Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



LINGJIN

Lingbao Gold Company Ltd.

靈寶黃金股份有限公司

(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock code: 3330)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

The Board of Directors (the "Directors") of Lingbao Gold Company Ltd. (the "Company"), is pleased to announce the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "Group") for the year ended 31 December 2008, which have been reviewed by the Company's Audit Committee.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 RMB'000	2007 RMB'000
Turnover	2	3,559,089	2,844,560
Cost of sales		(3,177,792)	(2,391,647)
Gross profit		381,297	452,913
Other revenue Other net gain/(loss) Selling and distribution expenses Administrative expenses and other operating expenses	3 4	18,180 31,992 (19,881) (174,082)	142,861 (4,494) (14,340) (136,329)
Profit from operations		237,506	440,611
Finance costs	5(a)	(115,262)	(101,613)
Profit before taxation	5	122,244	338,998
Income tax	6	(15,483)	(115,669)
Profit for the year		106,761	223,329
Attributable to:			
Equity shareholders of the Company Minority interests		108,166 (1,405)	222,270 1,059
Profit for the year		106,761	223,329
Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the year:			
Final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date	7		77,025
Basic and diluted earnings per share (cents)	8	14	29

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

At 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 RMB'000	2007 RMB'000
Non-current assets Property, plant and equipment Construction in progress Intangible assets Goodwill Lease prepayments Other investments Investment deposit Non-current prepayments Deferred tax assets		826,253 445,198 556,335 38,882 86,870 10,504 80,000 135,376 50,764	634,551 302,451 362,112 38,882 36,940 10,504 80,000 45,334 23,093
Command accepts		2,230,182	1,533,867
Current assets Inventories Trade and other receivables, deposits		711,333	591,443
and prepayments Available-for-sale investment	10	545,958 —	663,360 40,000
Current tax recoverable Cash restricted for use		22,205	181,982
Cash and cash equivalents		575,478	389,651
		1,854,974	1,866,436
Current liabilities Bank loans		1,280,000	599,861
Unsecured debenture Trade and other payables	11	464,403	580,000 346,666
Loan from ultimate holding company Current tax payable		23,800 17,662	28,426
		1,785,865	1,554,953
Net current assets		69,109	311,483
Total assets less current liabilities		2,299,291	1,845,350
Non-current liabilities Bank loans Other loan Other payables	11	455,160 3,270 111,730	120,000
Deferred tax liabilities		<u> </u>	23,697 146,967
NET ASSETS		1,729,131	1,698,383
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share capital		154,050	154,050
Reserves		1,549,387	1,517,996
Total equity attributable to equity shareholders of the Company		1,703,437	1,672,046
Minority interests		25,694	26,337
TOTAL EQUITY		1,729,131	1,698,383

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

1. Basis of preparation

(a) Statement of compliance

This financial information has been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), which collective term includes all applicable individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong. This financial information also complies with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules").

(b) Basis of preparation of the financial information

In preparing the financial information, the Directors have considered the future liquidity of the Group in view of its bank loans which are repayable within one year with an aggregate amount of RMB1,280,000,000 as at 31 December 2008. The Group had cash and cash equivalents amounting to RMB575,478,000 as at 31 December 2008. Therefore, additional funding will need to be obtained by the Group to ensure its ability to repay the borrowings as and when they fall due. The financial information for the year ended 31 December 2008 are prepared on a going concern basis as the directors are of the opinion that the Group will be able to obtain continual financial support from its principal bankers to finance its future working capital and financial requirements and will be able to meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due given that:

- (i) the Group has been actively negotiating with its principal bankers to secure continual financial support. Following the maturity of short-term bank loans totalling RMB420,000,000 subsequent to the year end, the Group obtained bank loans with an aggregate amount of RMB740,000,000 of which RMB310,000,000 are repayable within one year with maturity dates from January to March 2010 and RMB430,000,000 with maturity dates from March 2011 to February 2012 up to the date of approval of this financial information;
- (ii) according to an announcement dated 19 December 2008 issued by the Company, the Group has been actively discussing with its principal bankers to issue a medium-term debenture for an amount of approximately RMB680,000,000 for a period of three to five years. The Company is now making application to the bankers after obtaining its shareholders' approval on 4 February 2009. Proceeds from the proposed issuance of the medium-term debenture will be used for repayment of the Company's existing short-term bank loans; and
- (iii) as at 31 December 2008, the Group had total available banking facilities amounting to RMB2,995,160,000 of which RMB1,260,000,000 has not been utilised.

2. Turnover

The principal activities of the Group are mining, smelting, processing and sales of gold and other metallic products in the People's Republic of China ("PRC").

