

5 December 2018

# COMMERCIAL DIAMOND RECOVERIES COMMENCE AT MOTHAE MINE

- First diamonds recovered through new commercial treatment plant at the high-quality Mothae mine - Ramp-up to 1.1Mtpa nameplate capacity has commenced

- Mothae milestone represents another important step in Lucapa's strategic plan to become a global diamond company with high-value production from multiple producing mines

Lucapa Diamond Company Limited (ASX: **LOM**) ("Lucapa" or "the Company") and the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho ("GoL") are pleased to announce that commercial diamond recoveries have commenced through the new treatment plant at the high-quality Mothae kimberlite diamond mine in Lesotho (Lucapa 70%; GoL 30%).

Lucapa Managing Director Stephen Wetherall said the commencement of commercial recoveries through the new 1.1Mtpa Mothae plant represented another key milestone in Lucapa's strategic development plan.

"Lucapa is on track to become one of a few listed diamond companies globally with production from more than one operating mine. The high-quality nature of this production from Lulo and Mothae will also enable the group to further its value-enhancing downstream strategy through partnerships with global diamantaires, where discussions are well advanced."



The Mothae diamond mine, Lesotho

The new Mothae plant incorporates advanced diamond recovery technology, including two XRT diamond recovery modules designed to recover large and rare Type IIa diamonds ahead of the secondary crushing circuit, thus reducing potential diamond breakage and improving the recovery of unbroken large stones.

The plant will be progressively ramped up to its 1.1Mtpa nameplate capacity following the implementation of a second plant operating shift.

Production from the Mothae kimberlite mine is intended to complement that from Lucapa's highvalue Lulo mine in Angola (Lucapa 40% and operator), which produces the world's highest average US\$ per carat alluvial diamond production.



Lucapa and Mothae management examining the XRT large diamond-recovery circuits (above) at the new 1.1Mtpa Mothae diamond plant (below)



For and on behalf of the Lucapa Board.

## STEPHEN WETHERALL MANAGING DIRECTOR

## **ABOUT LUCAPA**

Lucapa is a growing diamond company with a portfolio of high-quality production, development and exploration assets in Angola, Lesotho, Australia and Botswana. The Company's focus on high-value diamond production is designed to protect cash flows in a sector of the diamond market where demand remains robust.

Lucapa's flagship asset is the Lulo Diamond Project in Angola, which is a prolific producer of large and premium-value alluvial diamonds. Lulo has produced 11 +100ct diamonds to date and is the highest US\$ per carat alluvial diamond production in the world. Lucapa and its Lulo partners continue to advance their search for the primary kimberlite sources of these exceptional alluvial gems through a systematic drilling and exploration program.

Lucapa has a 70% interest in the Mothae kimberlite mine in diamond-rich Lesotho. Lucapa has commenced commercial production at Mothae through a new 1.1Mtpa diamond treatment plant, complete with XRT recovery technology, under its Phase 1 development program.

Lucapa is also furthering two exploration projects in known diamond provinces, including an extensive exploration program at Brooking in the West Kimberley lamproite province in Western Australia to follow up on the discovery of lamproite with very high concentrations of micro- and macro-diamonds. Lucapa plans to drill kimberlite targets at the Orapa Area F project in Botswana's Orapa diamond field in Q1 2019.

Lucapa's Board and management team have extensive diamond industry experience across the globe with companies including De Beers and Gem Diamonds.

### **No New Information**

To the extent that announcement contains references to prior exploration results and Mineral Resource estimates, which have been cross referenced to previous market announcements made by the Company, unless explicitly stated, no new information is contained. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcements and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This announcement has been prepared by the Company. This document contains background information about the Company and its related entities current at the date of this announcement. This is in summary form and does not purport to be all inclusive or complete.

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