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MMC NORILSK NICKEL ANNOUNCES PRELIMINARY CONSOLIDATED PRODUCTION RESULTS FOR 1ST QUARTER 2009

Moscow, April 30 2009 – OJSC MMC Norilsk Nickel (hereafter – “Norilsk Nickel” or “the Company”), the world’s largest nickel and palladium producer, announces preliminary consolidated production results for the first quarter of 2009 at its Polar and Kola Divisions in Russia and international operations in Finland, Australia, Botswana and South Africa.

- Overall saleable nickel production in the first quarter of 2009 amounted to 69 thousand metric tonnes comparing to 75 thousand metric tonnes in the first quarter of 2008.
- Overall saleable copper production in the first quarter of 2009 decreased to 96 thousand metric tonnes from 104 thousand metric tonnes for the same period in 2008.
- The Company has produced 590 thousand ounces of palladium and 141 thousand ounces of platinum in the reporting period.

The reduction in overall saleable nickel production in the reported period is explained by the placement of Australian assets on care & maintenance, decline in nickel production at the Harjavalta refinery in Finland, and by the minor decrease in nickel production at the Russian operations due to accumulation of intermediaries at the Kola Division.

The Polar and Kola Divisions in Russia produced 55.2 thousand metric tonnes of nickel in the first quarter of 2009.

Copper production of the Russian divisions of the Company amounted to 90.8 metric tonnes in the first quarter of 2009, which is by ca. 2 thousand tonnes lower than budgeted. The deviation from the approved production plan is due to the reduction in treatment of products with low metals content.

Palladium and platinum production at the Kola and Polar divisions in the reporting period amounted to 556.6 thousand troy ounces of palladium, and platinum production reached 131.8 thousand troy ounces which is as per the approved production plan.

Overall production of nickel concentrate by Tati Nickel and Nkomati in the first quarter of 2009 totaled 5.5 thousand metric tonnes which is generally in line with the production plan. The minor underproduction of Nkomati was due to unfavorable weather conditions.

In February 2009, following the shut down of the Cawse, Waterloo and Silver Swan operations in the fourth quarter of 2008, the Lake Johnston and Black Swan operations were also put on care & maintenance as part of the cost-cutting and reassessment program for international nickel assets of the Company. Nickel concentrate production in the first quarter of 2009 before suspension of Australian operations amounted to 1.2 thousand metric tonnes.

The Harjavalta refinery in Finland produced 13.1 thousand metric tonnes of nickel in the first quarter of 2009, including 7.4 thousand metric tonnes of own saleable nickel and 5.7 thousand metric tonnes of tolled nickel. The decline in capacity utilization is largely explained by the decrease in the nickel intermediates supplies from Australia.

The stated production volumes do not include the production figures of Stillwater Mining Company, a subsidiary of the Company.

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MMC NORILSK NICKEL SALEABLE METALS PRODUCTION		Q1 2009
Norilsk Nickel Polar and Kola Divisions (Russia)		
Nickel, metric tonnes		55 235
Copper, metric tonnes		90 751
Palladium, thousand troy ounces		557
Platinum, thousand troy ounces		132
Norilsk Nickel Finland		
Nickel, total, metric tonnes		13 149
Own nickel, metric tonnes ¹		7 421
Tolled nickel, metric tonnes ²		5 728
Copper, metric tonnes		848
Palladium, thousand troy ounces		1
Platinum, thousand troy ounces		3
Norilsk Nickel Australia		
Nickel to third parties ³ , metric tonnes		1 223
Norilsk Nickel Africa⁴		
Nickel, total, metric tonnes		5 478
Tati Nickel nickel, to third parties, metric tonnes		5 069
Nkomati nickel to third parties (50%), metric tonnes		409
Tati Nickel and Nkomati (50%) copper, metric tonnes		4 115
Tati Nickel and Nkomati (50%) palladium, thousand troy ounces		32
Tati Nickel and Nkomati (50%) platinum, thousand troy ounces		6
TOTAL SALEABLE METALS PRODUCTION⁵		
Nickel , metric tonnes		69 357
Copper , metric tonnes		95 714
Palladium , thousand troy ounces		590
Platinum , thousand troy ounces		141

Notes:

- 1 Production from Black Swan nickel concentrate, Cawse nickel carbonate and other materials.
- 2 Production from tolled feed.
- 3 Production of Lake Johnston.
- 4 Tati Nickel on a 100% basis.
- 5 Totals may vary from sum of numbers as a result of rounding.

ABOUT MMC NORILSK NICKEL:

MMC Norilsk Nickel, a company incorporated under the laws of the Russian Federation, is the largest diversified mining and metals company in Russia, the world's largest producer of nickel and palladium and one of the world's largest producers of platinum, rhodium, copper and cobalt. In addition to this, MMC Norilsk Nickel produces a large number of other by-products, including gold, silver, tellurium, selenium, iridium and ruthenium.

The key production units of the Company's group in Russia are at the Polar and Kola Peninsulas. MMC Norilsk Nickel international assets include operations in Finland, USA, Australia, Botswana and South Africa.

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MMC Norilsk Nickel's shares are traded at MICEX and RTS. ADR's on the Company's shares are traded on the other the counter market in the US and at the London and Berlin stock exchanges.

Please visit www.norilsknickel.ru for more information about the Company.