Turnover represents the sales value of goods sold to customers, net of sales tax and value added tax. The amount of each significant category of revenue recognised in turnover during the year is as follows:

		2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
	Sales of: - Gold - Other metals - Others Less: Sales taxes and levies	2,743,352 681,650 142,846 (8,759)	2,208,327 586,523 55,637 (5,927)
		3,559,089	2,844,560
3.	Other revenue		
		2008 RMB'000	2007 RMB'000
	Bank interest income Other interest income	4,414 1,198	9,023 3,821
	Total interest income on financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss Compensation income (note 10(e)) Delivery service income Government grants Scrap sales Dividend income from unlisted securities Sundry income	5,612 - 7,789 1,700 2,124 420 535	12,844 112,900 8,787 4,470 3,550 280 30
		18,180	142,861
4.	Other net gain/(loss)		
		2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
	Net realised gain on financial instruments at fair value Net unrealised loss on financial instruments at fair value	45,421	_
	(note 10(d)) Net (loss)/gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment Negative goodwill arising from business combination Gain on deemed disposal of subsidiary	(856) (2,315) 12,437 392	2,581 - -
	Net foreign exchange losses Others	(23,392) 305	(7,371)
		31,992	(4,494)

5. Profit before taxation

Profit before taxation is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

		2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
(a)	Finance costs: Interest expense on bank advances wholly repayable within five years Interest on unsecured debenture Interest on other loan Net realised and unrealised loss on commodity	61,708 24,891 139	63,408 6,661 115
	- linked interest-bearing borrowings Interest expenses on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	17,909 6,461	28,458
	Other borrowing costs	4,154	2,971
	Finance costs on financial liabilities measured at	115,262	101,613
	- amortised cost - fair value	96,752 18,510	70,108 31,505
		115,262	101,613
(b)	Other items: Amortisation of lease prepayments Operating lease charges in respect of properties Research and development expenses Net impairment losses on:	1,637 2,624 1,325	724 5,139 1,400
	 trade and other receivables (note 10(b)) purchase deposits intangible assets 	2,539 4,726 2,781	624 8,367 -
	Pollution discharge fee Environmental rehabilitation fee	1,740 12,776	1,877 5,584
	Auditors' remuneration – audit services – other services	3,245 400	3,928 891
	Amortisation of intangible assets Less: Amortisation capitalised into exploration and evaluation assets	77,536 (34,355)	97,884 (71,352)
		43,181	26,532
	Depreciation Less: Depreciation capitalised into	103,348	64,801
	construction in progress	(1,103)	(584)
		102,245	64,217

6. Income tax in the consolidated income statement

Taxation in the consolidated income statement represents:

	2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
Current tax – PRC income tax Provision for the year Over-provision in respect of prior year	71,348 (4,400)	136,874
Defermed to a	66,948	136,874
Deferred tax Origination and reversal of temporary differences Effect of change in tax rate on deferred tax balances	(51,465) 	(28,647) 7,442
	15,483	115,669

7. Dividends

Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the year

	2008 RMB'000	2007 RMB'000
Final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date of RMB Nil per ordinary share (2007: RMB0.10 per ordinary share)		77,025

The final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date had not been recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date.

8. Earnings per share

(a) Basic earnings per share

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company of RMB108,166,000 (2007: RMB222,270,000) and the weighted average number of 770,249,000 ordinary shares in issue during the year (2007: 770,249,000 ordinary shares).

(b) Diluted earnings per share

The diluted earnings per share for the current and previous years is the same as the basic earnings per share as there are no dilutive ordinary shares during the years.

9. Segment information

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's business segments. Business segment information is chosen as the primary format because this is more relevant to the Group's internal financial reporting.

Business segments

The Group comprises the following main business segments:

Mining – Gold mining and mineral ores processing operations of the Group.

Smelting – Gold and other metal smelting and refinery operations of the Group.

Processing – Copper processing operation of the Group.

Turnover and contributions to the Group's profit from principal activities during the year, after elimination of all material inter-company transactions, are as follows:

