

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023 (UNAUDITED)

## **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

The six-month period under review, although not without its challenges, has witnessed significant developments for your Company both in South Korea and the Philippines as we look to become a gold producing entity and deliver long term value for all stakeholders.

During the period, the Company published a Scoping Study highlighting the potential of the Gubong Gold Mine ("Gubong") and Kochang Gold and Silver Mine ("Kochang") in South Korea, secured a local JV partner in the Philippines to advance the Batangas Gold Project ("Batangas"), raised capital and cleared all corporate debt. However, as shareholders will be aware, the issuance of the Mountain Temporary Use Permits ("MTUPs") for Gubong and Kochang has taken far longer than anticipated, particularly in light of the fact that both projects have already received extraction licences.

# South Korea

The Gubong and Kochang licences remain first class assets and fit our model, being low CAPEX, high grade opportunities where we believe production can be recommenced quickly and existing resources can be expanded to facilitate long term, high value returns. In February, the potential of the two projects was highlighted in the publishing of the Scoping Study, which reported a post-tax NPV of USD 181 million, free cash of USD 50 million per annum, an IRR of 111% and a USD 630 per oz All in Sustaining Cost. This was conducted on a USD 1,750 per oz gold price against the current gold price of c. USD 1,930 per oz.

However, in order to advance, the Company needs the grant of the MTUPs. Throughout the period, the Board was focussed on the granting of these, which are the last part of the legal requirements needed to commence bringing the mines back into production. The Company's lawyers and permitting consultants frequently reiterated their confidence in the likely granting of these MTUPs and emphasised that all legal and regulatory requirements had been covered in Bluebird's initial c.800-page submission. Despite the supply of additional information, including community engagement and clarity on environmental impact, the issuance of the MTUP at Kochang was referred to the Board of Audit and Inspection, Korea. Its adjudication is mandated to take 60 days, so is scheduled for September. However, as previously reported, this timeline is not guaranteed and following advice from our legal advisors, it can often be materially different from what is mandated. When the Board receives an official response, we will communicate this to the market. It is extremely frustrating that while the Company has support from the local landowners and community, and the submission covered all the legal requirements, the granting has not occurred. The Board remains confident but believe this has become regionally political and therefore we welcome the audit procedure.

As a result of the above, we paused the submission for a MTUP at Gubong to evaluate all permutations encountered at Kochang. The politicising of events led us to the conclusion that there was a need for more South Korean representation and accordingly we identified a local partner to look to jointly develop the larger of our two projects. It recognises the scale and potential of the asset, which we estimate to have in excess of 1.3Moz Au and believe that it can both assist in the securing of the permit and the funding of the development of the mine to production. Notably, a similar JV model has been

successful at Batangas in the Philippines where our partner has been instrumental in securing the recently announced Certificate of Approval.

# Batangas

We remain extremely positive about the development potential of this high-grade project in the Philippines. This was our original listing asset, whose development was placed on hold due to a deterioration of political support for mining in the Philippines. With the election of President Marcos in June 2022, this situation has ameliorated translating into the project being primed for development. Accordingly, we signed a JV with a Philippine company, which has decades of mining experience incountry and recognised the potential of the project.

The JV covers the entire Batangas Project area, which has a total JORC compliant resource of 440,000 ounces, including a maiden ore reserve of 128,000 ounces (including silver credits), although work will initially focus on the Lobo area, implementing the necessary work with a view to advancing it to construction. Lobo has a JORC Compliant Ore Reserves of 171,000 tons at 6.6 g/t for 36,000 oz Au, an 82,000 oz Au inferred resource plus multiple epithermal and high-grade targets identified over 14km of identified mineralised structures. Grades include high-grade surface trench intersections of 8.35m @ 18.4 g/t Au, 2.6m @ 28.6 g/t Au and 3m @ 22.2 g/t Au.

The JV structure provides the Company with a free carry to a production decision at Lobo in return for 60% of the project equity. To provide context in terms of value, on top of the identified ounces and expansion potential, exploration expenditure to the tune of c.USD 20 million has been invested across the Batangas licence to date. In the initial prospectus, the Company had an option to farm into 51% of the project and will now have a free carry to construction decision and maintain a 40% interest.

Since signing the JV, we have received the Certificate of Approval from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau for its Two-Year Community Development Plan. This represents a significant step forward and underlines the importance of the Company's local development partner in navigating the regulatory environment to allow the Lobo underground mine to be advanced to a production decision. Importantly, the Company already has two 25-year Mineral Production Sharing Agreements covering this area.

