

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020

West African Resources ('WAF') has in place corporate governance practices that are formally embodied in corporate governance policies and codes adopted by the Board ('the Policies'). The aim of the Policies are to ensure that the Company is effectively directed and managed, that risks are identified, monitored and assessed and that appropriate disclosures are made.

In preparing the Policies, the Directors considered the ASX Corporate Governance Council's "Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations" ('ASX Principles') which Companies are required to report against commencing after 1 July 2014. To the extent that they are applicable, and given its circumstances, the Company adopts the Eight Essential Corporate Governance Principles and Best Practice Recommendations ('Recommendations') published by the Corporate Governance Council of the ASX.

The Board believes that the governance policies and practices adopted by WAF during the reporting period for the year ended 31 December 2019 follow the recommendations contained in the third edition of the ASX Principles. It is noted that the fourth edition of the ASX Principles was released on 27 February 2019, and takes effect for a listed entity's first full financial year commencing on or after 1 January 2020. Many of WAF's corporate governance policies and practices set out in this Corporate Governance Statement also comply with the fourth edition of the ASX Principles.

Where the Company's corporate governance practices follow a recommendation, the Board has made appropriate statements reporting on the adoption of the recommendation. Where, after due consideration, the Company's corporate governance practices depart from a recommendation, the Board has offered full disclosure and reason for the adoption of its own practice, in compliance with the "if not, why not" regime.

The Board has adopted the following policies, statement, charters, policies and procedures:

- Board Charter
- Audit Committee Charter
- Remuneration Committee Charter
- Nomination Committee Charter
- Code of Conduct
- Trading in Company Securities
- Risk Management Policy
- Shareholder Communication Strategy
- Continuous Disclosure Policy
- Whistleblower Policy

The Company's corporate governance policies are available on the Company's website at: www.westafricanresources.com

As the Company's activities develop in size, nature and scope, the size of the Board and the implementation of additional corporate governance structures will be afforded further consideration.

Principle	Recommendation	Conform (Y/N)	Disclosure
<p>1 – Lay solid foundations for management and oversight</p>	<p>1.1 A listed entity should disclose:</p> <p>(a) the respective roles and responsibilities of its board and management; and</p> <p>(b) those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management</p> <p>1.2 A listed entity should:</p> <p>(a) undertake appropriate checks before appointing a person, or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election as a Director; and</p> <p>(b) provide security holders with all material information in its possession relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a Director.</p> <p>1.3 A listed entity should have a written agreement with each Director and senior executive setting out the terms of their appointment.</p> <p>1.4 The Company Secretary of a listed entity should be accountable directly to the Board, through the Chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board.</p>	<p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p>	<p>WAF has not formally disclosed the functions reserved to the Board and those delegated to senior executives, however the appointment of non-executive directors to the Board is formalised in writing by way of a letter or other agreement.</p> <p>Explanation for Departure: The Board recognises the importance of distinguishing between the respective roles and responsibilities of the Board and management. The Board has established an informal framework for the management of the Company and the roles and responsibilities of the Board and management. Due to the small size of the Board and of the Company, the Board do not think that it is necessary to formally document the roles of Board and management as it believes that these roles are being carried out in practice and are clearly understood by all members of the Board and management. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of the Company, establishing goals for management and monitoring the achievement of these goals, monitoring the overall corporate governance of the Company and ensuring that Shareholder value is increased. The Company has one executive, being the Managing Director. The Managing Director is responsible for ensuring that the Company achieves the goals established by the Board.</p> <p>The appointments of non-executive directors are formalised in accordance with the regulatory requirements and the Company's constitution.</p> <p>The Company Secretary's role is to support the effectiveness of the Board and its committees where applicable. The Company Secretary's role includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advising the Board and its Committees (where applicable) on

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	<p>1.5 A listed entity should:</p> <p>(a) have a diversity policy which includes requirements for the Board or a relevant Committee of the Board to set measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity and to assess annually both the objectives and the entity's progress in achieving them;</p> <p>(b) disclose that policy or summary of it; and</p> <p>(c) disclose at the end of each reporting period the measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity set by the Board or a relevant Committee of the Board in accordance with the entity's diversity policy and its progress towards achieving them, and either:</p> <p>(1) the respective proportions of men and women on the Board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation (including how the entity defined "senior executive" for these</p>	N	<p>governance matters;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring the Board and Committee's (where applicable) policies and procedures are followed; • coordinating the timely completion and despatch of Board and Committee (where applicable) papers; • ensuring that the business at Board and Committee (where applicable) meetings is accurately captured in the minutes; and • helping to organise and facilitate the induction of Directors. <p>Each Director of the Company is able to communicate directly with the Company Secretary and vice versa. More information in the Board Charter.</p> <p>A Diversity policy has not been established.</p> <p>Explanation for Departure</p> <p>The Board considers that the Company is not currently of a size, or its affairs of such complexity, that the formation of a diversity policy is justified at this time.</p> <p>WAF has approximately 370 employees (Australia 12, Burkina Faso 358), of which 61 are women (Australia 3, Burkina Faso 58).</p>