	Mining RMB'000	Smelting RMB'000	Processing RMB'000	Inter-segment elimination RMB'000	Unallocated <i>RMB</i> '000	Consolidated RMB'000
Year ended 31 December 2008						
Revenue from external customers Inter-segment revenue Other revenue from	1,729 513,995	3,347,650 169,606	209,710	_ (683,601)	Ξ	3,559,089 -
external customers	2,242	10,425	340		5,173	18,180
Total	517,966	3,527,681	210,050	(683,601)	5,173	3,577,269
Segment result Unallocated operating income and expenses	33,816	241,840	(3,516)	11,093	5,173	288,406 (50,900)
Profit from operations Finance costs Income tax						237,506 (115,262) (15,483)
Profit for the year						106,761
Impairment - trade and other receivables - purchase deposits - intangible assets	- - 2,781	- 4,726 -	2,539 - -			
As at 31 December 2008						
Assets and liabilities						
Segment assets Unallocated assets	1,919,490	1,015,128	345,786	(3,001)	-	3,277,403 807,753
Total assets						4,085,156
Segment liabilities Unallocated liabilities	591,611	165,214	158,206	(3,001)	-	912,030 1,443,995
Total liabilities						2,356,025
Other segmental information						
Capital expenditure incurred during the year	539,924	68,116	147,294	-	4,927	760,261
Depreciation and amortisation for the year	137,956	33,744	8,258	-	2,563	182,521

Turnover and contributions to the Group's profit from principal activities during the year, after elimination of all material inter-company transactions, are as follows (continued):

	Mining RMB'000	Smelting RMB'000	Inter-segment elimination RMB'000	Unallocated RMB'000	Consolidated RMB'000
Year ended 31 December 2007					
Revenue and expenses					
Revenue from external customers Inter-segment revenue Other revenue from external customers	107 461,942 2,007	2,844,453 - 14,830	_ (461,942) _	- - 126,024	2,844,560 - 142,861
Total	464,056	2,859,283	(461,942)	126,024	2,987,421
Segment result Unallocated operating	78,971	290,129	(4,700)	126,024	490,424
income and expenses					(49,813)
Profit from operations Finance costs Income tax					440,611 (101,613) (115,669)
Profit for the year					223,329
Impairment – trade and other receivables – purchase deposits	- -	624 8,367			
As at 31 December 2007					
Assets and liabilities					
Segment assets Unallocated assets	1,274,426	1,049,836	(44,463)	-	2,279,799 1,120,504
Total assets					3,400,303
Segment liabilities Unallocated liabilities	97,979	227,332	(44,463)	-	280,848 1,421,072
Total liabilities					1,701,920
Other segmental information					
Capital expenditure incurred during the year Depreciation and	617,378	155,827	-	4,599	777,804
amortisation for the year	136,997	24,247	_	2,165	163,409

Geographical segments

The Group's turnover and operating profit are almost entirely derived from the gold mining, smelting and processing business in the PRC. Accordingly, no analysis by geographical segment has been presented.

10. Trade and other receivables, deposits and prepayments

Trade and other receivables, deposits and prepayments comprise:

	2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
Trade receivables Bills receivables Less: Allowance for doubtful receivables	57,050 66,531 (2,342)	58,918 34,050 —
	121,239	92,968
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments Less: Allowance for doubtful receivables	56,155 (2,302)	42,654 (2,105)
	53,853	40,549
Purchase deposits (note 10(c)) Less: Allowance for non-delivery	211,651 (13,093)	119,510 (8,367)
	198,558	111,143
Derivative financial assets (note 10(d)) Deposits for derivative financial instruments (note 10(d)) Amount due from Beijing Jiuyi (note 10(e))	4,137 59,471 108,700	418,700
	172,308	418,700
	545,958	663,360

All of the trade and other receivables, deposits and prepayments are expected to be recovered within one year.

At 31 December 2007, an amount of RMB35,639,000 included in trade receivables which were unsecured and interest-bearing at rates with reference to one year borrowing of the People's Bank of China.

(a) Ageing analysis

An ageing analysis of trade and bills receivable (net of impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts) as of the balance sheet date is as follows:

	2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
Within 3 months Over 3 months but less than 6 months Over 6 months but less than 1 year Over 1 year	81,680 37,944 1,395 220	66,933 26,035 — —
At 31 December	121,239	92,968

The Group requests customers to pay cash or settle by bills in full prior to delivery of goods. Subject to negotiation, credit term of a maximum of 180 days is only available for certain major customers with well-established trading records.

(b) Impairment of trade and other receivables

Impairment losses in respect of trade and other receivables are recorded using an allowance account unless the Group is satisfied that recovery of the amount is remote, in which case the impairment loss is written off against trade and other receivables directly.

Movement in the allowance for doubtful receivables during the year are as follows:

	2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
At 1 January Impairment loss recognised	2,105 2,539	3,123 640
Impairment loss written back Uncollectible amounts written off		(16) (1,642)
At 31 December	4,644	2,105

At 31 December 2008, the Group's trade and bills receivable of RMB4,644,000 (2007: RMB2,105,000) were individually determined to be impaired.

