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Media Release
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Baraka Confirms Arrival Of Drill Rig in Mauritania: Prepares To Spud Heron-1

Australian based oil & gas exploration company **Baraka Petroleum Limited (ASX: BKP)** together with Operator and joint venture partner CNPC International Mauritania Limited (CNPCIM), a wholly owned subsidiary of CNPC International Limited (CNPCI), confirms the drill rig to be used for the drilling of Heron-1 has arrived at the port of Nouakchott, Mauritania.

The land-drilling rig ZJ50LDB, from drilling operator GWDC (Great Wall Drilling Company), arrived on 25 August and will be transported, together with casing and tubing, to the drill site following inspection.

All preparatory work related to the drilling, including relevant Government approvals, construction of an access road, pad, camp and facilities are well advanced and will be complete by the spud date, which subject to weather conditions, the Operator expects to be in the week following 20 September 2006.

The Total Depth (TD) of the Heron-1 well has been fixed at 3800m, with the primary objective at 2200m in the Cenomanian sands and a secondary target at approximately 3600m in the Albian-Aptian sand and limestone interval.

The drilling of Heron-1 is expected to take approximately 73 days to complete.

Baraka founder and CEO/MD, Max de Vietri said, "The drilling of Heron-1 has been in planning for over five years ever since the data relating to the onshore portion of the Coastal Basin was first reviewed by us."

"We are genuinely excited by this drill program, not only because of the milestone it creates for Baraka and CNPCIM, but also because we see it is a step towards the development of the oil and gas industry onshore Mauritania, following the country's recently announced first offshore commercial production."

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ABOUT BARAKA PETROLEUM

Baraka Petroleum Limited is a public company, established to acquire, consolidate and develop oil and gas assets and activities, located initially in the potential hydrocarbon basins in West Africa.

Baraka has one of the largest oil and gas exploration assets in West Africa, which has attracted the attention of international petroleum exploration and production companies. The Company has secured rights to explore and develop eight tenement areas covering over 272,000 km^2 in Mauritania and Mali.

The Company's corporate strategy to preserve capital while maximising exploration expenditure on the tenements through farm-ins and joint ventures is intended to ensure the Company receives full value for its shareholders.

Website: www.barakapetroleum.com

ABOUT CNPC INTERNATIONAL LTD

China National Petroleum Corporation International is a major investor in the global petroleum sector, with interests in oil and gas exploration, development and production spread over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, North America and South America.