

# Namibia Critical Metals Partner JOGMEC Accelerates Funding for Development of Lofdal Heavy Rare Earths Project

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HALIFAX, January 25, 2024 - [Namibia Critical Metals Inc.](#) ("Namibia Critical Metals" or the "Company" or "NCMI") (TSXV:NMI)(OTCQB:NMREF) is pleased to report that its joint venture partner, JOGMEC, has approved an additional \$1,250,000 in funding, bringing the total budget for the period until March 31, 2024, to \$13,050,000.

Darrin Campbell, President of Namibia Critical Metals expressed his satisfaction, stating:

"We are extremely pleased with the continued strong support of our partner, JOGMEC. This accelerated funding will allow us to complete pilot plant hydrometallurgical test work as well as other important technical studies to finalize our pre-feasibility study for the large-scale Lofdal 2B-4 project. The milestones achieved by our dedicated technical teams in 2023 in drilling and beneficiation have been clearly recognized as outstanding by our partners.

This increased budget underscores the confidence and commitment shared by NCMI and its partner JOGMEC. By injecting additional funds, the joint venture aims to fast-track the progression of crucial projects, ensuring timely execution and achieving key milestones ahead of schedule.

With the accelerated commencement of the pilot plant hydrometallurgical test work, NCMI intends to leverage advanced technologies and innovative methodologies to optimize processes and enhance the efficiency of mineral extraction and refining. Parallel technical studies will be conducted to support the ongoing pre-feasibility study, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the mining potential of Lofdal and paving the way for future success.

NCMI's impressive achievements in exploration and pioneering beneficiation have laid a solid foundation for the company's continued growth. Recognizing this success, NCMI's partnership with JOGMEC demonstrates the shared vision to capitalize on the immense potential of Lofdal and unlock significant value."

About Namibia Critical Metals Inc.

NCMI is developing the Tier-1 Heavy Rare Earth Project, Lofdal, a globally significant deposit of the heavy rare earth metals dysprosium and terbium. Demand for these critical metals used in permanent magnets for electric vehicles, wind turbines and other electronics is driven by innovations linked to energy and technology transformations. The geopolitical risks associated with sourcing many of these metals has become a repeated concern for manufacturers and end users. Namibia is a proven and stable mining jurisdiction.

The Lofdal Project is fully permitted with a 25-year Mining License and is under a Joint Venture Agreement with Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC).

The Company filed a robust updated PEA for "Lofdal 2B-4" on November 14, 2022, with a post-tax NPV of USD\$391 million and an annual IRR of 28% with a capital expenditure of USD\$207 million. The project is projected to generate a life of mine nominal cash flow of USD\$698 million post-tax over a 16-year mine life.

About Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC) and the JV

JOGMEC is a Japanese government independent administrative agency which seeks to secure stable

resource supplies for Japan. JOGMEC has a strong reputation as a long term, strategic partner in mineral projects globally. JOGMEC facilitates opportunities with Japanese private companies to secure supplies of natural resources for the benefit of the country's economic development.

Rare earth elements are of critical importance to Japanese industrial interests and JOGMEC has extensive experience with all aspects of the sector. JOGMEC provided Lynas with USD\$250,000,000 in loans and equity in 2011 to ensure supplies of the Light Rare Earths metals suite to the Japanese industry.

Namibia Critical Metals owns a 95% interest in the Lofdal project with the remaining 5% held for the benefit of historically disadvantaged Namibians. The terms of the JOGMEC joint venture agreement with the Company stipulate that JOGMEC provides C\$3,000,000 in Term 1 and C\$7,000,000 in Term 2 to earn a 40% interest in the Lofdal project. Term 3 calls for a further C\$10,000,000 of expenditures to earn an additional 10% interest. JOGMEC can also purchase another 1% for C\$5,000,000 and has first right of refusal to fully fund the project through to commercial production and to purchase all production at market prices. The collective interests of NCMI and historically disadvantaged Namibians cannot be diluted below a 26% carried working interest upon payment of C\$5,000,000 to JOGMEC for the dilution protection. NMI may elect to participate up to a maximum of 44% by funding pro rata after the earn in period is completed.

To date, JOGMEC has completed Term 2 and earned a 40% interest by reaching the C\$10 million expenditure requirement. JOGMEC has approved an additional C\$3,050,000 budget for Term 3 through to March 31, 2024. Total approved project funding to date is C\$13,050,000 of the \$20,000,000 Earn-In requirement to reach 50% interest.

Other exploration projects: The Company's Exclusive Prospecting Licenses ("EPLs") prospective for gold are located in the Central Namibian Gold Belt which hosts a number of significant orogenic gold deposits including the Navachab Gold Mine, the Otjikoto Gold Mine and the Twin Hills deposit. At the Erongo Gold Project, stratigraphic equivalents to the meta-sediments hosting the Osino gold discovery at Twin Hills have been identified and exploration is progressing over this highly prospective area. The Grootfontein Base Metal and Gold Project has potential for magmatic copper-nickel mineralization, Mississippi Valley-type zinc-lead-vanadium mineralization and Otjikoto-style gold mineralization.

Rainer Ellmies, PhD, MScGeol, EurGeol, AusIMM and Vice President of [Namibia Critical Metals Inc.](#), is the Company's Qualified Person and has reviewed and approved this press release.

The common shares of [Namibia Critical Metals Inc.](#) trade on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol "NMI" and the OTCQB Market under the symbol "NMREF".

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

For more information please contact -

[Namibia Critical Metals Inc.](#)

Darrin Campbell, President

Tel: +01 (902) 835-8760

Email: [Info@NamibiaCMI.com](mailto:Info@NamibiaCMI.com)

Web site: [www.NamibiaCriticalMetals.com](http://www.NamibiaCriticalMetals.com)

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