



Aura Minerals Inc.

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TSX: ORA

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Aura Minerals Announces Inclusion to the S&P/TSX Composite Index

Vancouver, British Columbia, March 17, 2010 - Aura Minerals Inc. (“Aura Minerals” or the “Company”) (TSX: ORA) today announced the Company will be added to the S&P/TSX Composite Index, effective Monday, March 22, 2010 at market open. As part of this inclusion, Aura Minerals will also be added to the S&P/TSX Global Mining and the S&P/TSX Global Base Metals sub-indices. The S&P/TSX Composite Index serves as an indicator of market activity for Canadian equity markets.

“Inclusion to the S&P/TSX Composite Index is a notable achievement,” commented Patrick Downey, President and Chief Executive Officer of Aura Minerals. “It demonstrates our successful transition to a new gold producer and our future growth outlook. Addition to this index will also assist in increasing the Company’s exposure to the investment community, providing further value for our shareholders.”

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 copper-gold-silver Aranzazu Project in Mexico, and the feasibility-stage Serrote Deposit at the copper-gold-iron ore Arapiraca 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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No stock exchange, securities commission or other regulatory authority has approved or disapproved the information contained herein. This news release contains forward-looking statements that are not historical facts. Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results, performance, prospects and opportunities to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these forward-looking statements include those risks set out in Aura Minerals’ public documents filed on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Although Aura Minerals believes that the assumptions and factors used in preparing the forward-looking statements are reasonable, undue reliance should not be placed on these statements, which only apply as of the date of this news release, and no assurance can be given that such events will occur in the disclosed time frames or at all. Aura Minerals disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.