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AVOCA WELCOMES RAMELIUS AS SHAREHOLDER

ASX200 gold producer Avoca Resources Limited (ASX:AVO) (**Avoca**) welcomes today's announcement by Ramelius Resources Limited (ASX:RMS) (**Ramelius**) that it intends to accept the Avoca offer for its shares in Dioro Exploration NL (ASX/TSX:DIO) (**Dioro**).

The acceptance by Ramelius will take Avoca's interest in Dioro to 85.6%, based on the level of acceptances received as at 12 February 2010. This provides Avoca with a controlling interest in Dioro, but more importantly will bring it closer to achieving its ultimate goal of obtaining a 90% interest in Dioro and proceeding towards compulsory acquisition of all the outstanding shares.

Avoca urges all remaining Dioro shareholders to **ACCEPT** Avoca's offer and reiterates that the independent Directors of Dioro have recommended that they do so.

Avoca Chairman Robert Reynolds said, "This is an excellent result for Avoca shareholders. Avoca's aim is to now reach an acceptance level of 90%, so it can fully complete the takeover of Dioro. The sooner this is achieved, the sooner Avoca will be able to unlock the value inherent in the combination of the two organisations.

"I am delighted to welcome all new shareholders to the company at what is a truly exciting time. The new Avoca will have a dominant position in Australia's premier goOld belt with multiple mines feeding two processing plants expected to produce over 270,000 ounces of gold per annum."

Avoca's Offer will close at 5.00pm (Perth time) on Tuesday 2 March 2010 and cannot be extended by Avoca. Remaining Dioro shareholders should **ACCEPT** this offer before it is too late and to take advantage of Avoca's accelerated payment terms.

If Dioro shareholders have any queries, they should contact the Avoca Offer Information Line on 1800 423 047 (from within Australia) or +612 8986 9356 (from outside Australia).

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Avoca Background

Avoca is an ASX 200 gold mining and exploration company based in Perth, Western Australia. Avoca has grown rapidly since its listing in 2002, and its acquisition of the Higginsville exploration project in 2004, located 130km south of Kalgoorlie.

Following the discovery of the Trident underground gold mine at Higginsville in late 2004, and the subsequent construction of the Higginsville Gold Project which included a new 1 million tonne per annum CIL treatment facility built on time and under budget; it poured its first gold bar on 1 July 2008. The time taken from exploration project acquisition to gold pour was four years. Presently, Trident is Western Australia's third largest underground gold mine and has recently commenced mining the thick and high grade 1005 level, which has contributed to record gold production levels. Avoca remains confident it will produce 190,000+ ounces of gold in FY2010 at an operating cash cost of A\$452 per ounce (not including royalties).

Avoca has a highly credentialed management team with considerable expertise in exploration, project development and underground mining. Avoca's managing director, Rohan Williams, has more than 15 years experience in the region having worked as a geologist at the +15 million ounce St Ives field immediately north of Higginsville, and the +6 million ounce Norseman field immediately to the south.

The Avoca Board is confident that its management team will continue to expand and develop the existing 1.45 million ounce Higginsville resource base into realising its goal of a +10 year mine life for Higginsville.