

Lydian International Ltd.

TSX: LYD



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International Finance Corporation Discloses Intention to Finance Lydian

International Finance Corporation, the investment arm of the World Bank Group, has disclosed its intention to invest an amount of CAD 1.4M and to support Lydian's exploration efforts on current projects and in new countries

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(Marketwire - Jan. 28, 2009) - Lydian International Ltd. (TSX:LYD) ("Lydian" or "the Company"), a diversified mineral exploration and development company, today announced a proposed strategic investment of approximately CAD \$1.4M from the World Bank's International Finance Corporation ("IFC"). Lydian is also negotiating to raise CAD \$1.6M from other investors under similar conditions for a total amount of CAD \$3M. The placements, which are subject to formal documentation and further approvals, will be priced at the lower of the market price prior to IFC's disclosure of the proposed investment (CAD \$0.42) and the market price at the time of signing of the subscription agreement. The placement is also subject to regulatory approvals including that of the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Following these private placements, IFC's interest in Lydian will increase to approximately 18% (on a non-diluted basis). IFC's new shares will be accompanied by a full warrant with a five-year exercise period and an exercise price at a 40% premium to market. The Company expects that the other investors' shares will be accompanied by a half warrant with a three-year exercise period and an exercise price at a 25% premium to market plus a further half warrant with a five year exercise period and an exercise price at a 40% premium to market.

"This will be IFC's third equity investment in Lydian amplifying IFC's confidence in and commitment to the Company," said Tim Coughlin, Lydian's President and CEO. "It comes at a time when refinancing-risk is a dominant factor influencing investor confidence in the resource sector. The total anticipated investment will be sufficient to support Lydian's activities at its current projects and to advance new gold exploration initiatives elsewhere. We are of course most privileged to enjoy the support of IFC as a committed long-term partner providing continued access to finance, influential in-country support, and advice in managing regulatory, environmental and social risks."

About Lydian International

Lydian is a diversified mineral exploration and development company incorporated in Jersey, with expertise employing "first mover" strategies in emerging exploration environments. Currently the Company is focused on Eastern Europe developing advanced precious and base metal assets in Armenia and in Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244). The two main projects are gold at Amulsar in Armenia, and zinc, lead, silver and gold at Drazhnye in Kosovo. Lydian also has a pipeline of promising gold and base metal exploration projects in the Balkans region, and operates a 50/50 gold and copper exploration joint venture with Newmont Overseas Exploration Limited, a subsidiary of Newmont Mining Corporation in the south Caucasus region.

Lydian's management team has a track record of success in grassroots discovery, in acquiring and developing undervalued assets, and in building companies. Lydian has a strong social agenda and a unique understanding of the complex social and political issues that characterise emerging environments. The Company's two largest shareholders are Newmont Mineral Holdings B.V. (owned by Newmont Mining Corporation), and International Finance Corporation (part of the World Bank Group). More information can be found on Lydian's web site at www.lydianinternational.co.uk.

Dr Tim Coughlin, MAUSIMM is the Qualified Person overseeing Lydian's exploration programmes. Dr. Coughlin has supervised the preparation of the technical information contained in this press release.

Lydian employees are instructed to follow standard operating and quality assurance procedures intended to ensure that all sampling techniques and sample results meet international reporting standards. All assay work for the released results was carried out by ALS Chemex analytical laboratory in Rosia Montana, Romania, in Perth Australia, or in Vancouver, BC. Please see Lydian's web site for more information.

Forward-looking Information

Securities regulators encourage companies to disclose forward-looking information to help investors understand a company's future prospects. This press release contains statements about our future financial condition, results of operations and business. These are "forward-looking" because we have used what we know and expect today to make a statement about the future. Forward-looking statements usually include words such as may, expect, anticipate, believe or other similar words. We believe the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable. However, actual events and results could be substantially different because of the risks and uncertainties associated with our business or events that happen after the date of this press release. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. As a general policy, we do not update forward-looking statements except as required by securities laws and regulations.

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