

September 4, 2013

Press Release

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.

Ceremony Held to Mark Opening of Newly Completed Plant Under Taganito Project in the Philippines

Today a ceremony was held to announce and commemorate the completion of construction of Taganito Project in the Republic of the Philippines, by Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. (SMM) in collaboration with Mitsui & Co., Ltd. (Mitsui) and Nickel Asia Corporation (NAC), the local partner. The ceremony was attended by dignitaries of the Philippine government headed by Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II of the Department of the Interior and Local Government who came on behalf of President Benigno S. Aquino III, members of the local government, representatives from the companies involved in the plant's construction, et al.

The Taganito Project was launched in September 2009 following a decision by SMM to construct a nickel plant in Taganito, northeastern region of Mindanao island to serve as the company's second facility applying high-pressure acid leach (HPAL) technology. This technology, which efficiently recovers nickel from low-grade nickel oxide ore, achieved commercial viability, for the first time in the world, in 2005 at Coral Bay Nickel Corporation, an SMM subsidiary based in Palawan, the Philippines. The Taganito plant was completed this June, and after verification of production capacity, product quality, etc., commercial production is scheduled to commence on full scale from the fourth quarter of this year.

Overview of the Taganito Nickel Project

1) Profile of Local Affiliate:

Corporate name:	Taganito HPAL Nickel Corporation (THPAL)
Investment ratios:	SMM 62.5%, NAC 22.5%, Mitsui 15.0%
Location:	Taganito, Surigao Del Norte, Republic of the Philippines

