FOCUS ON STAKEHOLDER **PROSPERITY** 

**CREATING BALANCE IN OUR ENVIRONMENT** 

**DETERMINED TO UPLIFT OUR PEOPLE** 





## **COMMENTS**

### **GROUP RESULTS**

The group improved on the production levels of the corresponding quarter last year

Revenue increased marginally as a result of the consolidation of Ticor Limited, higher coal and heavy minerals sales volumes and an average increase of 9% in iron ore export prices, offset by a substantially stronger rand and lower iron ore export sales

Net operating profit declined by 28% to R295 million compared with the corresponding quarter the previous year. An average exchange rate of R7,32 to the US dollar was realised on export proceeds compared with R10,42 for the comparative period, while US dollar denominated debtors and derivative instruments were valued at a spot exchange rate of R7,13 on 30 September 2003. This resulted in an unrealised currency translation loss of R20 million, compared with a loss of R3 million at a spot exchange rate of R10,55 which prevailed on 30 September 2002.

Net operating profit under "other" includes a pre-tax profit of R73 million on the disposal of Kumba's interest in Mincor Resources in July 2003

### **Iron Ore**

The lower export volumes combined with a stronger currency were the main contributors to the decline of 22% and 48% in revenue and net operating profit respectively.

Production increased by 4% compared with the corresponding guarter in the previous financial year. Exports were however 14% lower due to a planned replenishment of stock at Saldanha port and a rescheduling of some shipments into the next quarter.

Revenue increased by 9% mainly due to higher Eskom and export sales volumes, whilst net operating profit reduced by 17% due to the impact of the stronger currency.

Record coal production and sales tonnages were achieved for the quarter as a result of increased demand.

Despite the solid operational performance at both the Rosh Pinah mine and the Zincor refinery, an operating loss was incurred for the quarter. This was due to a decrease of 25% in the rand price of zinc metal, a softer local market and materially lower internationally benchmarked treatment charges

## **Heavy Minerals**

## **Ticor SA project**

Higher sales volumes of ilmenite, rutile and zircon yielded a 39% increase in revenue. Net operating profit however decreased by R7 million to an operating loss of R5 million as a result of a stronger currency and depreciation charges

The second furnace of the Empangeni smelter was successfully commissioned in September. The first shipment of saleable titanium slag was made in October.

The segment results reflect the impact of the consolidation of Ticor Limited on the group's operating results. Net operating profit was negatively affected by the strong Australian dollar despite the sound operating

Record synthetic rutile production was achieved at Tiwest, the joint venture in which Ticor Limited has a 50% interest.

## **Industrial Minerals**

The business unit reported results on a par with those of the comparative period despite a slowdown in growth in the steel and construction sectors

The group expects to maintain and in certain instances improve on the sound operational performance reported in the previous financial year

The continued strong rand and depressed commodity markets for heavy minerals and zinc are expected to have a negative impact on the group's results.

In order to mitigate the effect of these negative factors, the group has embarked on a number of initiatives:

- a business improvement programme at Base Metals; short-term cost reduction actions;
- a longer-term programme to protect operating margins; and
- a critical review of capital expenditure programmes and new project developments

30 October 2003

# Registered office

Kumba Resources Limited Roger Dyason Road Pretoria West

## Transfer secretaries

Computershare Limited 70 Marshall Street Johannesburg, 2001 PO Box 61051, Marshalltown, 2107

have any queries regarding your Kumba Resources' shares, please call +27 11 370 5000

# **KUMBA RESOURCES LIMITED**

**DIRECTORS** 

ISIN CODE

ADR CODE

COMPANY SECRETARY INVESTOR RELATIONS CORPORATE AFFAIRS **SPONSOR** REGISTRATION NUMBER JSE SHARE CODE

MLD Marole (Chairman), Dr CJ Fauconnier\* (Chief Executive), BE Davison, TL de Beer, JJ Geldenhuys, GS Gouws, MJ Kilbride\* Dr D Konar, CF Meintjes\*, AJ Morgan, SA Nkosi, CML Savage, Prof NS Segal, F Titi, DJ van Staden\*, RG Wadley\*

GS Gouws resigned from the board effective 14 October 2003 MS Viljoen

Trevor Arran +27 12 307 3292 Pat Mdoda +27 12 307 4553 JP Morgan +27 11 507 0300 2000/011076/06

KMB ZAE 0000 34310 **KBREY** 

### **SEGMENT RESULTS**

	First quarter ende 2003/04	First quarter ended 30 September 2003/04 2002/03	
REVENUE (Rm) Iron ore Coal Base metals Heavy minerals	907 430 236 339	1 163 396 259 38	
<ul><li>Ticor SA project</li><li>Ticor Limited*</li></ul>	53 286	38	
Industrial minerals Other	21 2	18 44	
Total	1 935	1 918	
NET OPERATING PROFIT (Rm) Iron ore Coal Base metals Heavy minerals	154 65 (20) 17	299 78 26 2	
<ul><li>Ticor SA project</li><li>Ticor Limited*</li></ul>	(5) 22	2	
Industrial minerals Other	4 75	4 1	
Total	295	410	

\*Consolidated from 1 April 2003

## PHYSICAL RESULTS ('000 tons)

	First quarter e 2003/04	ended 30 September 2002/03
Iron Ore Production Sales	7 284	6 982
• Export • Domestic	4 571 2 355	5 288 2 104
Total	6 926	7 392
Coal Production Power station Coking Other	3 717 511 738	3 518 565 635
Total	4 966	4 718
Sales • Eskom • Other domestic • Exports	3 944 954 304	3 537 929 221
Total	5 202	4 687
Base Metals Production • Zinc concentrate • Zinc metal • Lead concentrate Zinc metal sales	26 27 8	20 29 4
Export     Domestic Lead concentrate sales     Export	7 21 9	3 26 6
Heavy Minerals - Ticor SA Project Production Ilmenite Zircon Rutile Pig Iron Scrap Pig Iron Chloride Slag Sulphate Slag	40 13 4 6 3 11 8	7 13 6
Sales Ilmenite Zircon Rutile Scrap Pig Iron	10 12 2 1	9
Heavy Minerals - Ticor Limited <sup>(1)</sup> Production Ilmenite Zircon Rutile Synthetic Rutile Leucoxene Pigment	112 21 9 55 10 25	110 21 9 49 5 24
Sales Ilmenite Zircon Rutile Synthetic Rutile Leucoxene	26 14 2 26 9	25 23 6 11

(1) Ticor Limited was consolidated from 1 April 2003 and the full production tonnes of the Tiwest joint venture in which Ticor Limited has a 50% interest. ember 2003. Physical information for the comparative period is provided for comparative purposes only

This report is available at Kumba Resources World Wide Web site at:

www.kumbaresources.com