



EDITORIAL

*Anglovaal South African operations.
Geologists at work in a gold mine and
ferroalloy smelter.*

Volume 11 of Raw Materials Report – Journal of Mineral Policy, Business and Environment was the first to have been published jointly by the Raw Materials Group of Stockholm, Sweden and the Centre for Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy at the University of Dundee, Scotland. We hope that readers will have appreciated the changes in style and content of the Journal and recognise the need for the Journal to continue to evolve and improve to meet the changing needs of those interested in the world mining industry. An immediate sign of this commitment to change is the amendment of the title to the Journal of Mineral Policy, Business and Environment – Raw Materials Report. We believe that this will indicate the growing emphasis we place, as editors, on the economic and physical environment within which the industry operates.

As previewed, the previous volume of the Journal included a number of papers which were first presented at major international conferences and meetings. We believe that through covering these events we can pay an increasingly important role in bringing important and contemporary issues before a wider audience. This emphasis on both debate and information symbolises our approach to content.

Articles published in the previous volume of the Journal covered a wide assortment of important issues such as ownership, privatisation and the environment. The articles dealt with a diversity of materials from iron ore to advance materials as well as non-mineral products such as tropical timber. We intend to continue to address a greater range of issues and materials. In particular, issues relating to finance and investment are of growing interest an importance for resource-bases industries and we are hoping to carry papers addressing these concerns in the near future.

Our authors are drawn from all parts of the industry: from universities, from companies, from research organisations and consultancy firms and from international organisations. The international orientation of our authors is reflected both in their diverse nationalities and in their subject matter with a geographic coverage that embraces all continents. It is our intention to maintain the journal a major international contributor to education and debate relating to a major global industry.

We are grateful for this opportunity to thank our panel of referees who have played an important part in assuring the quality of many of the papers submitted to us. The refereeing of papers is an important element of our quality control to ensure that the Journal only publishes papers of the best quality.

We hope readers will see further and continuing signs of the evolution of the Journal in this first and subsequent issues of this new volume. We intent to draw more directly on the resources and interests of our joint publishers as well as our international editorial board. In so doing we will be able to provide a Journal which will continue to be thought provoking, interesting, and informative. Ultimately, the success of any such venture depends on the quality of the contributions and we encourage readers to contribute their own thoughts to the editors in letters, reports or articles submitted for publications. We would also appreciate comment on the content of the Journal and the advice of readers with respect to subject matter. We would be happy to try to respond to the suggestions of readers for the inclusion of articles on topics which readers feel the Journal is neglecting. ■

