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STOCK EXCHANGE / MEDIA RELEASE

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RE: MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT EXERCISES RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHINGUETTI OIL FIELD

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Hardman Resources Ltd ("Hardman") is pleased to report that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania has exercised its right to participate in the Chinguetti Oil Field development, offshore Mauritania.

The Government's participation will comprise a 12% equity position in the Exploitation Perimeter which was granted in May 2004 under the terms of the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) for Area B by way of an Exclusive Exploitation Authorisation (EEA). The Exploitation Perimeter was granted over an area including the Chinguetti Oil Field. The effective date of the Government's participation is 9 November 2004.

The interest of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in the Chinguetti Oil Field will be held by Groupe Projet Chinguetti, an entity set up by the Government for this purpose.

The right to participate and the terms of the Government's participation, including payment of costs from the effective date of participation and reimbursement of past costs are included in the PSC. The election to participate will initiate a process for reimbursement of past costs associated with the Exploitation Perimeter since the effective date of the PSC (being 21 July 1999).

This election to participate is limited to the current Exploitation Perimeter and does not include the rest of PSC B. The Government has a similar right to make an election to participate in each new Exploitation Perimeter awarded for other future developments.

The Government's participating interest will be provided pro rata by the joint venture participants. Participating interests in the Chinguetti EEA and the balance of PSC B will be:

Company	Chinguetti Exploitation Perimeter	PSC B (Remainder)
Woodside group companies (Operator)	47.384%	53.846%
Hardman group companies	19.008%	21.600%
BG group companies	10.234%	11.630%
Premier group companies	8.123%	9.231%
ROC Oil group companies	3.250%	3.693%
Groupe Projet Chinguetti	12.000%	-

SCOTT SPENCER
DIRECTOR