

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

23 January 2007

Companies Announcement Platform  
Australian Stock Exchange  
Level 6, 20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

**Re Carnegie contracts Wallis Drilling for drill programme in Senegal**

Dear Sir

Astron Limited is pleased to attach an announcement released by our Senegal Joint Venture Partner Carnegie Minerals Plc (AIM Listed) this morning (UK time) .



**Matthew Suttlings**  
**Company Secretary**

# Carnegie

## Minerals Plc

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**22nd January 2007**

### **Carnegie Minerals Plc ("Carnegie")**

#### **Carnegie contracts Wallis Drilling for drill programme in Senegal**

Carnegie Minerals (CME), the Mineral Sands resources company with production interests in The Gambia and an exploration permit in adjoining Senegal, is pleased to announce that it has contracted the Australian company Wallis Drilling, to undertake a substantial drilling programme on its Senegalese assets.

#### **Highlights:**

- A minimum of 8,000 line metres of air core drilling in the Casamance province of Senegal.
- Drilling will test the numerous targets generated by the high resolution, low level airborne geophysical survey flown over the entire Senegal licence area in late 2006, which adjoin the Company's mineral sands production assets in The Gambia.
- Programme expected to commence in March 2007.

The airborne geophysical programme identified numerous linear and curvilinear magnetic features interpreted by specialised data processing as well as some correlating radiometric features. Such geophysical anomalies can be associated with buried strandline and surface dune accumulations of heavy minerals that include some magnetic as well as thorium/uranium containing minerals. This is the first time such modern exploration techniques have been applied to this area.

The drilling programme seeks extensions of the mineral sands deposit already discovered in the northern portion of the licence area at Niararang where infill drilling was completed in December 2006. The Niararang drilling samples have now been received at independent Perth laboratories for assaying and CME expect the Niararang computer modelling and resource estimate to be available in April 2007.

Alan Hopkins, MD of Carnegie said:

"The results from the geophysical airborne survey were extremely encouraging and we are very pleased to have signed up a drilling contractor on schedule.

"We are on track with the testing of these large mineral sands targets in Senegal which lie to the south of our mining operations in The Gambia and within a very short time we should be able to advise the market on the extent and nature of this mineral sands province."

- Ends -

**For further information, call:**

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Billy Clegg/Edward Westropp, Financial Dynamics	020 7831 3113

Notes to editors:

Carnegie only listed on AIM in August 2006 and in addition to the rapid exploration programme being undertaken in southern Senegal, it has already advanced the first Niafarang prospect to a resource estimate stage while progressing its emerging production capability in The Gambia.

All exploration in Senegal is 50% co funded by Astron Ltd (the largest independent buyer of zircon in China), with the emerging production in The Gambia fully funded by Astron Ltd.