

Cerrado Gold Announces Q4 and Annual 2024 Gold Production Results for its Minera Don Nicolas Mine in Argentina

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- Annual Gold Equivalent Ounce ("GEO") Production of 54,494 GEO; in line with Guidance of 50,000 - 60,000 GEO.
- Q4 Production of 10,431 GEO impacted by lower than planned ore grades from residual open pits.
- Record Production of 5,956, GEO from Heap Leach operations during the quarter.
- Received Asset Sale and Option payments totaling \$34 MM during the quarter, significantly strengthening the balance sheet.
- 2025 Production Guidance of between 50,000-55,000 GEO.

TORONTO, January 15, 2025 - [Cerrado Gold Inc.](#) (TSXV:CERT)(OTCQX:CRDOF) ("Cerrado" or the "Company") announces production results for the fourth quarter ended December, 2024 ("Q4 2024") from the Minera Don Nicolas Mine in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina ("MDN"). Full fourth quarter financial results are expected to be released prior to April 30, 2025.

Q4 Operating Highlights

- Q4 Production of 10,431 GEO vs 16,604 GEO in Q3.
- Annual Sales of 51,694 GEO for 2024
- Production impacted by lower than planned feed grade to the CIL plant during the quarter as mining of high-grade pits nears completion.
- Studies to commence underground operations at Paloma in H2/25 initiated during the quarter.
- Focus remains on ramping up crushing capacity at Calandrias Sur and bringing heap leach production up to 4,000- 4,500 GEO per month by March 2025.

While operational results for Q4 2024 demonstrated a decrease in production over the previous quarter, this was driven by lower than expected ore grades delivered from the final stages of mining of the older high grade open pits and stockpiles to feed the CIL plant as the Company's operations transition to a primarily heap leach operation in 2025. The heap leach operational performance continued to improve over the quarter, reaching record production levels as more ore was added to the pad. The performance of the heap leach continues to depend on the crushing circuit. An additional secondary crushing circuit is currently being installed to ensure excess capacity is in place to support the transition to a heap leach only facility. Once fully operational, the crushing capacity should allow for approximately 300,000 tonnes of ore to be placed on the pad per month. The installation of the secondary crusher is expected to reduce fleet and operating costs and is expected to operate at full capacity by the end of the 1st quarter, at which time the mobile crushers will be placed on stand by.

In addition, the company is undertaking detailed analysis and preparations for equipment sourcing with the view to commencing underground operations later this year beneath the Palma pit. While the initial production expectations are relatively modest given the current known underground resource, underground access is expected to provide a platform for major exploration activities at lower costs than drilling from surface with the aim to materially expand the resources available for underground development. Further

details will be released once finalized and a development decision is made.

The Company provides 2025 annual production guidance of between 50,000 - 55,000 GEO at an ASIC of between \$1,300 - \$1,500 per GEO. The bulk of this production is expected to be delivered solely from heap leach operations from Q2/25 onwards .

Mont Sorcier Update

At the Mont Sorcier high purity iron project, detailed metallurgical testwork and flow sheet design continued during the quarter. As announced in early December 2024 (see press release dated December 4, 2024) testwork has reaffirmed the potential to produce high grade and high purity iron concentrate grading in excess of 67% iron with silica and alumina below 2.3%. Ongoing testwork is focused on flotation testing, more detailed variability tests, grind size and reagent optimization programs as well as equipment sizing.

Current testwork and overall process design are to be at the core of the NI 43-101 Bankable Feasibility Study ("BFS") which is targeted to be completed by the end of Q1 2026. The Bankable Feasibility Study will look to provide greater detail into the potential of the project that was highlighted in the previous 2022 NI 43-101 Preliminary Economic Assessment ("PEA") that delivered a project NPV_{8%} of US\$1.6 Billion based upon iron concentrates grading 65% iron.

Corporate Activities

The Company has also continued to make progress on improving its working capital position during the quarter with the receipt of a total of US\$34 million from asset sales and the sale of an option on the Michelle properties at MDN. As a result, the company has now significantly strengthened its balance sheet and expects to continue to deliver further deleveraging during 2025. Future payments from the Brazilian Monte do Carmo asset sale totalling US\$15 million as well as a further US\$10 million, should the Michelle Option be exercised, would continue to add to the Company's strong cash position moving forward.

Mark Brennan, CEO and Chairman commented, "While 2024 was a year with significant challenges, we are pleased to have achieved gold production in line with our guidance for the year, supported by strong growth in production from the heap leach as the year progressed. With the new crushing circuit currently being installed, we expect this trend to continue to support production targets for 2025 while we review the potential to add additional production from a potential underground operation at Paloma. Further testwork at our Mont Sorcier project in Quebec continues to highlight the significant upside we see in this project as we work to unlock value with the completion of a feasibility study by Q1/2026. Cerrado is exiting the year with a significantly improved working capital position, placing Cerrado in a stronger financial position heading into 2025. "

Table 1. Key Operating Information

Note : Q1-Q3 2024 Ore mined for Heap Leach Operations has been adjusted to reflect a recalculation based on updated information. This has no impact on ounces produced.

Review of Technical Information

The scientific and technical information from Minera don Nicolas in this press release has been reviewed and approved by Cid Bonfim, P. Geo., Senior Geologist Cerrado Gold, and Pierre Jean LaFleur, P. Geo., VP Exploration for Voyager Metals, a 100% owned subsidiary of Cerrado Gold, are Qualified Persons as defined in National Instrument 43-101.

About Cerrado

Cerrado Gold is a Toronto-based gold production, development, and exploration company focused on gold projects in South America. The Company is the 100% owner of both the producing Minera Don Nicolás and

Las Calandrias mine in Santa Cruz province, Argentina. In Canada, Cerrado Gold is developing its 100% owned Mont Sorcier Iron Ore and Vanadium project located outside of Chibougamou, Quebec.

In Argentina, Cerrado is maximizing asset value at its Minera Don Nicolas operation through continued operational optimization and is growing production through its operations at the Las Calandrias Heap Leach project. An extensive campaign of exploration is ongoing to further unlock potential resources in our highly prospective land package in the heart of the Deseado Masiff.

In Canada, Cerrado holds a 100% interest in the Mont Sorcier Iron Ore and Vanadium project, which has the potential to produce a premium iron ore concentrate over a long mine life at low operating costs and low capital intensity. Furthermore, its high grade and high purity product facilitates the migration of steel producers from blast furnaces to electric arc furnaces, contributing to the decarbonization of the industry and the achievement of SDG goals.

For more information about Cerrado please visit our website at: www.cerradogold.com.

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Forward-looking statements contained in this press release include, without limitation, statements regarding the business and operations of Cerrado, production forecasts and estimated ASIC for 2025 and beyond, the potential for additional crushing capacity that may be added and the performance of the heap leach pad, the possibility of commencing underground mining, the potential to produce iron concentrate grading in excess of 67% at Mont Sorcier, further deleveraging during 2025, receipt of the deferred closing payment of US\$15 million in connection with the asset sale and the likelihood of the Michelle option being exercised and the related option payment being received. In making the forward-looking statements contained in this press release, Cerrado has made certain assumptions. Although Cerrado believes that the expectations reflected in forward-looking statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that the expectations of any forward-looking statements will prove to be correct. Known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause the actual results and future events to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to general business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements and information contained in this press release. Except as required by law, Cerrado disclaims any intention and assumes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, whether as a result of new information, future events, changes in assumptions, changes in factors affecting such forward-looking statements or otherwise.

SOURCE: Cerrado Gold Inc.

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