(c) Purchase deposits

Purchase deposits represent the amounts paid by the Group in advance to suppliers to secure timely and stable supply of mineral sand for the purposes of refining in future periods. The Directors of the Company consider that appropriate procedures have been taken by the Group to assess the capabilities of the suppliers to supply mineral sand and expect that the purchase deposits would be gradually recovered through future purchases of mineral sand from the respective suppliers.

(d) Deposits for derivative financial instruments

The Group has placed deposits of RMB59,471,000 (2007: RMB Nil) with independent futures trading agents for commodity derivative contracts entered into in the normal course of business primarily to protect the Group from the impact of price fluctuations in gold and copper commodities. The notional amounts of the Group's commodity derivative contracts were as follows:

2008 RMB'000

Future commodity contracts

-Buy -Sell 43,642 193,426

The net unrealised loss on the Group's commodity derivative contracts remeasured at fair value as at 31 December 2008 recognised in profit or loss for the year then ended are as followings:

2008 RMB'000

Derivative financial assets
Derivative financial liabilities (note 11)

4,137 (4,993)

Net unrealised losses (note 4)

(856)

(e) Amount due from Beijing Jiuyi

On 4 December 2007, the Company has entered into a termination agreement (the "Termination Agreement") with Beijing Jiuyi Investment Company Limited ("Beijing Jiuyi") to terminate the proposed acquisition of Shaanxi Jiusheng Mining Investment Management Company Limited ("Shaanxi Jiusheng") Acquisition. Pursuant to the Termination Agreement, Beijing Jiuyi shall repay the investment deposits of RMB305,800,000 and pay a compensation fee of RMB112,900,000 (see note 3) to the Company for the failure to reach a definitive agreement for the Shaanxi Jiusheng Acquisition. The aggregate amount of RMB418,700,000 shall be paid/repaid by Beijing Jiuyi to the Company in three instalments before 31 March 2008. An extension agreement (the "Extension Agreement") was signed between Beijing Jiuyi and the Company on 30 June 2008 and the repayment date of the remaining RMB108,700,000 was postponed to 31 December 2008.

The Company's Directors have considered whether Beijing Jiuyi has the ability to repay the outstanding amounts to the Company and they have been actively negotiating with the management of Beijing Jiuyi. Based on the discussions between the management of Beijing Jiuyi and the Company's Directors, the Company's Directors consider that the outstanding amount is fully recoverable. In addition, following the expiry of the Extension Agreement, the Company has entered into a supplementary agreement (the "Supplementary Agreement") with Beijing Jiuyi on 12 April 2009 to further extend the repayment date. According to the Supplementary Agreement, the remaining RMB108,700,000 shall be settled by Beijing Jiuyi in two instalments, the first instalment in an amount of RMB50,000,000 settled before 30 April 2009 and the second instalment in an amount of RMB58,700,000 settled before 31 October 2009.

11. Trade and other payables

	2008 <i>RMB'000</i>	2007 RMB'000
Trade payables	145,321	98,050
Other payables	182,432	176,893
Payable for mining rights	78,401	_
Salary and welfare payable	23,893	34,441
Accruals	13,764	16,064
Interest payable	9,541	10,053
Dividend payable	3,770	1,440
Receipts in advance	2,288	9,725
Derivative financial liabilities (note 10(d))	4,993	
	464,403	346,666
Non-current other payables		
Payable for mining rights	101,630	_
Payable to a minority shareholder	10,100	
	111,730	_

The amount payable to a minority shareholder is unsecured, interest-free and repayable on 1 April 2011.

(a) Included in trade and other payables are trade creditors with the following ageing analysis as of the balance sheet date:

	2008	2007
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Within 3 months	133,813	88,558
Over 3 months but less than 6 months	6,337	4,689
Over 6 months but less than 1 year	3,938	1,410
Over 1 year but less than 2 years	73	1,467
Over 2 years	1,160	1,926
	145,321	98,050

(b) Current trade and other payables comprise:

Included in other payables of the Group as at 31 December 2007 was an amount payable to the National Social Security Fund of RMB80,942,000. In accordance with the relevant PRC government regulations, Lingbao State-owned Assets Operation Limited Liability Company, Sanmenxia Jinqu Group Company Limited and Lingbao Electric Company ("Selling Shareholders") are required to dispose of a portion of its ordinary shares in the Global Offering and pay the net proceeds of the disposal to the National Social Security Fund. The Group received the net proceeds on behalf of the Selling Shareholders and an amount of RMB80,942,000 is paid to the National Social Security Fund during the year ended 31 December 2008.

12. Changes in accounting policies

The HKICPA has issued a number of new Interpretations and an Amendment to HKFRSs that are first effective for the current accounting period of the Group and the Company. However, none of these developments is relevant to the Group's or the Company's operations.

