

## **ABSTRACT**

The region of Tafilalet and Figuig has always been considered as an area where mining potential is extremely important. Artisanal mining operated in this region, is governed by the Dahir of december 1<sup>st</sup> 1960 that parallel created the Central Purchasing and Development of the mining region of Tafilalet and Figuig (CADETAF), public institution with legal personality and financial autonomy.

For the purposes of this Dahir, the CADETAF is responsible for the collection, purchase, transportation and marketing of lead ore, zinc and barite from the mining region of Tafilalet and Figuig. The artisans are required to deliver their entire production and the CADETAF holds the monopoly purchase of ores.

It is now accepted that artisanal mining can't be developed because the mineralization becoming deeper and the artisans don't have financial means and advanced technical methods to extract ore mining.

It has therefore become imperative to restructure artisanal mining, which will focus on the recasting of the royal decree (Dahir of december 1st 1960) carrying the creation of the mining area of Tafilalt and Figuig while lifting the restrictions for access of private investors and safeguarding the rights of artisanal miners.

This restructuring will take place encouraging openness to private initiative and providing social support for artisans. The intervention of private operators may be done with partnership arrangements with artisans based on a compensation system covering a fixed fee and royalties if discovering a commercial deposit.

As part of the implementation of this restructuring we have organized information meetings with the artisans in the presence of local authorities, elected representatives of the region and mining operators concerned to share our vision and roadmap.

It should be noted that this restructuring project aims to give an attractiveness to mining activity in the region that extends over an area of 60 000 km<sup>2</sup> and contains promising mining potential currently operated by traditional methods under the royal decree (Dahir of december 1<sup>st</sup> , 1960) carrying the creation of the mining area of Tafilalet and Figuig.

The aim is to ensure the integration of mining activity in this region in the development process and dynamism that knows the national mining sector.

This restructuring that will generate more investment opportunities presupposes the following prerequisites:

- The review of the existing regulations related to mining in the region of Tafilalet and Figuig without making a break with its creation by the Dahir of december 1<sup>st</sup> 1960, while ensuring the safeguarding of the rights of artisans;
- Awareness and involvement of artisans in this restructuring process;
- Ensure social support for artisans.