MEDIA RELEASE

ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI INFORMATION UPDATE ON SITUATION AT IDLED OBUASI GOLD MINE

Johannesburg and New York, 16 February 2016 - Last week, in the interests of safety, AngloGold Ashanti Ghana withdrew employees performing non-essential functions from its idled Obuasi Gold Mine, following the incursion of illegal miners inside the fenced areas of the site. There is no impact on AngloGold Ashanti’s production and All-In Sustaining Costs as the site is not forecast to be in production for at least this year. Remaining employees are performing critical tasks related to maintenance of the site, and also water treatment, provision of medical services and maintenance of electrical facilities that provide power and water to employees’ homes and surrounding communities.

This latest development at the site followed the withdrawal of government military protection from the mine on Tuesday, 2 February 2016, after initial incursions on 30 and 31 January 2016. It is important to note that the Ghana Army has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chamber of Mines, on behalf of its members, to deploy military personnel at mining operations. To AngloGold Ashanti's knowledge, no other mines with a military presence have been affected.

The situation at the mine is currently calm, though AngloGold Ashanti Ghana remains deeply concerned about the prevailing conditions, with illegal miners continuing to enter the site. If allowed to continue unchecked, illegal mining taking place on parts of the concession, and vandalism of property, could threaten the long-term viability of the mine and AngloGold Ashanti Ghana’s ability to continue its feasibility study and maintain critical services.

AngloGold Ashanti Ghana has informed local authorities, through a declaration of Force Majeure, that under the current situation it may be constrained from fulfilling certain conditions of its Amended Programme of Mining Operations, the permit the covers current activities at Obuasi.

Following engagement on 12 February 2016 between AngloGold Ashanti and the Ghanaian Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and other government officials, the Minister has committed to sending a delegation of high-ranking government officials to examine the situation at the mine. AngloGold Ashanti awaits the outcome of the delegation’s visit, and will continue to urge authorities at a national and local level to assist in upholding the law and returning safety and security to the site before further injuries or further loss of life occur.

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Background/ Notes to Editors
AngloGold Ashanti suspended underground mining operations at the Obuasi Mine at the end of 2014 after incurring heavy (and ultimately unaffordable) financial losses over several years. Employees were paid a severance as mandated by law and in accordance with relevant Collective Agreements and Employment Contracts. Despite a very difficult market for the global mining industry, AngloGold Ashanti continues to invest significant time, skill and financial resources in building the case for the Obuasi Mine’s redevelopment into a much needed, long-term contributor to the local, regional and national economies.

Since the suspension of operations, Obuasi has been in a government-approved limited operations phase, whilst AngloGold Ashanti conducts the feasibility study needed to determine whether the mine can be redeveloped into
a profitable, productive operation that can once again be a significant employer and contributor to the local, regional and national economies in Ghana.

Johannesburg

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