Baraka Petroleum Limited

ABN 80 112 893 491
Suite 4, 29 Ord Street WEST PERTH 6005
PO Box 1574 WEST PERTH WA 6872
Tel +618 9486 7001 Fax +618 9486 7003
mail@barakapetroleum.com
www.barakapetroleum.com

Media Release
9 January 2007

Mauritanian Drilling Update: Heron 1 (Block 20)

Australian based oil and gas exploration company **Baraka Petroleum Limited (ASX: BKP)** has been provided with an update on the drilling of Heron-1 within Coastal Block 20 in Mauritania by operator and joint venture partner CNPC International Mauritania Limited (CNPCIM).

This update is as follows:

The land-drilling rig ZJ50LDB operated by drilling operator GWDC (Great Wall Drilling Company) has continued drilling the CNPCIM operated Heron-1 exploration well in coastal Block 20 on-shore Mauritania, West Africa (see Figure 1).

As at 2:00 pm (AWST) on the 8 January 2007, the operation was drilling ahead in 8 1/2 inch hole at a depth of 3302 metres with no shows. Continued reduced penetration rate has been due to the Operator attempting to reduce the deviation angle (angle from vertical) of the well. Formation penetrated was claystones and some sandstones with occasional limestones.

The next zone of special interest is Aptian aged limestones and sandstones. The Lower Albion aged section, which lies above the Aptian has been penetrated deep to prognosis resulting in a revised estimated depth of the Aptian from 3600 to approximately 3800 metres. The entire section from 2200 metres to the total depth of the well, has potential reservoir seal pairs and occurs within closure of the Heron structure and therefore has the potential to contain hydrocarbons.

The Total Depth (TD) of the Heron-1 well will be revised based on the depth at which the Aptian is penetrated. Four casing strings planned. Due to the slow penetration rate the well is expected to take longer than the three months originally planned.

CNPCIM is a wholly owned subsidiary of CNPC International Limited (CNPCI) and is Operator of Block 20 with 65% interest. Baraka Petroleum's interest in Block 20 is 35%.

ENDS

For further information please contact:
Max de Vietri, Managing Director/ CEO
Baraka Petroleum Limited
Tel: +61 8 9486 7001

Em: m.devietri@barakapetroleum.com

David Tasker
Professional Public Relations (WA)
Tel: +61 8 9388 0944
+61 433 112 936
Em: dtasker@pprwa.com.au

Website: www.barakapetroleum.com

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. The Company has secured rights to explore and develop eight tenement areas covering over 272,000 km² in Mauritania and Mali.

The Company's corporate strategy is to maximise the possibility of success and minimise risk by sharing exploration expenditure on its tenements through farm-outs and joint-ventures, thereby allowing it to aggressively pursue further high-value near-field opportunities and undervalued production assets.

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.

Figure 1: Block location map