The Group has not applied any new standard or interpretation that is not yet effective for the current accounting period.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Review of Business and Prospect

In 2008, the Group produced approximately 14,001 kg (equivalent to approximately 450,143 ounce) gold, representing an increase of approximately 1,009 kg (equivalent to approximately 32,440 ounce) or 7.8% as compared with the previous year. The Group's turnover for 2008 increased by 25.1% to approximately RMB3,559,089,000. The profit for the year was approximately RMB106,761,000, representing a decrease of approximately 52.2% as compared with the previous year. The Company's basic earnings per share decreased to RMB0.14 in 2008. The decrease was mainly attributable to decline in commodity prices in the second half of 2008, and this adversely affected the profit of the Group.

Given that raw materials accounted for over 80% of total production cost, the Group intends to increase its self-produced output of mineral sand through acquisition and expansion of mining operation, thereby uplifting the overall production and operation targets so as to minimise the risks associated with the raw materials purchased from outsiders.

1. Mining Segment

Turnover and production

Our mining business mainly comprises the sales of gold concentrates and compound gold. Most of the gold concentrates and compound gold were sold to the Group's smelting plants as inter-segment sales.

The following table sets forth the analysis on the production and sales volume of the mining segment by product category:

		2008		2007		
	Unit	Approximate production volume	Approximate sales volume	Approximate production volume	Approximate sales volume	
Gold concentrates	kg	1,711	1,650	1,912	1,864	
Compound gold	kg	1,222	1,228	1,039	1,039	
From: Henan region Xinjiang region Inner Mongolia region		128 728 366	119 748 361	241 519 279	241 519 279	
Total Total	kg ounce	2,933 94,298	2,878 92,530	2,951 94,875	2,903 93,334	

The Group's total turnover of the mining segment for 2008 was approximately RMB517,966,000, representing an increase of approximately 11.6% from approximately RMB464,056,000 in 2007. During the year, turnover of gold mines in Henan, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia represented approximately 56.1%, 28.3% and 15.6% of the total turnover of the mining segment respectively. The production volume of compound gold increased by approximately 183 kg to approximately 1,222 kg while the production volume of gold concentrates decreased by approximately 201 kg to approximately 1,711 kg. This was mainly due to the commencement of production of Henan's Tongbai Xingyuan Mining Company Limited ("Tongbai Xingyuan") in July 2007 and the construction of the new processing plant in Xinjiang mining region with a daily processing capacity of 1,000 tonnes of mined ores, which together brought greater contribution to the Group's mining operation in 2008 and led to an increase in the gold production.

Segment results

The Group's results of the mining segment for 2008 was approximately RMB33,816,000, representing a decrease of approximately 57.2% from approximately RMB78,971,000 in 2007. The segment result to segment turnover ratio of the Group's mining segment in 2008 was approximately 6.5%, resulting to a decrease of approximately 10.5% from approximately 17.0% in 2007.

Capital expenditure

During the year 2008, the Group's capital expenditure was approximately RMB539,924,000, representing a decrease of approximately 12.5% from approximately RMB617,378,000 in 2007.

The Group's capital expenditure mainly relates to the construction of mining shafts, purchase of exploration rights and mining rights.

Prospect

In view of global financial crisis and the fluctuation in gold price, Lingbao Gold will continue to explore gold mines, such as Lingbao Nanshan Mine Region, Hongxin Mine Region, Xinjiang Habahe, Nanyang Xingyuan and Jinchan in Inner Mongolia, to conduct geographical and geological exploration for mineral deposits and to research on mineralization across these regions. Meanwhile, the Group will also continue to improve the gold production capacity in our gold mines, and to further reduce the cost of extraction and supply. The Group will complete the plant construction project of Full Gold Mining Limited Liability Company ("Full Gold") in 2009 and planned to commence production in late 2009 as scheduled.

2. Smelting Segment

Our smelting plant is situated in Henan Province, and is capable of processing gold, silver, copper and sulphur. Its main products include gold bullion, silver, copper products and sulphuric acid. The following table sets forth the analysis on the production and sales volume of the smelting segment by product category:

		2008		2007		
Product	Unit	Approximate Production volume	Approximate sales volume	Approximate production volume	Approximate sales volume	
Gold bullion	kg ounce	14,001 450,143	13,956 448,696	12,992 417,703	12,803 411,626	
Silver	kg ounce	40,157 1,291,078	22,521 724,067	40,005 1,286,191	37,601 1,208,900	
Copper products	tonne	12,193	11,344	9,940	8,771	
Sulphuric acid	tonne	177,491	176,824	150,846	149,397	

Sales and production

The Group's total turnover from the smelting segment for 2008 was approximately RMB3,527,681,000, representing an increase of approximately 23.4% from approximately RMB2,859,283,000 in 2007. Such increase was principally attributable to the increase in the sales of gold bullion as a result of an approximate 14.0% increase in selling price of gold bullion as compared with the previous year, and an increase in sales volume of 1,153kg to 13,956kg in 2008 from 12,803kg in the previous year.

