



## MEDIA RELEASE

28 February 2023

### Phu Bia Mining marks its Ban Houayxai Operation’s 10-year anniversary in Vientiane

To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation, Phu Bia Mining was honoured to receive senior Government leaders of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR) and distinguished guests at a cocktail function on Friday 24 February at the Lao Plaza Hotel in Vientiane.

The Prime Minister of the Lao PDR and Politburo member, His Excellency Dr Sonexay Siphandone provided the keynote address, congratulating PanAust, Phu Bia Mining’s management and its employees for contributing to the Government’s goals for national socio-economic development.

Phu Bia Mining’s parent company, PanAust Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Daling Zheng welcomed the Prime Minister, the Ministers, Vice Ministers, and distinguished guests from the embassies, international organisations and private sector in Laos.

Mr Zheng said: “It is my honour on behalf of our shareholder, Guangdong Rising Holding Group Co., Ltd, our Board of Directors, and our Chairman, Mr Shu Yao, to address you on this auspicious occasion for Phu Bia Mining.”

“We thank and acknowledge the Government of Laos and the Xaisomboun Provincial Government for their enduring support enabling the Ban Houayxai Operation to reach a decade of safe, prosperous, and long-lasting operations.”

“We are proud of our contributions that support the Government’s national socio-economic agenda. Since commencing, Phu Bia Mining has contributed over US\$1.7 billion to the Lao economy, with payments of US\$927 million in royalties and taxes to the Government of Laos. In 2022, the Government was paid a dividend payment of US\$8.7 for its 10 per cent holding in Phu Bia Mining.”

“We are committed to our localisation targets, providing direct employment for more than 3000 Lao-nationals. We generated social value of more than US\$4.5 million in Xaisomboun Province through the completion of 420 small-scale community development projects.”

“We have a proud history of supporting the Government including in recent times during the COVID-19 pandemic, where we were steadfast in generating revenue for the Government in those uncertain times.

**2019 WINNER**  
 AUSTMINE MINER  
 INNOVATION  
 AWARD



**2018 WINNER**  
 FRIEND OF LAOS  
**2018 WINNER**  
 FRIEND OF ASEAN  
 AWARDS



**2018 WINNER**  
 ASEAN OSHNET  
 EXCELLENCE AWARD  
 OHS MANAGEMENT



**2017**  
 LAO PDR LABOUR ORDER MEDAL  
**2011**  
 LAO PDR LABOUR ORDER  
 MEDAL CLASS 1  
 POVERTY REDUCTION



**2015 WINNER**  
 AUSTRALIAN CLIMATE  
 LEADERSHIP AWARDS  
 MOST PROFITABLE CARBON  
 REDUCTION ACTIVITY



Looking ahead, PanAust and Phu Bia Mining remain committed to continuing operating in Laos and we look to the Government for guidance in the years ahead,” Mr Zheng said.

Phu Bia Mining Chairman, Mr Chanpheng Bounnaphol commented further saying: “The milestone of the Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation is symbolic of how Phu Bia Mining partners with Governments at various levels during exploration, construction and operation.

“Our contributions have been strong and sustainable to meet the national socio-economic development goals and the Company will continue its long-lasting legacy in Laos in the future.”

**Lao PDR Government leaders at the Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation’s 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary:** The Chairman of the National Assembly’s Planning, Finance and Audit Committee, Dr Leeber Leebouapao; The Minister of Education and Sports, Assoc. Prof. Dr Phout Simmalavong; the Vice Minister, the Deputy Head of the Prime Minister’s Office, Ms Thippakone Chanthavongsa; the Vice Minister of Energy and Mines, Mr Thongphat Inthavong; the Vice Chairman of Economic, Technology and Environment Committee, Dr Ketkeo Sihalath; the Vice Minister of Finance, Mr Phouthanouphet Saysombath; the Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Mr Phosy Keomanyvong; the Vice Ministers of Natural Resources and Environment, Mr Chanthaneth Boualapha, Mr Xaynakhone Inthavong, Mr Phouvong Luangxaysana; the Vice Minister of Health, Mr Sanong Thongsana; the Xaisomboun Provincial Governor, Mr Souksavath Vongphoumlek; the Xiengkhouang Provincial Vice Governor, Mr Bouangern Houmxyaphom; the Vice Governor of the Bank of Lao PDR, Ms Vana Dalalay, Government Department senior officials, ambassadors and invited guests.



*Pictured: The Prime Minister of the Lao PDR and Politburo member, His Excellency Dr Sonexay Siphandone (standing second row with a white shirt) and PanAust Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mr Daling Zheng (standing to the Prime Minister’s right) with senior Government officials and company representatives at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in Vientiane.*



*Pictured: The Prime Minister of the Lao PDR and Politburo member, His Excellency Dr Sonexay Siphandone during his keynote address at the Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation 10-year celebration.*



*Pictured: The Prime Minister of the Lao PDR and Politburo member, His Excellency Dr Sonexay Siphandone congratulates PanAust Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mr Daling Zheng on the historic milestone for Phu Bia Mining.*



*Pictured: Phu Bia Mining Chairman, Chanpheng Bounnaphol welcoming distinguished guests and dignitaries to the Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation 10-year celebration held at the Lao Plaza in Vientiane.*

**ENDS**

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