The next steps for the JV partner include a new drilling campaign to increase the resource, the development of an underground mine plan, and the application for an Environmental Compliance Certificate. We are working closely with our partners to achieve these objectives, generate consistent news and advance to a decision to mine as quickly as possible.

# Corporate

Early in the period we raised GBP 1,215,000 through SI Capital via a placing and subscription for 60,750,000 New Ordinary Shares at 2 pence per share. This followed the raising of GBP 230,000 in December 2022. The capital raise was to fully fund proof-of-concept production at Kochang but, with

the delays with permitting, we took the decision to pay down our existing loans to become debt free. The Directors remain significant shareholders of the business owning a cumulative 166,176,351 shares in the Company.

The Company recognises the importance of cash preservation and being responsible custodians of our assets, to protect the capital structure of the Company where possible. Accordingly, the Board has taken measures to reduce spend and again the directors' renumeration will be taken in equity which means cash overheads are low. Therefore, with a free carry in the Philippines too, we don't envisage having to return to the market anytime soon. Additionally, on granting of licences in South Korea, multiple financing opportunities should be available; it is just about deciding which is in the best interest of shareholders.

More recently Catalyse Capital Ltd ("Catalyse"), a long running and supportive shareholder of the Company, has agreed to acquire Southern Gold Limited's ("Southern Gold") 122.5 million shares in the Company. The Board believes that the share purchase by Catalyse, that recognises the true potential of the Company's South Korean and Filipino gold projects, will remove a significant perceived 'overhang' in the trading of the Company's shares. Southern Gold's selling, caused by their strategic shift away from gold and into critical metals, has undoubtedly affected our share price, and to ameliorate the Southern Gold situation is good news for the Company and will allow investors to focus on the inherent value of our three-project portfolio.

# Conclusion

The sum of the parts of the business, three high grade gold projects, an estimated 1.5m oz Au in South Korea, close to 450,000 oz Au in the Philippines where we have a free carry to a production decision, defined paths to production, supportive local partners, a heavily invested management, cash, and no debt, are not reflected in our current price. We await progress on all three projects and believe that by the time I report next, we will have full clarity on our potential as we look to build value and reward shareholders for their patience.

Jonathan Morley-Kirk Chairman 28 August 2023

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Directors present their report together with the unaudited financial statements of the Group for the half-year ended 30 June 2023.

## The Group

Bluebird Merchant Ventures Limited ("Company"), the parent company, is registered and domiciled in the British Virgin Islands.

MRL Gold Inc is a subsidiary of the Company and Egerton Gold Philippines Inc is the sole associate company. These companies are registered and domiciled in the Philippines.

Gubong JV Project Co PTE Limited and Kochang JV Project Co PTE Limited are subsidiaries of the Company and are registered and domiciled in Singapore. These companies are the 100% owner of the South Korean registered and domiciled Gubong Project Co Limited and Geochang Project Co Limited respectively.

#### **Results and Dividends**

The results of the Group for the half-year ended 30 June 2023 show a loss before taxation of USD 216,262 (30 June 2022 showed a loss of USD 853,955).

No dividends have been paid or proposed for the period.

#### **Operational Activities**

Refer Chairman's Report.

#### **Company Directors**

	Position	Appointed	Audit Committee	Remuneration Committee	H&S Committee
J. Morley-Kirk	Non-Exec. Chairman	March 2014	Chair	Member	Member
C. Sinclair-Poulton	Non-Exec. Director	September 2015	Member	Chair	Chair
C. Human	BVI Resident Director	August 2022	-	-	-
A. Bishop	Executive	March 2014	-	-	-
C. Barclay	Executive	March 2017	-	-	-
C. Patterson	Executive	September 2015	-	-	-

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

# **Share Capital**

At 30 June 2023 the issued share capital of the Company stood at 689,865,042 shares.

This Directors' Report was approved by the Board of Directors on 24 August 2023 and is signed on its behalf.

