### THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

# CONGO (KINSHASA)

## By George J. Coakley and Philip A. Szczesniak

Disruptions caused by renewed civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo [Congo (Kinshasa)] and the uncertain investment policies of the new Government were a setback to the proposed new mineral development needed to revitalize the mineral economy. Historically, the mining industry has accounted for 25% of gross domestic product (GDP) and about three-quarters of total export revenues. The near collapse of the economy since 1993, however, has made it difficult to sustain normal mining activities.

Congo (Kinshasa) is located in the heart of equatorial central Africa and has an area of 2,267,600 square kilometers, which is about one-quarter that of the United States. The country had a population of nearly 52 million in 1999 with the GDP per capita of \$710 (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, 2000, World factbook—Democratic Republic of the Congo, accessed February 26, 2001, at URL http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/cg.html).

Most foreign exploration and cooperative mine rehabilitation ventures with the state-owned La Générale des Carrières et des Mines came to a halt by the end of 1998 following the outbreak of a new full-scale civil war in August 1998. During 1999, with a few exceptions mostly on projects to extract and export cobalt, activity in the copper and cobalt sectors was minimal (table 1). Mining of diamonds, most of which were of low-value industrial grades, by artisanal miners and by the major diamond producer Société Minière de Bakwanga continued strong. Government efforts to control the purchase and export of diamonds through

currency controls and the outlawing of traditional buyers or "comptoirs," however, added confusion to the market.

Government and public interest groups in Europe and North America continued to put pressure on Congo (Kinshasa) to stop the sales of illegal diamonds used to support ongoing civil wars in the region. During 1999, there was also some renewal of artisanal mining of columbium (niobium)-tantalum, locally referred to as "coltan" in the Kivu Provinces.

Chevron Oil Congo and Total Fina Group were planning to expand offshore petroleum production facilities, which produced at a rate of 25,100 barrels per day in 1999.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Congo (Kinshasa), see the 1998 Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Mineral Industries of Africa and the Middle East.

