

PRESS RELEASE

NICKEL ASIA CORPORATION ANNOUNCES 2013 FINANCIAL AND OPERATING RESULTS

Manila, March 24, 2014 - Nickel Asia Corporation (NAC) (PSE:NIKL) today announced its audited financial and operating results for 2013 with attributable net income (net of minority interests) of P 2.05 billion, marginally lower than 2012's comparable result of P2.21 billion. On a per share basis, earnings stood at P0.82 compared to P0.88 in 2012. Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) decreased by 4% to P4.9 billion compared to P5.08 billion in the prior year.

The Company experienced another record year of ore shipments, which increased by 19% to 14 million wet metric tonnes (WMT) from 11.7 million WMT in 2012. However, the effect of weaker nickel prices resulted to revenues falling by 4% to P 11.11 billion from the previous year's P11.61 billion.

Of the total volume of ore shipped in 2013, 3.59 million WMT was saprolite ore and 10.41 million WMT limonite ore. The corresponding figures for 2012 were 4.24 million WMT and 7.49 million WMT, respectively. Of the total limonite ore shipped in 2013, 3.4 million WMT was delivered to the Coral Bay hydrometallurgical processing plant (a similar amount was delivered in the prior year), while 874 thousand WMT was delivered to the new Taganito plant, which was commissioned during the year in review and had its first commercial shipment in December 2013.

"Despite weak market conditions for commodities in general, our Company has again managed to deliver record shipments last year", said Gerard H. Brimo, President and CEO, "while the start of commercial operations of the \$1.6 billion Taganito plant, where we have a 22.5% equity interest, marks yet another milestone in the Company's history".

The realized nickel price in 2013 applicable to the Company's shipments of medium and high grade saprolite ore to Japan and of limonite ore to the Coral Bay and Taganito processing plants, which are benchmarked against LME prices, averaged \$6.91 per pound of payable nickel, as against \$8.10 per pound of payable nickel in 2012. With respect to the company's shipments of low-grade saprolite and limonite ore, which are priced on a per WMT basis, the weighted average selling price in 2013 amounted to \$20.03 per WMT compared to \$24.40 per WMT in the previous year.

While shipment volumes increased, total operating costs and expenses remained at roughly the same level, from P7.58 billion in 2012 to P7.67 billion in 2013. On a per WMT of ore sold, total costs and expenses decreased from P646 per WMT to P548 per WMT in 2013. Total excise taxes and royalties paid to government amounted to P573.8 million while income tax payable on the basis of 2013's earnings is P1.17 billion. The corresponding figures for the prior year are P578 million and P1.26 billion, respectively.

With respect to the outlook for the current year, Mr. Brimo said that, “We are now seeing nickel prices finally recover on the back of the Indonesian ore ban, which took effect in January, and in time when the new HPAL plant at Taganito begins its first full year of operation. We therefore look forward to a much better performance this year.”

NICKEL ASIA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at December 31, 2013
(Amounts in Thousands)

	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012 (As restated)	January 1, 2012 (As restated)
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	P10,234,336	P9,263,451	P10,350,592
Trade and other receivables	839,449	937,860	1,156,293
Inventories	2,044,469	2,004,188	2,008,003
Available-for-sale (AFS) financial assets	1,257,370	1,086,104	660,223
Other current assets	225,412	157,944	94,284
Total Current Assets	14,601,036	13,449,547	14,269,395
Noncurrent Assets			
AFS financial assets - net of current portion	1,181,568	1,041,934	907,597
Property and equipment	6,585,752	5,949,928	4,216,838
Investment properties	29,000	72,191	53,637
Investment in an associate	4,112,126	3,988,929	4,371,867
Long-term stockpile inventory - net of current portion	981,463	1,266,010	1,357,675
Deferred income tax assets - net	344,443	364,897	501,851
Other noncurrent assets	1,078,140	1,045,781	724,038
Total Noncurrent Assets	14,312,492	13,729,670	12,133,503
TOTAL ASSETS	P28,913,528	P27,179,217	P26,402,898
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	P928,113	P864,015	P1,238,101
Income tax payable	263,381	295,095	275,169
Current portion of long-term debt	117,469	116,619	124,545
Total Current Liabilities	1,308,963	1,275,729	1,637,815
Noncurrent Liabilities			
Long-term debt - net of current portion	1,421,128	1,422,670	1,643,908
Deferred income tax liabilities - net	486,228	550,451	585,625
Provision for mine rehabilitation and decommissioning	130,927	132,522	61,726
Deferred income - net of current portion	75,419	79,609	84,154
Pension liability	279,075	136,532	157,065
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	2,392,777	2,321,784	2,532,478
Equity Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent			
Capital stock	1,266,780	1,013,938	677,116
Additional paid-in capital	8,151,603	8,117,558	8,075,641
Other components of equity:			
Net valuation gains on AFS financial assets	99,506	65,199	20,889
Cost of share-based payment plan	49,524	57,464	64,308
Asset revaluation surplus	33,629	34,012	34,395
Share in cumulative translation adjustment	140,201	(136,909)	118,251
Retained earnings			
Appropriated	1,000,000	-	-
Unappropriated	9,748,905	9,725,164	8,883,432
	20,490,148	18,876,426	17,874,032
Non-controlling Interests	4,721,640	4,705,278	4,358,573
Total Equity	25,211,788	23,581,704	22,232,605
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	P28,913,528	P27,179,217	P26,402,898

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NICKEL ASIA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

(Amounts in Thousands, Except Earnings per Share)

	Years Ended December 31		
	2013	2012 (As restated)	2011 (As restated)
REVENUES			
Sale of ore	₱10,475,497	₱11,143,293	₱12,230,278
Services and others	634,032	463,614	464,428
	11,109,529	11,606,907	12,694,706
COSTS AND EXPENSES			
Cost of sales	4,489,294	4,467,215	3,349,690
Cost of services	335,292	260,399	214,260
Shipping and loading costs	1,398,771	1,400,550	1,286,076
Excise taxes and royalties	648,608	707,937	736,262
Marketing	65,629	94,354	68,176
General and administrative	624,819	527,581	577,425
	7,562,413	7,458,036	6,231,889
FINANCE INCOME	166,753	235,040	208,436
FINANCE EXPENSES	(128,298)	(114,536)	(66,615)
EQUITY IN NET LOSSES OF AN ASSOCIATE	(184,703)	(114,639)	(196,185)
OTHER INCOME - Net	309,783	300,262	745,200
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	3,710,651	4,454,998	7,153,653
PROVISION FOR (BENEFIT FROM) INCOME TAX			
Current	1,169,504	1,264,270	1,619,779
Deferred	(45,289)	70,428	66,236
	1,124,215	1,334,698	1,686,015
NET INCOME	₱2,586,436	₱3,120,300	₱5,467,638
Net income attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent	₱2,053,674	₱2,207,210	₱3,537,782
Non-controlling interests	532,762	913,090	1,929,856
	₱2,586,436	₱3,120,300	₱5,467,638