By Order of the Board

Jonathan Morley-Kirk Chairman 28 August 2023

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **Consolidated Income Statement**

For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Administrative expenses		(598,558)	(648,820)
Farm-in costs		-	-
Operating loss		(558,558)	(648,820)
Exchange gain/(loss)		95,613	(14,689)
Finance gain/(expense)	7	286,683	(190,446)
(Loss)/profit before taxation		(216,262)	(853,955)
Income tax expense		-	-
(Loss)/profit for the period		(216,262)	(853,955)
Attributable to:			
Equity shareholders to the parent company		(216,262)	(853,955)
Earnings per share:			
Earnings per share (USD cents per share)	8.3	(0.0003)	(0.0014)

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

# **Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income**

For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
(Loss)/profit for the period	(216,262)	(853,955)
Exchange difference on translating foreign companies*	70,274	417
Total comprehensive income for the period	(145,988)	(853,538)

\* May be reclassified to profit or loss

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

# **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

At 30 June 2023

		30 Jun 2023 (USD)	30 Jun 2022 (USD)
	Note	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Non-current assets			
Mines under development	10	19,816,088	19,816,088
		19,816,088	19,816,088
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	6	3,030	7,568
Cash and cash equivalents		519,201	118,207
		522,231	125,775
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	2	(142,397)	(319,074)
Other financial liabilities	2	(353,300)	(859,146)
Derivative financial liabilities	5	(269,917)	(476,334)
		(765,614)	(1,654,554)
Net Assets		19,572,705	18,287,309
Equity			
Issued share capital	8.1	21,236,160	19,974,242
Unissued share capital	8.2	840,150	31,836
Reserves	9	1,400,656	1,337,379
Retained earnings		(3,904,261)	(3,056,148)
Total Equity		19,572,705	18,287,309

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this financial report.

Jonathan Morley-Kirk Chairman 28 August 2022

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

# **Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

	Share Capital (USD)	Unissued Share Capital (USD)	Retained Earnings (USD)	Reserves (USD)	Total Equity (USD)
At 31 Dec 2021	19,584,044	34,521	(2,202,193)	1,336,962	18,753,334
(Loss)/profit for the period		-	(853,955)	-	(853,955)
Other comprehensive profit/(loss)	-	-	-	417	417
Total comprehensive (loss)/profit	-	-	(853,955)	417	(853,538)
Shares issued/to be issued	390,198	(2,685)	-	-	387,513
Total transaction with owners	390,198	(2,685)	-	-	387,513
At 30 Jun 2022	19,974,242	31,836	(3,056,148)	1,337,379	18,287,309
(Loss)/profit for the period	-	-	(631,851)	-	(631,851)
Other comprehensive (loss)/profit	-	-	-	(6,997)	(6,997)
Total comprehensive (loss)/profit	-	-	(631,851)	(6,997)	(638,848)
Shares issued/to be issued	339,216	282,761	-		621,977
Total transaction with owners	339,216	282,761	-	-	621,977
At 31 Dec 2022	20,313,458	314,597	(3,687,999)	1,330,382	18,270,438
(Loss)/profit for the period	-	-	(216,262)	-	(216,262)
Other comprehensive profit/(loss)	-	-	-	70,274	70,274
Total comprehensive (loss)/profit	-	-	(216,262)	70,274	(145,988)
Shares issued/to be issued	922,702	525,553	-	-	1,448,255
Total transaction with owners	922,702	525,553	-	-	1,448,255
At 30 Jun 2023	21,236,160	840,150	(3,904,261)	1,400,656	19,572,705

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

## **Consolidated Cash Flow Statement**

For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(163,125)	(221,615)
Net cash from operating activities	(163,125)	(221,615)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Loans to subsidiaries	(20,000)	-
Net cash used investing activities	(20,000)	-
Cash flows from financing activities		
Net proceeds from equity issued	1,340,474	43,154
Proceeds from loans	-	130,000
Loan repayments	(674,058)	-
Net cash used financing activities	666,416	173,154
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	483,291	(48,461)
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the period	35,910	166,668
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	519,201	118,207

There have been non-cash transactions relating to the settlement of operating and financial liabilities in the period (refer notes 5 and 8 of the unaudited financial statements).

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

## 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements are in compliance with the DTR rules and the accounting policies are consistent with the previous financial year and corresponding interim reporting period.

# 2. Going Concern

In common with many junior mining companies, the Group raises equity funds for its activities in share placements. When necessary it also raises loan funding from related and third parties.

At the period end the Group had net current liabilities of USD 142,397, exclusive of USD 269,917 of warrants which are to be settled in shares and USD 353,300 of debt which is to be repaid from production.

Based on the current plans and financial projections, the Group's current cash resources and funding available are sufficient to enable the Group to meet its recurring commitments for the following twelve months, but not its forecasted expenditure which includes notable costs to progress the South Korean projects. As noted in the Chairman's Statement, on granting of licences in South Korea, multiple financing options should be available.

The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the Group was unable to continue as a going concern.

