

Global Alumina and its joint venture partners are developing a 3.6 million metric tons per annum nominal capacity alumina refinery located in the bauxite-rich region of the Republic of Guinea. The joint venture partners in the Project are Global Alumina International, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, BHP Billiton, Dubai Aluminium Company Limited and Mubadala Development Company PJSC. The 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](http://www.globalalumina.com).

## **Forward Looking Information**

*Certain information in this press 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 and its assets and interests, 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 discussion contains forward looking information pertaining to the following: the decisions of the joint venture with respect to the conduct of the Project; the approval of the proposed development plan with respect to the Project and the making of a decision by the joint venture partners to proceed with the development of the Project and the timing of such decision; the outcome of the review by the Government of Guinea of agreements for compliance purposes; expectations regarding the financing of the Project, the terms, timing and amount of financing and the sources of financing for the Project; the amount, nature and timing of capital expenditures to complete the Project; the timing of refinery construction and mine start up; future production levels; expectations regarding the negotiation of contractual rights; prices for alumina and aluminium; operating and other costs; the negotiation and terms of agreements relating to the access of the Project joint venture to and use of certain infrastructure required for the development and operation of the Project; recognition by the new political regime in Guinea of historical agreements negotiated by the previous government, and general business strategies and plans of management with respect to the 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 in obtaining debt financing for the Project; the limited control by the Company of the assets and operations of the Project and its inability to make major decisions with respect to the Project without agreement from the other joint venture partners; the requirement that the Company hold a portion 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; the amount of debt financing available to the Project being insufficient to fund the Project to complete development; the inability of the Company to raise sufficient financing to fund its share of the development costs of the Project in excess of the maximum Project debt financing; the possibility that the Company's interest will be diluted if it is unable to meet a capital call with respect to the Project; the current political and economic risks of investing in a developing country; recent political events in Guinea and the establishment of a new government and the policies of such new government; material changes to the cost estimates and time estimates for development of the Project and changes in the world economy causing such estimates to become inaccurate; a decision by the joint venture partners to delay the Project or not to proceed with the Project; construction risks such as cost overruns, delays and shortages of labour, materials or equipment; the Company's dependence on an interest in a single asset; the possible forfeiture of the Project's Guinean mining concession 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 Project discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Information Form.*

*The forward looking information contained in this discussion is based on the following principal assumptions: that the data, estimates and projections in the bankable feasibility study of the Project are within the range of accuracy suggested therein; that the joint venture partners will agree on a timely schedule for development of the Project and will make a decision to proceed with the Project upon approval of the development plan by the end of 2010 and that notice to proceed will be given within six months thereafter; 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 resume and be successfully concluded; 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 once approved the development plan for the Project is conducted according to schedule; that general economic factors and trends relating to construction costs remain constant or improve and that the future political and economic climate in Guinea has no material adverse effect on the Project and that the new political regime continues to recognize agreements negotiated by the previous government. Although the forward looking information contained in this discussion is based upon what management of the Company believes are reasonable assumptions, Global Alumina 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 press release, and Global Alumina assumes no obligation to update or revise it to reflect new events or circumstances, except as required by applicable law.*

For further information, please contact:

Michael Cella  
Global Alumina  
212 351 0010  
cella@globalalumina.com

Barbara Cano  
Breakstone Group  
646 452 2334  
bcano@breakstone-group.com