



Aura Minerals Inc.

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TSX:ORA

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Aura Minerals Releases Drill Results for the Aranzazu Copper-Gold-Silver Project in Mexico

Vancouver, British Columbia, February 15, 2010 - Aura Minerals Inc. (“Aura Minerals” or the “Company”) (TSX:ORA) is pleased to release sixteen (16) further drill hole results from its wholly-owned Aranzazu Project in Zacatecas State, Mexico.

The most recent drilling was designed to target zones along strike from the Arroyos Azules Zone which is the first area scheduled for mining as part of the planned re-start of operations later this year. The drilling continues to show the high-grade potential of the Aranzazu Project ore body.

Highlights are as follows (see **Table 1 and Map 1 below**):

- **Hole AZC-069 which returned 15.0 metres of 2.97% Cu, 0.81 g/t Au and 40.2 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZC-070 which returned 16.5 metres of 2.36% Cu, 2.36 g/t Au and 21.5 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZC-071 which returned 22.5 metres of 1.79% Cu, 1.95 g/t Au and 18.0 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZC-075 which returned 16.5 metres of 1.25% Cu, 1.57 g/t Au and 14.8 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZC-076 which returned 27.0 metres of 1.70% Cu, 1.90 g/t Au and 17.3 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZC-078 which returned 6.00 metres of 1.91% Cu, 0.76 g/t Au and 20.1 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZR-041 which returned 24.4 metres of 2.10% Cu, 1.50 g/t Au and 23.6 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZR-042 which returned 29.0 metres of 0.95% Cu, 1.46 g/t Au and 11.6 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZR-045 which returned 4.60 metres of 5.88% Cu, 3.03 g/t Au and 66.8 g/t Ag;**
- **Hole AZR-046 which returned 21.3 metres of 1.38% Cu, 1.12 g/t Au and 24.0 g/t Ag; and**
- **Hole AZR-051 which returned 22.9 metres of 2.01% Cu, 2.71 g/t Au and 25.1 g/t Ag.**

It is of interest to note the continued intercepts of higher than average grade gold in drilling progressively along strike to the east of the Arroyos Azules Zone. These better than average values for gold will add to overall project economics as only 51% of the drill holes as part of the recent National Instrument 43-101 report were assayed for gold. The weighted average for gold of all of these recent results is 1.16 g/t Au versus the Measured and Indicated resource average of 0.40 g/t Au at the same 0.5% Cu cut-off (see News Release #2009-15, dated November 2, 2009). Also of importance is the continuity of the overall mineralized system being confirmed along strike and extended down-dip. In that regard, the Company has now mobilized a rig capable of drilling the planned deep drill holes and drilling will commence later this month. This drilling will test the down-dip potential of the ore body and the strike extent beyond the current resource boundaries as part of an overall plan to investigate the potential to develop a much larger operation at the Aranzazu Project.

Commenting on the above, Mr. Patrick Downey, President and CEO of Aura Minerals, stated, “The Aranzazu Project continues to return excellent drill results. The grade and widths continue to meet our expectations and we are very encouraged by the significantly higher gold grades. We now look forward to the deeper drilling which will help determine the potential of the Aranzazu Project ore body which is open in all directions.”

Table 1 – Aranzazu Assays (see Map 1 below)