The daily processing capacity of the Group is approximately 960 tonnes of gold concentrates, and the utilisation rate for production was approximately 100%. This resulted in an increase of approximately 7.8%, 0.4%, 22.7% and 17.7% in the Group's production volume for gold, silver, copper and sulphuric acid respectively as compared with the previous year. During the year, gold recovery rate was approximately 96.5%, silver recovery rate was approximately 73.1% and the copper recovery rate was approximately 95.2%. The Group continued to maintain the recovery rates at a high level.

Segment results

Our smelting segment results for 2008 was approximately RMB241,840,000, representing an approximate 16.6% decrease from approximately RMB290,129,000 in 2007. The segment results to segment turnover ratio of our smelting business in 2008 was approximately 6.9%, decreasing by approximately 3.2% from approximately 10.1% in 2007.

Capital expenditures

During the year 2008, the capital expenditure of the Group was approximately RMB68,116,000, a decrease of approximately 56.3% from approximately RMB155,827,000 in 2007.

Our principal capital expenditure relates to the smelting plant's construction work, purchase of equipment with regard to its expansion projects, and upgrading of production equipment.

Prospect

For smelting segment, the Group will continue to increase gold production, to strengthen production and operation management, to improve raw material quality, to stabilise raw material procurement, and to reduce smelting cost to fully leverage on the recent high gold price. Meanwhile, we will monitor copper price in the market, actively to carry out sales of copper, and will conduct market survey for sulphuric acid, to maximise sale.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

1. Combined Operating Results

Turnover

The Group's sales analysis by products is shown as follows:

		2008			2007	
		Sales	Unit price		Sales	Unit price
	Amount	volume	RMB per	Amount	volume	RMB per
	RMB'000	kg/tonne	kg/tonne	RMB'000	kg/tonne	kg/tonne
Gold bullion	2,743,352	13,956 kg	196,572	2,208,327	12,803 kg	172,485
Silver	76,991	22,521 kg	3,419	113,936	37,601 kg	3,030
Copper products	394,151	8,074	48,817	472,587	8,771	53,881
		tonnes			tonnes	
Copper foils	161,535	2,249	71,825	_	_	_
		tonnes				
Copper cords	48,973	940	52,099	_	_	-
		tonnes				
Sulphuric acid	142,846	176,824	808	55,637	149,397	372
		tonnes			tonnes	
Turnover before sales tax	3,567,848			2,850,487		
Less: Sales tax	(8,759)			(5,927)		
	3,559,089			2,844,560		

The Group's turnover for 2008 was approximately RMB3,559,089,000, representing an approximate 25.1% increase as compared with the previous year. Such increase was mainly attributable to the increase of approximately 24.2% in the sales of gold bullion, as a result of the increase in our average selling price and quantity of gold bullion sold of approximately 14.0% and 9.0% respectively during the year.

During March 2008, the Group has acquired the entire interest in Lingbao Wason Copper-Foil Co., Ltd ("Lingbao Wason") for a consideration of RMB27,900,000. Lingbao Wason is principally engaged in production of copper foil and copper cord. During 2008, production volume of copper foil and copper cord were 2,330 tonnes and 1,013 tonnes respectively; sales volume of copper foil and copper cord were 2,249 tonnes and 940 tonnes respectively.

Cost of sales

The Group's cost of sales for 2008 was approximately RMB3,177,792,000, representing an approximate 32.9% increase from approximately RMB2,391,647,000 for 2007. Such increase was principally attributable to the increase of approximate 30.1% in the cost of raw materials, to RMB2,621,018,000 as a result of the increase in production capacity, the growth of purchase volume and the increase in gold price. Owing to the rise in gold price, the unit purchase price of gold concentrates increased by approximately 16.4%, that is, from approximately RMB152,000 per kg in 2007 to RMB177,000 per kg in 2008.

Gross profit and gross profit margin

The Group's gross profit and gross profit margin for 2008 were approximately RMB381,297,000 and approximately 10.7% respectively, representing a decrease of approximately 15.9% and a decrease of 5.2% respectively as compared to 2007. As a result of the decrease in copper and other metal prices, the Group had recognised an impairment loss on inventories of approximately RMB36,112,000 during the year.

