Japaul RC. 250346
GOLD & VENTURES PLC
...partnering for results

Lagos, Nigeria: Tuesday 17th February 2026

JAPAUL GOLD & VENTURES PLC ANNOUNCES DELIVERY OF PILOT GOLD PROCESSING PLANT AMID STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL MILESTONES

Japaul Gold & Ventures Plc (the "Company") is pleased to formally notify the Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) and the investing public of the successful delivery and commencement of test runs for its pilot gold processing plant. This milestone marks the official transition into active mining and gold processing at the Company's Libeli Mine site. This operational phase is the strategic result of over four years of intensive geological exploration, acquisition of statutory mining titles, and comprehensive regulatory approvals.

The Company also maintains a robust portfolio of four gold mining leases across Taraba, Niger, and Osun States. The newly commissioned plant features advanced technical capabilities, designed to extract gold from both hard-rock and alluvial deposits. Upon full installation at the Libeli site, commercial gold production is scheduled to commence in May 2026. At full capacity, this pilot facility is engineered to process between 18,000 and 21,000 grams of gold on a monthly basis.

In accordance with the Company's strategic roadmap to scale annual production, an industrial-scale processing facility is slated for delivery in the fourth quarter of 2026. This high-capacity plant will significantly expand the Company's output, with a projected monthly processing volume of 210,000 grams.

These technical operations are being professionally executed under the leadership of our Canadian Managing Director (Mining), Mr. David Dawson. Mr. Dawson is a seasoned mining expert with over 30 years of experience spearheading large-scale mining activities across North and South America. He is supported by an elite team of expatriates and technical specialists with a proven track record in gold mining operations across the African continent.

The Company's corporate governance has been further strengthened by the recently ratified Board of Directors under the chairmanship of Mr. Segun Oloketuyi, and the executive leadership under the Acting Group Managing Director, Mr. Henry Alakhume, and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Mr. Adegboyega Adebukunola. The Board is comprised of resourceful management technocrats dedicated to steering Japaul Gold & Ventures Plc toward a new era of growth, operational excellence, and shareholder profitability. The Company also acknowledges the continued strategic oversight and advisory support of its Company Secretary and Legal Adviser, Royal Heritage Solicitors & Advocates, in ensuring regulatory compliance and sound corporate governance practices.

FOR: **JAPAUL GOLD & VENTURES PLC**

Chidimma Okolo
Company Secretary