Hole #	East	North	Azimuth (°)	Dip (°)	From (metres)	To (metres)	Interval ⁽¹⁾ (metres)	Cu ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾ (%)	Au ⁽³⁾ (g/t)	Ag ⁽³⁾ (g/t)
AZC-065	254104	2724034	209	-50	69.0	77.3	8.3	0.86	1.50	11.7
AZC-066	254192	2724079	218	-69	128.0	137.0	9.0	0.91	1.02	25.5
AZC-069	253832	2724335	221	-53	301.5	307.5	6.0	0.53	0.06	2.6
AZC-069	253832	2724335	221	-53	315.0	322.5	7.5	0.77	0.17	9.3
AZC-069	253832	2724335	221	-53	379.5	394.5	15.0	2.97	0.81	40.2
AZC-070	253985	2724121	209	-47	133.5	150.0	16.5	2.36	2.36	21.5
AZC-071	253986	2724122	208	-55	67.5	72.0	4.5	0.51	0.44	5.0
AZC-071	253986	2724122	208	-55	129.0	132.0	3.0	1.74	0.58	24.7
AZC-071	253986	2724122	208	-55	147.0	169.5	22.5	1.79	1.95	18.0
AZC-071	253986	2724122	208	-55	177.0	196.5	19.5	0.65	0.73	9.8
AZC-075	254097	2724113	211	-66	238.5	255.0	16.5	1.25	1.57	14.8
AZC-076	254142	2724093	209	-53	43.5	46.5	3.0	1.08	0.28	13.6
AZC-076	254142	2724093	209	-53	91.5	94.5	3.0	0.81	0.58	25.6
AZC-076	254142	2724093	209	-53	156.0	160.5	4.5	0.72	0.67	22.6
AZC-076	254142	2724093	209	-53	184.5	211.5	27.0	1.70	1.90	17.3
AZC-077	253785	2724323	222	-57	249.0	256.5	7.5	0.74	0.30	15.4
AZC-077	253785	2724323	222	-57	295.5	301.5	6.0	1.03	0.24	10.1
AZC-077	253785	2724323	222	-57	322.5	327.0	4.5	0.53	0.10	5.9
AZC-077	253785	2724323	222	-57	340.5	352.5	12.0	0.91	0.29	9.8
AZC-078	254209	2724059	218	-56	91.5	94.5	3.0	0.97	1.30	9.5
AZC-078	254209	2724059	218	-56	193.5	199.5	6.0	1.91	0.76	20.1
AZC-078	254209	2724059	218	-56	207.0	216.0	9.0	0.90	0.72	10.3
AZC-078	254209	2724059	218	-56	225.0	232.5	7.5	0.54	0.38	6.5
AZR-041	254234	2724154	207	-47	175.3	182.9	7.6	1.44	0.62	31.4
AZR-041	254234	2724154	207	-47	274.3	281.9	7.6	1.19	2.44	23.4
AZR-041	254234	2724154	207	-47	291.1	315.5	24.4	2.10	1.50	23.6
AZR-042	254095	2724110	209	-61	42.7	45.7	3.0	0.56	0.23	46.7
AZR-042	254095	2724110	209	-61	178.3	207.3	29.0	0.95	1.46	11.6
AZR-045	254351	2724003	212	-45	100.6	106.7	6.1	0.81	0.71	20.1
AZR-045	254351	2724003	212	-45	221.0	225.6	4.6	5.88	3.03	66.8

Hole #	East	North	Azimuth (°)	Dip (°)	From (metres)	To (metres)	Interval ⁽¹⁾ (metres)	Cu ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾ (%)	Au ⁽³⁾ (g/t)	Ag ⁽³⁾ (g/t)
AZR-046	254328	2724014	207	-50	102.1	106.7	4.6	1.52	0.75	18.3
AZR-046	254328	2724014	207	-50	126.5	134.1	7.6	0.96	1.54	14.1
AZR-046	254328	2724014	207	-50	196.6	210.3	13.7	0.65	0.48	11.9
AZR-046	254328	2724014	207	-50	225.6	246.9	21.3	1.38	1.12	24.0
AZR-049	254069	2724118	213	-44	50.3	61.0	10.7	0.50	0.20	2.0
AZR-049	254069	2724118	213	-44	76.2	89.9	13.7	0.81	0.14	3.2
AZR-050	254454	2724033	210	-43	176.8	196.6	19.8	0.80	1.19	13.8
AZR-050	254454	2724033	210	-43	281.9	285.0	3.1	1.54	1.00	19.2
AZR-051	254469	2724060	212	-50	216.4	231.7	15.2	0.56	0.57	10.0
AZR-051	254469	2724060	212	-50	240.8	243.8	3.1	0.69	0.53	12.9
AZR-051	254469	2724060	212	-50	254.5	263.7	9.1	0.56	0.52	6.9
AZR-051	254469	2724060	212	-50	346.0	368.8	22.9	2.01	2.71	25.1

