



Media statement

Deaths of two employees at Khoemacau Copper Mining

Gaborone 21 May 2022: Khoemacau Copper Mining regrets to announce the deaths of two employees of an Australian-based contractor to the mine, Barmenco, in an underground incident yesterday.

Investigations into the cause of the accident are ongoing. It appears that the two, both blasting crew members, had proceeded underground to perform tasks at the Tshukudu section 140m below surface.

Their bodies were discovered by colleagues who followed. Two colleagues of the deceased employees were also affected and are recovering in hospital.

The family of one of the deceased is based elsewhere in Botswana. The second is an Indonesian citizen.

This is the first instance of a fatal accident at Khoemacau since the mine's development began. Khoemacau will work with Barmenco management to assist the families of the deceased, over and above the statutory financial compensation to which they are entitled.

Safety officials of the Department of Mines are travelling to the mine and are expected to visit the incident site this weekend as part of their investigation.

Says Khoemacau CEO Johan Ferreira: "The deaths of our two colleagues is a terrible shock to me personally, to their employer and to all the other employees at Khoemacau. We convey our deepest condolences to their families. Naturally we will use the outcome of the investigation to ensure that such an incident cannot reoccur."

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