#### **Major Sources of Information**

Ministère des Mines

3ème Niveau, Building Gècamines

Boulevard du 30 Juin

Kinshasa/Gombe,

République Démocratique du Congo

Telephone: (243)-(12)-21-538

Fax: (243)-(12)-21-607 E-mail: minimes@ic.cd

URL: http://www.ministere-mines.gov.cd

## TABLE 1 CONGO (KINSHASA): PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodify		11.	1005	1006	1007	1000	1000	
Debail:   Mine output, Co content e'   Mine output, Co content e'   Merial, Co content:			1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	
Mine output. Co content e/   1,647   2,000   3,500   1,500   1,000   Metal. Co content:   Refinery (salable products) e/   3,422   3,667 t/   2,741 t/   3,531 t/   2,108   White alloy, marte e/   3,968   6,067 t/   3,001 t/   3,871 t/   2,208   Columbium and tantalum:   Columbiti-antalite concentrate:		ZIALS						
Metal. Co content:   Refinery (salable products) e/   3,422   3,667 r/   2,741 r/   3,531 r/   2,088			1 647	2.000	2.500	1.500	1.000	
Refinery (salable products) e/ White alloy, matte e/ S46			1,647	2,000	3,500	1,500	1,000	
White alloy, matte e/			2 422	2.667	0.741	2.521 /	2.100	
Total 2/		· e/		*		,		
Columbium and tantalum:   Columbite tantalite concentrate:   Gross weight   Kilograms   Nb content e'   do.         550     Ta content e'   do.         550     Ta content e'   do.         550     Ta content e'   do.         550     To content e'   do.         550     To content e'   do.         550     Electrowon   22,600   43,800   39,651 4/ 34,944 4/ 36,000 e     Total   29,400   50,000   39,651 4/ 34,944 4/ 36,000 e     Metal:   Smelter, primary:   Electrowon (low grade)   22,600   43,800   40,000   40,000 r/ 32,000 e     Total   22,600   43,800   40,000   40,000 r/ 32,000 e     Total   28,800   49,800   40,000   40,000 r/ 32,000 e     Refinery, primary:   Electrowon           Electrowon             Total   34,958 r/ 40,147 r/ 37,658 r/ 38,236 r/ 31,225     Total 2/ 34,958 r/ 40,147 r/ 37,658 r/ 38,236 r/ 31,225     Gold 2/ Kilograms   1,180   1,252   394   151 r/ 207     Gold 2/ Kilograms   1,180   1,252   394   151 r/ 207     Silver e'   do.   900   500   500   500         INDUSTRIAL MINERALS   16,345   15,437   15,558   19,252   15,328     MIBA   do.   22,024   22,240   21,977   26,683   4,788     MIBA   do.   22,024   22,240   21,977   26,683   4,788     Total   do.   22,024   22,240   21,977   26,683   4,788     Total   do.   22,024   22,240   21,977   26,683   4,788     MIBA   do.   20,000   50,000   50,000   25,000   25,000     Sione, crushed e'   50,000   50,000   50,000   50,000   25,000   50,000     Sione, crushed e'   50,000   50,								
Columbite-tantalite concentrate:   Gross weight   kilograms		=	3,968	6,06/ r/	3,041 r/	3,8/1 r/	2,308	
Gross weight   Kilograms   No content e'   do.   Ta content e'   Ta content e'   do.   Ta content e'   Ta conte								
Nb content e/ do.   Coper   Ta content e/ do.   Coper   S50   To content e/ do.   Coper   S50   C							2 000	
Ta content e							,	
Mine output:   By concentration or cementation   6,800   6,200   3,651   4/   34,994   4/   36,000   emergence   22,600   43,800   39,651   4/   34,944   4/   36,000   emergence   39,600   43,800   39,651   4/   34,944   4/   36,000   emergence   39,600   40,000   39,651   4/   34,944   4/   36,000   emergence   39,600   40,000   39,651   4/   34,944   4/   36,000   emergence   39,600   4/   30,000   emergence   40,000   40,000   7/   32,000   emergence   40,000   7/   40,000   7/   32,000   emergence   40,000   40,000   40,000   7/   32,000   emergence   40,000   40,000   40,000   7/   32,000   emergence   40,000								
Mine output:         By concentration or cementation         6,800         6,200 <t< td=""><td></td><td>do.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>550</td></t<>		do.					550	
By concentration or cementation   Case   C								
Leaching (electrowon)		<del></del>		< <b>3</b> 00				
Total   29,400   50,000   39,651 4/ 34,944 4/ 36,000 e   Metal:   Smelter, primary:   Electrowon (low grade)   22,600   43,800   40,000   40,000 r/ 32,000 e   Other   6,200   6,000   -   -   -		ation						
Metal: Smelter, primary:				<u>.</u>			,	
Smelter, primary:			29,400	50,000	39,651 4/	34,944 4/	36,000 e/	
Electrowon (low grade)								
Other         6,200         6,000         -         -         -           Total         28,800         49,800         40,000         40,000 r/         32,000 e           Refinery, primary:         Electrowon <td ro<="" td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td>	<td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>							
Total   28,800   49,800   40,000   40,000 r/   32,000 e			,	*	40,000	40,000 r/	32,000 e/	
Refinery, primary:   Electrowon				- ,				
Electrowon		=	28,800	49,800	40,000	40,000 r/	32,000 e/	
Other         34,958 r/         40,147 r/         37,658 r/         38,236 r/         31,225           Total 2/         34,958 r/         40,147 r/         37,658 r/         38,236 r/         31,225           Gold 2/         kilograms         1,180         1,252         394         151 r/         207           Silver e/         do.         90         500         500             Zinc, mine output, Zn content 2/         4,516 r/         3,159 r/         1,660 r/         1,147 r/            INDUSTRIAL MINERALS         195,461 r/         240,790 r/         124,929 r/         134,324 r/         158,100           Diamond: 2/ 3/         15,437         15,558         19,252         15,328           Artisinal         do.         25,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           Coal, bituminous e/         10,007         10,007 r/								
