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MEDIA RELEASE

World-first smart exploration rover – NOMAD – unveiled at the Future Minerals Forum in Riyadh, Eurasian Resources Group

Wednesday, January 10, 2023, Riyadh – Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) is unveiling its groundbreaking smart exploration rover, **NOMAD**, at the highly-anticipated Future Minerals Forum (FMF) in Riyadh. This **world-first innovation** will mark a significant milestone in the evolution of exploration technology, promising to change early-exploration efforts as we know them.

NOMAD, a **remotely operated soil sampling robot**, has been specifically designed to thrive in the most challenging terrains, such as those found in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. ERG's commitment to cutting-edge exploration technology is demonstrated by NOMAD's arrival on the global stage. The robot's capabilities promise to redefine the way early-stage exploration is tackled, while contributing to a smarter, greener, and more sustainable economy.

“NOMAD exemplifies the core objective of ERG Arabia, which is to push the boundaries of what is possible in the mining sector to advance efficiency, sustainability, safety, skills development and a smarter approach to exploration,” **said Benedikt Sobotka, CEO of Eurasian Resources Group**. “ERG aims to redefine exploration and mining practices and help evolve the industry to be more responsive and responsible in meeting the global demand for critical minerals.”

At FMF, ERG Arabia will unveil the first NOMAD in its fleet, offering attendees a unique opportunity to view this groundbreaking innovation, learn how it operates, and engage with the teams who developed, and now operate it.

The robot, based on Mars rover technology, incorporates three core elements that make it fit-for-purpose in exploration contexts:

- a remote, all-wheel drive semi-autonomous navigation system, key to navigating the Kingdom's challenging terrain;
- the inclusion of a multi-sensor platform that allows for efficient and immediate scanning of samples, integral to efficient, safe and methodical sampling; and
- a built-in, percussion soil drill, that digs 80cms into the earth's surface, to fast-track sampling and transfer to the scanning trays.

These features boost efficiency by taking more than 120 samples per day – a major improvement on the maximum of 30 samples that can be achieved manually. With rising temperatures and increasingly arduous geological work conditions, NOMAD can perform formerly manual work more safely and proficiently, while allowing exploration of larger surface areas faster. Expedited

analysis provided by ERG's end-to-end smart exploration solution – which includes a central, remote, mobile analysis base station – fast-tracks decision-making and reduces the risk of fruitless exploration efforts, decreasing resource wastage and environmental impact.

ERG's pioneering efforts in deploying smart technology are not only aimed at supporting its regional projects and the Kingdom's *Vision 2030*, but also at propelling innovation across the mining sector globally. NOMAD's unveiling is a testament of the company's commitment to shaping the future of exploration and resource development.

NOMAD was developed by ERG Technology Intelligence – a division of Eurasian Resources Group – in partnership with esteemed Chile-based robotics company, Godelius. This strategic partnership aims to further enhance NOMAD's capabilities, solidifying ERG Arabia's commitment to continuous innovation in the mining sector.

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About ERG:

Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) is a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg with integrated mining, processing, energy, logistics, and marketing operations. The Group operates in almost 20 countries and is a major employer in the industry with over 80,000 employees and contractors.

ERG is the world's largest high-carbon ferrochrome producer by chrome content and one of the largest producers of cobalt. It is also a large global supplier of copper and high-grade iron ore. In Eurasia, it is one of the largest suppliers of alumina and is Kazakhstan's only producer of high-grade aluminium.

In **Kazakhstan**, ERG represents one third of the metals and mining industry. It is also a key power supplier and a large railway operator in Central Asia. ERG manages several of Kazakhstan's leading production entities, including Kazchrome, SSGPO, Kazakhstan Aluminium Smelter (KAS), Aluminium of Kazakhstan, Eurasian Energy Corporation, and others.

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In **Africa**, ERG mines and processes copper and cobalt ore and produces copper metal and cobalt hydroxide. Frontier is the cornerstone of the Group's copper business, while ERG's Metalkol, a major tailings reprocessing operation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has become one of the world's largest producers of cobalt as well as a major producer of copper. The Group has its own supply chain on the continent through its logistics company Sabot as well as development projects which are focused on other minerals and products across Africa, including in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

In **Brazil**, ERG is developing BAMIN, an integrated mining and logistics project in the State of Bahia, which comprises the Pedra de Ferro iron ore mine, the Porto Sul deep-water port and the associated stretch of the new FIOL broad gauge railway.

In the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, ERG is focused on adopting a technological leadership position through industry partnerships, with the Kingdom serving as a strategic base for an advanced, high-impact hub to sustainably meet mineral demand. ERG intends to expedite early-stage exploration in the Kingdom to help meet the surging demand for battery metals, by deploying innovative and sustainable exploration technologies through its Technology Intelligence division.

ERG is a Strategic Partner Associate of the **World Economic Forum** and a founding member of the **Global Battery Alliance (GBA)** which is dedicated to establishing a sustainable and responsible global supply chain for the lithium-ion batteries that can power the Fourth Industrial Revolution and a low carbon economy through mobile devices, electric vehicles and renewable energy systems.

Since its establishment in 2017, the GBA has grown into a partnership with of more than 150 businesses, governments, academics, industry actors, international and non-governmental organisation. In 2022, the [GBA launched its flagship initiative, the Battery Passport](#), at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. In 2026, to reflect EU Council regulation concerning the labelling and recycling of batteries, a battery passport will become a legal requirement, with other geographies likely to follow suit in the future.

ERG is also a co-founder of the [ReSource](#) initiative, working together with CMOC, Glencore, Umicore and Tesla. The initiative uses blockchain to track cobalt and other battery materials in real operating conditions from the mine to an electric vehicle.

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