## 3. Segmental Reporting

## 3.1 For the half-year ended 30 June 2023

	BVI	Philippines	South Korea	Total
Income Statement	(USD)	(USD)	(USD)	(USD)
For the half-year ended 30 June 2023	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Administrative costs	(460,758)	(1,753)	(136,047)	(598,558)
Exchange gains/(losses)	95,613	-	-	95,613
Finance costs	286,683	-	-	286,683
Loss for the period	(78,462)	(1,753)	(136,047)	(216,262)
Other comprehensive income	-	(117,094)	187,368	70,274
Total comprehensive income for the period	(78,462)	(118,847)	51,321	(145,988)

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

Statement of Financial Position At 30 June 2023	BVI (USD) (Unaudited)	Philippines (USD) (Unaudited)	South Korea (USD) (Unaudited)	Total (USD) (Unaudited)
Non-current assets	-	-	19,816,088	19,816,088
Trade and other receivables	3,030	-	-	3,030
Cash and cash equivalents	509,172	286	9,743	519,201
Total assets	512,202	286	19,825,831	20,338,319
Current liabilities	(62,086)	(80,311)	-	(142,397)
Other financial liabilities	-	-	(353,300)	(353,300)
Derivative financial liabilities	(269,917)	-	-	(269,917)
Net assets	180,199	(80,025)	19,472,531	19,572,705

# 3.2 For the half-year ended 30 June 2022

<b>Income Statement</b> For the half-year ended 30 June 2022	BVI (USD) (Unaudited)	Philippines (USD) (Unaudited)	South Korea (USD) (Unaudited)	Total (USD) (Unaudited)
Administrative costs	(577,443)	(2,594)	(68,783)	(648,820)
Exchange losses	(14,689)	-	-	(14,689)
Finance costs	(190,446)	-	-	(190,446)
Loss for the period	(782,578)	(2,594)	(68,783)	(853,955)
Other comprehensive income	417	-	-	417
Total comprehensive income for the period	(782,161)	(2,594)	(68,783)	(853,538)
Statement of Financial Position	BVI (USD)	Philippines (USD)	South Korea (USD)	Total (USD)
At 30 June 2022	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Non-current assets	-	-	19,816,088	19,816,088
Trade and other receivables	3,972	-	3,596	7,568
Cash and cash equivalents	104,893	8,631	4,683	118,207
Total assets	108,865	8,631	19,824,367	19,941,863
Current liabilities	(228,548)	(90,526)	-	(319,074)
	(		(252,200)	(050 140)
Other financial liabilities	(505 <i>,</i> 846)	-	(353,300)	(859,146)
Other financial liabilities Derivative financial liabilities	(505,846) (476,334)	-	-	(859,146) (476,334)

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

#### 4. Loss for the Period before Tax

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Loss for the Period has been arrived at after charging:		
Directors Remuneration	120,766	122,713
Staff Costs	57,162	50,369

#### 5. Derivative Financial Liabilities

## 5.1 Share Warrants – Issued

Warrants issued and warrants to be issued are denominated in Sterling and are classified as derivative financial liabilities carried at fair value through profit and loss.

There were 125,287,840 warrants in issuance at 30 June 2023:

	Weighted Average Exercise Award					
	1.30p	2.00p	2.50p	3.50p	3.962p	5.75p
Outstanding at 30 Jun 2021	2,692,307	-	-	-	-	5,757,924
Issued in 2021/22	-	-	25,280,000	-	9,464,916	-
Lapsed	-	-	-	-	-	-
Re-issued	-	-	9,464,916	-	(9,464,916)	-
Exercised	(2,692,307)	-	-	-	-	-
Outstanding at 30 Jun 2022	-	-	34,744,916	-	-	5,757,924
Issued in 2022/23	-	5,035,000	5,000,000	74,750,000	-	-
Lapsed	-	-	-	-	-	-
Re-issued	-	34,744,916	(34,744,916)	-	-	-
Exercised	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outstanding at 30 Jun 2023	-	39,779,916	5,000,000	74,750,000	-	5,757,924

Financial Report for the Half-Year Ended 30 June 2023 (Unaudited)

At 30 June 2023, these warrants were fair valued at USD 269,917, using a Black-Scholes model, based on the following parameters – a risk free rate of 2.40%, a volatility of 88% for those warrants with a life of three years and 80% for those warrants with a life of one year.