Other revenue

The Group's other revenue for 2008 was approximately RMB18,180,000, representing an approximate 87.3% decrease as compared with approximately RMB142,861,000 for 2007. Such change was principally attributable to the fact that the Group terminated the acquisition of Shaanxi Jiusheng in 2007. Due to the termination of the proposed acquisition, the Group received a compensation of RMB112,900,000 in 2007.

Other net gain/(loss)

The Group's other net gain for 2008 was approximately RMB31,992,000 and net loss of approximately RMB4,494,000 for 2007. Such variance was mainly attributable to the realised gain from derivative financial instruments of approximately RMB45,421,000.

Selling and distribution expenses

The Group's selling and distribution expenses for 2008 were approximately RMB19,881,000, representing an increase of approximately 38.6% as compared with the previous year. Such increase was principally attributable to the commencement of production in Tongbai Xingyuan in July 2007 and the acquisition of Lingbao Wason in March 2008.

Administrative expenses and other operating expenses

The Group's administrative expenses and other operating expenses in 2008 were approximately RMB174,082,000, representing an approximate 27.7% increase from approximately RMB136,329,000 in 2007. The increase was mainly attributable to the expansion of the production and operation scale of the Group.

Finance costs

The Group's finance costs in 2008 was approximately RMB115,262,000, representing an approximate 13.4% increase from approximately RMB101,613,000 for 2007. The increase was principally attributable to the increase in bank and other borrowings of approximately RMB435,299,000 for the year ended 31 December 2008 as compared with the previous year.

Profit attributable to the Company's equity shareholders

The Group's profit attributable to our equity shareholders in 2008 was approximately RMB108,166,000, representing an approximate 51.3% decrease from approximately RMB222,270,000 in 2007. The net profit margin for 2008 was approximately 3.0%, representing a decrease of 4.8% to that of approximately 7.8% in 2007. The Company's basic earning per share was RMB0.14. The Group does not recommend the payment of dividend for the year.

2. Liquidity and Financial Resources

The Group generally finances its acquisition and operations with internally generated funds and interest bearing borrowings. The cash and bank balances as at 31 December 2008 amounted to RMB575,478,000, of which 8.1% was denominated in Hong Kong dollars.

The shareholders' equity of the Group as at 31 December 2008 amounted to RMB1,729,131,000 (31 December 2007: RMB1,698,383,000). As at 31 December 2008, the Group had current assets of RMB1,854,974,000 (31 December 2007: RMB1,866,436,000) and current liabilities of RMB1,785,865,000 (31 December 2007: RMB1,554,953,000). The current ratio was 1.04 (31 December 2007: 1.20).

As at 31 December 2008, the Group had total outstanding bank loans and other loan of approximately RMB1,738,430,000 with interest rates ranged from 4.86% to 6.93% per annum, of which approximately RMB1,280,000,000 was repayable within one year, approximately RMB455,160,000 was repayable after one year but within two years while approximately RMB3,270,000 was repayable after two years. The gearing ratio as at 31 December 2008 was 42.6% (31 December 2007: 38.3%) which was calculated by total borrowings divided by total assets.

3. Security

As at 31 December 2008, the mining right of Istanbul Gold Mine amounting to RMB145,328,000 at carrying value and the ordinary shares of Full Gold were pledged for the borrowings from the National Development Bank.

4. Material Acquisition

On 27 February 2008, the Group acquired the mining right of Istanbul Gold Mine located in Kyrgyz Republic at a cash consideration of US\$25,300,000. For details in relation to the acquisition, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 27 February 2008.

5. Market risks

The Group is exposed to various types of market risks, including fluctuations in gold price and other commodity prices, changes in interest rates and exchange rates.

Gold price and other commodities price risk

The Group's turnover and profit during the year are affected by fluctuations in the gold prices and other commodities price as all the products are sold at the market prices with fluctuation not subject to the control of the Group. We have not used and strictly prohibit the use of commodity derivative instruments or futures for speculation purpose, and all commodity derivative instruments are only used to minimise the potential price fluctuation of gold and other commodities.

Interest rate

The Group is exposed to risk resulting from the fluctuation in interest rates on our debt obligations. The Group undertakes debt obligations for supporting capital expenditure and general working capital. Our bank loans bear interest rates that are subject to adjustment made by our lenders in accordance with changes of the relevant People's Bank of China ("PBOC") regulations. If the PBOC increases the interest rates, our finance cost increases accordingly. In addition, to the extent that we may need to raise debt financing in the future, upward fluctuations in interest rates will increase the cost of new debt.

Exchange rate risk

The Group's transactions are mainly denominated in Renminbi. Fluctuations in exchange rates may affect the international and domestic gold price, which may impact our results of operation. Renminbi is not freely convertible and the currency would fluctuate against a basket of currencies. The PRC government may take further actions and implement new measures on free trade of Renminbi.