Total 2/         kilograms         34,958 r/         40,147 r/         37,658 r/         38,236 r/         31,225           Gold 2/         kilograms         1,180         1,252         394         151 r/         207           Silver e/         do.         900         500         500             Zinc, mine output, Zn content 2/         4,516 r/         3,159 r/         1,660 r/         1,147 r/            INDUSTRIAL MINERALS           Cement, hydraulic 2/         195,461 r/         240,790 r/         124,929 r/         134,324 r/         158,100           Diamond: 2/3/           Artisinal         thousand carats         16,345         15,437         15,558         19,252         15,328           MIBA         do.         5,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Coal, bituminous e/         10,007								
Silver e/					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Silver e/				*	*	,	,	
Cement, hydraulic 2/   195,461 r/   240,790 r/   124,929 r/   134,324 r/   158,100							207	
NDUSTRIAL MINERALS   195,461 r/ 240,790 r/ 124,929 r/ 134,324 r/ 158,100		do.						
Cement, hydraulic 2/ Diamond: 2/ 3/         195,461 r/         240,790 r/         124,929 r/         134,324 r/         158,100           Artisinal         thousand carats         16,345         15,437         15,558         19,252         15,328           MIBA         do.         5,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Petroleum:         Crude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         3         6,850         89			4,516 r/	3,159 r/	1,660 r/	1,147 r/		
Diamond: 2/ 3/         Artisinal         thousand carats         16,345         15,437         15,558         19,252         15,328           MIBA         do.         5,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Petroleum:         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Refinery products: e/         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         1         1         1         1         1           Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and		MINERALS						
Artisinal         thousand carats         16,345         15,437         15,558         19,252         15,328           MIBA         do.         5,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Petroleum:         10,007         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Refinery products: e/         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         5         1         1         1         1           Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135		=	195,461 r/	240,790 r/	124,929 r/	134,324 r/	158,100	
MIBA         do.         5,679         6,803         6,419         6,831         4,788           Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000            Petroleum:         Torude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90								
Total         do.         22,024         22,240         21,977         26,083         20,116           Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000         -           Petroleum:         Crude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90								
Lime e/         50,000         50,000         50,000         25,000         25,000           Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000         -           Petroleum:         Crude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90			<u> </u>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Stone, crushed e/         200,000         200,000         200,000         100,000         100,000           MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000         -           Petroleum:         10,007         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         10,087         1 1         1         1         1           Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90		do			*		,	
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS           Coal, bituminous e/         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000         -           Petroleum:         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90					,	,	,	
Coal, bituminous e/         10,000         10,000         5,000 e/         5,000			200,000	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	
Petroleum:           Crude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90		RELATED MATERIALS						
Crude 2/         thousand 42-gallon barrels         10,087         10,707 r/         10,146 r/         9,444 r/         8,650           Refinery products: e/         Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90			10,000	10,000	5,000 e/	5,000		
Refinery products: e/           Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90								
Liquefied petroleum gas e/         do.         5         1         1         1         1           Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90		thousand 42-gallon barrels	10,087	10,707 r/	10,146 r/	9,444 r/	8,650	
Gasoline         do.         365         89         89         89         89           Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90								
Kerosene and jet fuel         do.         545         135         135         135           Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90							-	
Distillate fuel oil         do.         365         90         90         90         90								
Residual fuel oil do. 1,095 280 280 280 280								
		do.					280	
Refinery fuel and losses 5/ do. 545 135 135 135 135	·							
Total do. 2,920 730 730 730 730		do.	2,920	730	730	730	730	

e/ Estimated. r/ Revised. -- Zero.

<sup>1/</sup> Table includes data available through February 2001.

<sup>2/</sup> Reported data by Central Bank report: Economic Activity-Volume of Production-Mining and Metallurgical Production, August 2000.

<sup>3/</sup> An estimated 20% of total diamond production is gem quality.

<sup>4/</sup> Reported figure.

<sup>5/</sup> Includes "Other."