



PRESS RELEASE
SEMAFO

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SEMAFO: Infill Drilling Confirms High-Grade Mineralization at Mana's Kona Zone

Results Include 6.18 g/t Au over 18 Meters

Montreal, Quebec, October 27, 2011, 09:25 EST – SEMAFO Inc. (TSX, OMX: SMF) today announced results from the reverse circulation (“RC”) infill drilling over the Kona open pit area, which confirms the distribution of the mineralization. Results also outline zones of higher grade mineralization as revealed by holes MRC11-367, which returned 6.18 g/t Au (6.61 g/t Au uncut) over 18 meters, MRC11-360 with 3.46 g/t Au over 29 meters and hole MRC11-373 returning 4.0 g/t Au (4.65 g/t Au uncut) over 14 meters.

Kona RC drill result highlights are listed in the table below and illustrated on figure 1.

Kona Zone Highlights

DDH No.***	Zone	Section (N)	From	To	Au* / Length**
MRC11-312	Kona	18525	24.0	38.0	1.76 g/t / 14.0 m
MRC11-317	Parallel	18575	34.0	43.0	1.91 g/t / 9.0 m
MRC11-318	Parallel	18625	161.0	166.0	2.78 g/t / 5.0 m
MRC11-319	Kona	18625	106.0	121.0	4.13 g/t / 15.0 m
MRC11-360	Kona	18625	69.0	98.0	3.46 g/t / 29.0 m
MRC11-361	Kona	18625	50.0	73.0	3.85 g/t / 23.0 m
					(3.87 g/t uncut)
MRC11-362	Parallel	18625	35.0	47.0	1.69 g/t / 12.0 m
MRC11-363	Kona	18675	135.0	142.0	2.28 g/t / 7.0 m
MRC11-363	Parallel	18675	104.0	105.0	15.00 g/t / 1.0 m
					(36.80 g/t uncut)
MRC11-364	Kona	18675	108.0	124.0	2.30 g/t / 16.0 m
MRC11-365	Kona	18675	71.0	84.0	4.00 g/t / 13.0 m
MRC11-366	Kona	18675	44.0	56.0	7.31 g/t / 12.0 m
					(9.83 g/t uncut)
MRC11-367	Kona	18675	8.0	26.0	6.18 g/t / 18.0 m
					(6.61 g/t uncut)
MRC11-368	Kona	18725	130.0	144.0	7.82 g/t / 14.0 m
MRC11-369	Kona	18725	108.0	141.0	2.18 g/t / 33.0 m
MRC11-370	Kona	18725	74.0	94.0	3.67 g/t / 20.0 m
MRC11-371	Kona	18725	45.0	64.0	5.84 g/t / 19.0 m
MRC11-372	Kona	18725	21.0	31.0	1.21 g/t / 10.0 m

MRC11-373	Kona	18775	128.0	142.0	4.00 g/t / 14.0 m
					(4.65 g/t uncut)
MRC11-374	Kona	18775	113.0	144.0	2.64 g/t / 31.0 m
MRC11-392	Kona	17900	23.0	36.0	1.54 g/t / 13.0 m
MRC11-393	Parallel	17900	20.0	24.0	3.12 g/t / 4.0 m
MRC11-395	Parallel	17925	42.0	45.0	3.66 g/t / 3.0 m
MRC11-396	Kona	17925	25.0	38.0	2.90 g/t / 13.0 m
MRC11-397	Kona	17925	6.0	19.0	1.64 g/t / 13.0 m
MRC11-398	Kona	17950	119.0	120.0	15.00 g/t / 1.0 m
					(53.10 g/t uncut)
MRC11-440	Kona	17950	43.0	51.0	6.11 g/t / 8.0 m
					(7.80 g/t uncut)
MRC11-441	Kona	17950	17.0	33.0	2.12 g/t / 16.0 m
MRC11-442	Parallel	17975	123.0	125.0	6.80 g/t / 2.0 m
MRC11-443	Parallel	17975	74.0	91.0	1.50 g/t / 17.0 m
MRC11-444	Kona	17975	72.0	80.0	1.59 g/t / 8.0 m
MRC11-445	Kona	17975	23.0	51.0	1.16 g/t / 28.0 m
MRC11-446	Kona	17975	6.0	20.0	2.98 g/t / 14.0 m

* All individual samples are cut at 15 g/t as per Wona Deposit procedures.

** All lengths are measured along the hole axis; additional information is required to determine true widths.

*** MRC11-320 to MRC11-359 and MRC11-400 to MRC11-439 were not drilled on Kona area.

Results from the RC infill drilling on the Kona open-pit area are concordant with the current magnitude of reserves and resources, with a potential slight gain in the northern area.

The exploration programs were designed and managed locally by Dofinta Bondé and David Legault, Mana Mineral's Exploration Chief Geologists, David Lalonde, Deputy Exploration Manager, and Richard Roy P Geo, Exploration Manager, and guided and supervised under the direction of Michel Crevier, P.Geo MScA, Vice-President, Exploration and Mine Geology and SEMAFO's Qualified Person who has reviewed this press release for accuracy and compliance with National Instrument 43-101.

All individual RC samples represent approximately one-meter in length of rock chips homogenized and riffle-split to an approximately 2-kilogram sub-sample, which is sent for preparation and gold assaying at the ALS Chemex laboratories in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Each sample is fire-assayed for gold content on a 50-gram sub-sample at the same ALS Chemex laboratories. In addition to ALS Chemex's own QA/QC (Quality Assurance/Quality Control) program, an internal quality control and quality assurance program is in place throughout the sampling program, using blind duplicates, blanks and recognized industry standards.

About SEMAFO

SEMAFO is a Canadian-based mining company with gold production and exploration activities in West Africa. The Corporation currently operates three gold mines: the Mana Mine in Burkina Faso, the Samira Hill Mine in Niger and the Kiniero Mine in Guinea. SEMAFO is committed to evolve in a conscientious manner to become a major player in its geographical area of interest. SEMAFO's strategic focus is to maximize shareholder value by effectively managing its existing assets as well as pursuing organic and strategic growth opportunities.

CAUTION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions and accordingly, actual results and future events could differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. You are hence cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include words or expressions such as “committed”, “evolve”, “become”, “focus”, “pursuing”, “growth” and other similar words or expressions. Factors that could cause future results or events to differ materially from current expectations expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements include the ability to execute on our strategic focus, fluctuation in the price of currencies, gold or operating costs, mining industry risks, uncertainty as to calculation of mineral reserves and resources, delays, political and social stability in Africa (including our ability to maintain or renew licenses and permits) and other risks described in SEMAFO’s documents filed with Canadian securities regulatory authorities. You can find further information with respect to these and other risks in SEMAFO’s 2010 Annual MD&A and 2010 Annual Information Form, as updated in SEMAFO’s 2011 First Quarter MD&A and 2011 Second Quarter MD&A, and other filings made with Canadian securities regulatory authorities and available at www.sedar.com. These documents are also available on our website at www.semafo.com. SEMAFO disclaims any obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements, except as required by applicable law.

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Kona Zone - Infill Drilling Forage intercalaire de la zone Kona

Figure 1

