

AngloGold Ashanti Limited - first quarter 2011 market update

Tuesday, May 03, 2011

AngloGold Ashanti will publish detailed first quarter earnings on 11 May 2011. Given that this is the first reporting period in the company's history without the effects of its hedge book, which was eliminated on 7 October 2010, the company deems it prudent to release this market update in advance of its earnings.

AngloGold Ashanti is pleased to report that strong performances from its operations in Continental Africa and the Americas during the first quarter helped claw back much of the 20,000oz of production lost due to unprecedented rainfall at its Sunrise Dam mine in Australia.

First quarter production, therefore, remains on track with original guidance of 1.039Moz announced on 17 February 2011. Total cash costs will be around \$706/oz compared with original guidance of \$675/oz to \$700/oz, given the combination of higher-than-anticipated oil prices and rising royalties on the back of record gold prices.

Earnings attributable to equity shareholders are anticipated to be around \$241m for the quarter, higher than the \$56m recorded during the previous quarter. After eliminating fair value adjustments of the two convertible bonds, adjusted headline earnings(1) are expected to be around \$203m for the quarter. Further details on a per share basis are provided in the table below.

Improved cash flow per ounce of production, following the elimination of all hedge contracts, has also made possible a further 15% reduction in Net Debt(3) during the quarter from \$1.3bn to \$1.1bn.

(All amounts in US cents per share) (2)	Quarter ended March 2011 (Anticipated)	Quarter ended December 2010 (Actual)	Quarter ended March 2010 (Actual)
Earnings per share attributable to Equity Shareholders	62	15	43
Headline Earnings per share	62	21	46
Adjusted Headline Earnings / (Loss) per share(1)	53	(199)	17

The above information has not been reviewed or reported upon by the company's external auditors.

Non-GAAP Measures: From time to time AngloGold Ashanti Limited may publicly disclose certain "Non-GAAP" financial measures in the course of its financial presentations, earnings releases, earnings conference calls and otherwise. The group uses certain Non-GAAP performance measures and ratios in managing the business and may provide users of this financial information with additional meaningful comparisons between current results and results in prior operating periods. Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative to, the reported operating results or cash flow from operations or any other measure of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS. In addition, the presentation of these measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures that other companies use. For further details, including reconciliation to GAAP measures, please refer to AngloGold Ashanti's quarterly and annual reports.

1. Adjusted headline earnings is intended to illustrate earnings after adjusting for:

- The unrealised fair value change in contracts that were still open at reporting dates, as well as, the unwinding of the historic marked-to-market value of the position settled in the period;
- Investment in hedge restructure transaction: During the hedge restructure in December 2004 and March 2005 quarters, \$83m and \$69m in cash was injected respectively into the hedge book in these quarters to increase the value of long-dated contracts. The entire investment in long-dated derivatives (certain of which have now matured), for the purposes of the adjustment to earnings, will only be taken into account when the realised portion of long-dated non-hedge derivatives are settled, and not when the short-term contracts were settled;
- The unrealised fair value change on the option component of the convertible bonds;
- The unrealised fair value change of the warrants on shares and the embedded derivative.

During 2010 the Group completed the elimination of its hedge book which has resulted in full exposure to prevailing spot gold prices.

2. Calculated on the basic weighted average number of ordinary shares.

3. Net Debt excludes Mandatory Convertible bonds issued in 2010.

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