Apart from the above, the Group is also exposed to exchange rate risk primarily through bank deposits and other payables that are denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the operations to which they relate. The currencies giving rise to risk are primarily Hong Kong dollars, United States dollars and Japanese Yen.

Fluctuations in exchange rates may adversely affect the value of our net assets, earnings and any dividends we declare when such are being converted to Hong Kong dollars.

6. Contractual obligations

As at 31 December 2008, capital commitments, including the construction costs not provided for in the financial statements, were approximately RMB176,184,000, representing an increase of approximately RMB152,702,000 from approximately RMB23,482,000 as at 31 December 2007.

As at 31 December 2008, our total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases amounted to approximately RMB2,205,000, of which approximately RMB768,000 was payable within one year, approximately RMB1,104,000 was payable after one year but within five years, and approximately RMB333,000 was payable after five years.

7. Contingent liabilities

The Company has given guarantee to a bank to secure facilities of RMB100,000,000 (2007: RMB Nil) granted to a subsidiary and such facilities have been fully utilised at 31 December 2008.

8. Human resources

In 2008, the average number of employees of the Group was 4,339. The Company highly treasures its human resources and offers competitive remuneration to employees and provides employees with training programs.

Corporate Governance

After our listing of H Shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") on 12 January 2006, the Company has complied with all Code Provisions under the Code on Corporate Governance Practices set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules save for the deviation from Code Provision A.2.1 (Division of responsibilities between the chairman and chief executive officer) and Code Provision A.4.2 (Directors appointed to fill a casual vacancy be subject to election by shareholders at the first general meeting after appointment).

Mr. Xu Gaoming is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and has considerable industry experience. The Board is of the view that it is in the best interests of the Group to have an executive chairman so that the Board can benefit from a chairman who is knowledgeable about the business of the Group and is capable to guide the discussions and brief the Board (in particular, the non-executive Directors) in a timely manner on various issues and developments of the industry. In addition, there is clear delineation in the responsibilities of the Board and the Management set out in article of association of the Company and the Board believes that this structure can assist the Group to implement decisions promptly and more efficiently.

With respect to the re-election of newly appointed Director, the Company has complied with Paragraph 4(2) of Appendix 3 of the Listing Rules, which permits the Directors who has been appointed to fill a casual vacancy of the Board be subject to re-election at the next annual general meeting of the Company. As such, Code Provision A.4.2, which requires the re-election to take place in the next general meeting, were not adopted.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Audit Committee comprises one non-executive Director and four independent non-executive Directors, namely Yan Wanpeng (Chairman), Wang Yumin, Niu Zhongjie, Wang Han and Du Liping.

The audit committee has reviewed the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed the internal control and financial reporting matters regarding the preliminary final results for the year ended 31 December 2008 together with the management of the Group. The audit committee considered that the audited financial statements for the year had complied with the requirements of applicable standard and appropriate disclosure was made.

PURCHASE, SALES OR REDEMPTION OF SHARES OF THE COMPANY

For the year ended 31 December 2008, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's shares.

DIVIDENDS

After the balance sheet date, the Directors do not recommend the payment of any final dividend (2007: RMB0.10 per share, amounting RMB77,025,000).

CLOSURE OF REGISTER

The register of members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 19 May 2009 to Thursday, 18 June 2009, (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for attending the forthcoming annual general meeting, all transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's H shares registrar in Hong Kong, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited at 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong (for holders of H shares) or the registered office address of the Company at Xin Village, Yinzhuang Town, Daonan Industrial Area, Lingbao, Henan, the PRC (for holders of domestic shares), no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 18 May 2009.

MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers ("Model Code") as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules as the Company's code of conduct for dealings in securities of the Company by Directors and supervisors. Based on specific enquiry of the Company's Directors, the Board confirmed that all directors and supervisors had fully complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code throughout the period under review.

PUBLICATION OF RESULT ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT

This result announcement has been published on the website of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HK Exchange"), www.hkexnews.hk, and the website of the Company, www. irasia.com/listco/hk/lingbao. The 2008 Annual Report will be despatched to shareholders in due course and published on the websites of HK Exchange and the Company.

By order of the Board
Lingbao Gold Company Ltd.
Xu Gaoming
Chairman

Hong Kong, 24 April 2009

As at the date of this announcement, the directors of the Company are:

Executive Directors: Xu Gaoming, Wang Jianguo, Lu Xiaozhao, Jin Guangcai, Liu Pengfei and Zhang Guo;

Non-Executive Directors: Wang Yumin; and

Independent Non-Executive Directors: Niu Zhongjie, Wang Han, Yan Wanpeng and Du Liping.