## 5.2 Derivative Financial Liabilities

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Derivative financial liabilities – warrants	269,917	476,334
Total	269,917	476,334

# 5.3 <u>Reconciliation of Liabilities arising from Financing Activities</u>

	Current Other Financial Liabilities (USD) (Unaudited)	Derivative financial instruments (USD) (Unaudited)	Total (USD) (Unaudited)
At 30 June 2022	859,146	476,334	1,335,480
Cash Flows	182,000	-	182,000
Non-cash flows:			
Settlement through issue of shares	(65,000)	-	(65,000)
Loan charges and interest	25,312	-	25,312
Fair Value Changes	-	136,495	136,495
At 31 December 2022	1,001,458	612,829	1,614,287
Cash Flows	(674,058)	-	(674,058)
Non-cash flows:			
Loan charges and interest	25,900	-	25,900
Fair Value Changes	-	(342,912)	(342,912)
At 30 June 2023	353,300	269,917	623,217

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## 6. Trade and Other Receivables

	30 Jun 2023 (USD)	30 Jun 2022 (USD)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Deposits	3,030	6,626
Prepayments	-	942
Total	3,030	7,568

# 7. Finance Gain/(Expense)

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Fair value movement	286,683	(190,446)
Total	286,683	(190,446)

# 8. Share Capital

# 8.1 Issued Share Capital

	30 Jun 2023		30 Jun 2022	
	Number	USD	Number	USD
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Opening Balance	638,115,042	19,974,242	467,482,119	11,849,479
Issued During the Period (Net of Issue Costs)	51,750,000	1,261,918	170,632,923	8,124,763
Closing Balance	689,865,042	21,236,160	638,115,042	19,974,242

The shares have no par value.

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#### 8.2 Unissued Share Capital

	30 Jun 2023		30 Jun 2022	
	Number	USD	Number	USD
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Salary Sacrifice	12,987,564	286,136	714,325	31,836
Momentum Resources Ltd*	23,000,000	554,014	-	-
Total	35,987,564	840,150	714,325	31,836

\* In March 2023 Momentum Resources Ltd transferred 23,000,000 shares to new investors in the Company as part of the Pledged Share Pool agreed by the Directors.

#### 8.3. Earnings Per Share

	30 Jun 2023 (USD)	30 Jun 2022 (USD)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Basic and diluted earnings per share	(0.0003)	(0.0014)
Profit/(loss) used to calculate basic and diluted earnings per share	(216,262)	(853 <i>,</i> 955)
Weighted average number of shares used in calculating basic and diluted earnings per share	674,863,653	628,157,969

Basic loss per share is calculated by dividing the loss attributable to ordinary shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding and shares to be issued during the year. The potential ordinary shares were anti-dilutive as the Group was in a loss making position and therefore the conversion of potential ordinary shares would serve to decrease the loss per share from continuing operations. Where potential ordinary shares are anti-dilutive a diluted earnings per share is not calculated and is deemed to be equal to the basic earnings per share.

#### 9. Reserves

	30 Jun 2023 (USD)	30 Jun 2022 (USD)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Translation Reserve	70,576	7,299
Share Based Payments Reserve	1,330,080	1,330,080
Total	1,400,656	1,337,379

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#### **10.** Mines Under Development

	30 Jun 2023 (USD) (Unaudited)	30 Jun 2022 (USD) (Unaudited)
Mines under development at start of period	19,816,088	-
Consideration paid to Southern Gold Limited	-	10,000,000
Company's 50% Joint Venture Interest	-	10,000,000
Total consideration	-	20,000,000
Less fair value of net assets:		
Non-current assets	-	(2,535,532)
Current assets	-	(64,302)
Current liabilities	-	-
Fair value uplift to mines under development on acquisition	-	17,400,166
Mines under development before acquisition of joint ventures	-	2,415,922
Mines under development at year end	19,816,088	19,816,088

The mines under development asset fair value uplift arose from the execution of an agreement the Company announced on 29 June 2021 to increase the Group's ownership to 100% in the Gubong and Geochang gold mines via the acquisition of Southern Gold Limited's 50% Joint Venture Interest in the South Korean gold projects, which were acquired as the Company, through its pre-feasibility studies, demonstrated value in the projects for the Company's shareholders.

The total consideration was paid to Southern Gold Limited by the issuance of 200 million BMV shares at GBP 3.6p per share (USD 5.0 cents).

The Joint Venture Interest in the South Korean gold projects was revalued prior to acquisition to the consideration required to acquire the joint ventures, which generated a gain on acquisition of USD 8.3 million and the recording of mines under development totalling USD 19.8 million at 31 December 2021.

There has been no addition in the half-year ended 30 June 2023 as the Company secures the required permits.