

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04139 271448Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 INT-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 EUR-25

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R 261421Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3502

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4139

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BL, BGEN

SUBJ: MINISTER MINING SIGNS MINERAL EXPLORATION AGREEMENT  
WITH FRENCH COMPANY

1. ON JUNE 25 MINMINING JACQUES BOULANGER, REPRESENTATIVE OF BUREAU DE RESERCHES GEOLOGIQUES ET MINIERES, BRGM AND FRANCOIS CHENEVIER REPRESENTATIVE FRENCH MINISTRY OF MINES SIGNED GENERAL MINERAL EXPLORATION AGREEMENT (LETTER OF INTENT) IN NATIONAL RESERVE AREAS WHICH SCHEDULED TO BE RATIFIED WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM JUNE 25.

2. MINERAL EXPLORATION AREA NOT SPECIFIED BUT LIKELY TO BE NORTH OR SOUTH LIPEZ AREA, DEPARTMENT POTOSI, SOUTHWESTERN BOLIVIA WHICH CONTAINS COPPER, ANTIMONY, LEAD, SILVER, TIN, AND BISMUTH MINERALIZATION.

3. AFTER FIXED EXPLORATION PERIOD, AT NO COST TO BOLIVIA AND UNDER CONDITIONS YET TO BE FIXED BY SUBSEQUENT CONTRACTS BRGM WILL CONTRIBUTE ITS TECHNICAL COOPEATION IN EXPLORATION, EXPLOITATION, AND SALES OF MINERALS MINED THROUGH MIXED COMPANY WHICH WILL BE OWNED OVER 50 PERCENT BY BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT. COMIBOL LIKELY TO BE BOLIVIAN ASSOCIATE IN MIXED COMPANY.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH GENERAL AGREEMENT DOES NOT MENTION IT, IT IS FELT IN MINISTRY MINING CIRCLES THAT EXPENSES INCURRED IN  
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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 04139 271448Z

ADVANCED EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT WILL BE DEDUCTIBLE FROM SUBSEQUENT MINING OPERATIONS. TRANSLATION OF GENERAL AGREEMENT

WILL BE SENT BY AIRGRAM.

5. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW EVENTS CLOSELY WITH PURPOSE OF FINDING NEW INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO AMERICAN COMPANIES INTERESTED IN MINERAL INDUSTRY. AT PRESENT NO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN SIGNED SUCH AS MINIMUM REQUIRED INVESTMENT AND TOTAL TIME OF EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, OR DURATION OF CONTRACT.  
STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

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