- (1) true width has yet to be determined
(2) using a copper cutoff grade 0.5%
(3) fire assay and atomic absorption finish
(4) atomic absorption ("AA")

Qualified Person

Exploration at the Aranzazu Project is being conducted under the supervision of Mr. Alan Hitchborn, P.Geo., who is the Company's Qualified Person as defined by NI 43-101. Mr. Hitchborn has also reviewed and approved the contents of this news release as applicable.

Quality Assurance and Quality Control ("QA/QC") Procedures for the Aranzazu Project

Aura Minerals is presently drilling at the Aranzazu Project utilizing both core and reverse circulation drill rigs. The drilling is conducted by Layne de Mexico. The reverse circulation drill uses a bit sized from 5.5 inches to 4.75 inches. The core program utilizes HQ-sized core and then stepping down to NQ-sized core as required. Samples are collected on a 1.5 metre sample interval. The reverse circulation drill cuttings are split at the drill rig. The samples collected consist of an approximate 25% split of the total material recovered from the interval sampled. This material is shipped directly to the Stewart Group de Mexico ("Stewart Mexico") sample preparation facility in Zacatecas, Mexico and processed utilizing the same sample preparation protocol as used for the core samples discussed below. Assays are completed at the ISO 9001-2008 certified Eco Tech Laboratory Limited ("Eco Tech Stewart"), a subsidiary of the Stewart Group Ltd., in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. Diamond drilling core is logged, photographed and then split in half using a diamond core saw. Half the core is retained off-site in a secure storage facility and the other half is sampled, secured in sealed, labeled bags and then transported to the Stewart Mexico facility in Zacatecas, Mexico and processed utilizing the same preparation protocol discussed below. Assays are completed at the Eco Tech Stewart laboratory in Kamloops, B.C. The entire half-core and reverse circulation drill cuttings are crushed to 95% passing 2 millimetres, split and pulverized to 95% passing 150 mesh, split again, and a 150 gram sample sent for assay. Gold assays are determined by fire assay with an AA finish, over limit assays are determined by fire assay with a gravimetric finish. Silver assays are determined by three acid digestion with an AA finish, over limits are determined by fire assay with a gravimetric finish. All samples are analyzed by inductively coupled plasma emission spectrography for multi-element analysis and by AA for copper. The Company systematically inserts certified standard samples, sample duplicates in a non-sequential order and blank samples in all batches of samples sent to Stewart Mexico and Eco Tech Stewart as a means of quality control. Additionally, Stewart Mexico and Eco Tech Stewart has its own stringent internal QA/QC protocols. Check samples are systematically sent to the ALS Chemex lab in Vancouver, Canada. Chain

of custody of drill samples is maintained throughout the process with the use of numbered seal tags closing sample bags and third party professional transportation of samples to the laboratories. Each stage of sample handling is recorded in log sheets and receipts obtained from each party involved.

About Aura Minerals Inc.

Aura Minerals is a Canadian resource company focused on the acquisition, exploration and development and operation of gold and base metal projects in the Americas. The Company's portfolio includes the San Andres Gold Mine in Honduras, the Aranzazu Copper-Gold-Silver Project in Mexico, and the feasibility-stage Serrote Deposit at the Arapiraca Copper-Gold-Iron Ore Project in Brazil. In addition, the Company has agreed to acquire the producing Sao Francisco and Sao Vicente Gold Mines in Brazil, subject to regulatory approvals.

For further information, please visit Aura Minerals' web site at www.auraminerals.com or contact:

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Map 1

