



February 24, 2022

Zarkent settlement

## PRESS RELEASE

**On February 24, 2022, in order to get acquainted with the work carried out in units of Southern mining administration of “Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Company” Joint-Stock Company, a press tour and a press conference were held for media representatives and journalists from Navoi and Samarkand regions.**

Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Company plays an important role in the economy of Uzbekistan. In recent years, the company has been implementing large investment projects. Within these projects in 2021, **Hydrometallurgical plant-7** was put into operation, **building “B”** was launched at Hydrometallurgical plant-2, which processes **12 million tons** of ore per year.

Noted that in 2021 the share of NMMC in production of industrial products of the republic exceeded **13%**, total share of revenues to the state budget about **20%**, the company took **5th place** in the ranking of world gold producing companies.

Media representatives visited **Hydrometallurgical plant-4, the Zarmitan and Gujumsay mines** of “NMMC” JSC, located in Zarkent settlement of Kushrabit district, got acquainted in detail with the production processes and ongoing projects, and talked with employees.

To date, Southern mining administration, which employs about 6 thousand employees, is one of the largest units of the company. The annual ore extraction capacity of the Zarmitan underground mine is **850 thousand tons**. The mine produces gold-bearing quartz-sulfide ore. Today, the most modern equipment – underground self-propelled loading and unloading machines, mining dump trucks, drilling rigs and other equipment of foreign companies such as Epiroc, Sandvik, Paus, Miner is widely used in underground mining.

In August 2021, there was put into operation a the building of a mine hoisting machine and a shaft of a pile driver, built on the site of the “Glavniy” shaft at the Zarmitan mine. As a result, convenience was created for lowering and lifting workers, cargo to the horizons of the “Glavniy” shaft and transporting the mined ore to the surface. The old mine hoist, which was in use until that time, descended to a depth of **300 meters** above ground level. Now it is possible to descend to a depth of **930 meters** and raise reserves from the lower levels of the earth to the surface.

The Gujumsay mine produces gold-bearing quartz-sulfide ore. In 2018, there was put into operation a new mine with a depth of **500 meters** and a diameter of **6 meters** at the mine. With the launch of the mine, the project capacity of the Guzhumsay mine reached **750 thousand tons** of gold ore per year. In 2021, there was put into operation a process line for a mobile (portable) laying unit at the mine. This facility, erected as part of the investment project by increasing the production capacity of the Guzhumsay mine, serves to prevent subsidence of the earth’s surface in the mine and ensure safety.

Launched in August 2010 in the village of Zarkent settlement, Hydrometallurgical plant-4 is the second largest production complex built by the company over the years of independence of Uzbekistan. In 2010-2020, through the efforts of highly qualified and experienced specialists of the company, the productivity of the plant was increased **from 1.8 million to 2 million tons** of processed ore per year, the recovery rate of gold is maintained at **92.2%**. Since then, the enterprise has processed **more than 20 million tons** of ore mined at the Zarmitan and Guzhumsay underground mines.

According to geological studies, the reserves of the Zarmitan gold ore deposit will allow the plant to operate stably until **2070**. Currently, the plant, which employs **more than 500 people**, widely uses the latest equipment and technology.

Heads and specialists of Southern mining administration, the mines and the plant answered the questions of the media representatives and journalists in detail at the press conference.

**FOR INFORMATION:**

*“Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Company” Joint-Stock Company is one of the ten leading world companies producing gold and is the largest mining enterprise in Uzbekistan, which has mastered the full production cycle from geological exploration of reserves in the subsoil, mining and processing of ore to obtaining finished products. The mark “999.9” on the gold bars of the plant has become the brand of Uzbekistan on the world exchanges of precious metals!*

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