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	<p>(2) is chaired by an independent Director, and disclose:</p> <p>(3) the charter of the Committee;</p> <p>(4) the members of the Committee; and</p> <p>(5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the Committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or</p> <p>(b) if it does not have a Nomination Committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs to address Board succession issues and to ensure that the Board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.</p> <p>2.2 A listed entity should have and disclose a Board skills matrix setting out the mix of skills and diversity that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership.</p> <p>2.3 A listed entity should disclose:</p> <p>(a) the names of the Directors considered by the board to be independent Directors;</p> <p>(b) if a Director has an interest, position, association or relationship of the type described in Box 2.3 but</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>affairs of such complexity, that the formation of separate or special committee is justified at this time. The Board as a whole is able to address the governance aspects of the full scope of the Company's activities and ensure that it adheres to appropriate ethical standards. In particular, the Board as a whole considers those matters that would usually be the responsibility of a nomination committee and adheres to the respective Charter. The Board considers that, at this stage, no efficiencies or other benefits would be gained by establishing a separate nomination committee.</p> <p>Refer Appendix A</p> <p>The Company has a majority of independent directors, those being Mark Connelly, Simon Storm, Rod Leonard and Nigel Spicer. Richard Hyde and Lyndon Hopkins are executive Directors and Mr Hyde is a substantial shareholder in the Company. Neither Messrs Hyde and Hopkins are independent Directors.</p>

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	<p>the Board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the Director; the nature of the interest, position, association or relationship in question and an explanation of why the Board is of that opinion; and</p> <p>(c) the length of service of each Director.</p> <p>2.4 A majority of the board of a listed entity should be independent.</p> <p>2.5 The Chair of the Board of a listed entity should be an independent Director, and in particular, should not be the same person as the CEO of the entity.</p>	<p></p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>N</p>	<p>The Board considers that the current composition of the Board is adequate for the Company's current size and operations and includes an appropriate mix of skills and expertise relevant to the Company's business. The Company considers that each of the directors possess skills and experience suitable for building the Company.</p> <p>Refer Appendix A</p> <p>Skills, Experience, Expertise and term of office of each Director A profile of each director containing their skills, experience, expertise and term of office is set out in the Directors' Report.</p> <p>Statement concerning availability of Independent Professional Advice To assist directors with independent judgement, it is the Board's policy that if a director considers it necessary to obtain independent professional advice to properly discharge the responsibility of their office as a director then, provided the director first obtains approval for incurring such expense from the Chair, the Company will pay the reasonable expenses associated with obtaining such advice.</p> <p>Refer 2.3.</p> <p>The Chairman of the Board is not independent and is the CEO. However the majority of the Board are independent. The Board resolved to amend its Charter to provide it with scope to appoint an Executive Chairman where it considered that appointment was in the best interests of WAF from time to time. Having regard to Mr Hyde's experience, dealing with the major shareholders and longevity with the Company, the Board considered Mr Hyde's appointment as Executive Chairman to be in WAF's best interests for the time being. The Board believes that all the Directors can make, and do make, quality and independent judgements in the best interests of the Company on all</p>

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	2.6 A listed entity should have a program for inducting new Directors and provide appropriate professional development opportunities for Directors to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as Directors effectively.	N	relevant issues. Further, each Director is entitled to seek independent professional advice (including but not limited to legal, accounting and financial advice) at the Company's expense on any matter connected with the discharge of his or her responsibilities, in accordance with the procedures and subject to the conditions set out in the Board's charter. Board structure and composition will be reviewed as and when the Company's strategic directions and activities change. The Company will only recommend the appointment of additional Directors to the Board where it believes the expertise and value added outweighs the additional cost.
3 – A listed entity should act ethically and responsibly	3.1 A listed entity should: (a) have a code of conduct for its Directors, senior executives and employees; and (b) disclose that code or a summary of it.	Y Y	WAF has established a formal code of conduct. The code is on WAF's website.
4 – Safeguard integrity in corporate reporting	4.1 The Board of a listed entity should: (a) have an Audit Committee which: (1) has at least three members, all of whom are non-executive Directors and a majority of whom are independent Directors; and (2) is chaired by an independent Director, who is not the chair of the Board, and disclose: (3) the charter of the Committee; (4) the relevant qualifications and experience of	Y Y Y Y	Refer comments under 2.1 WAF has established an Audit Committee. Simon Storm (Chairman), Mark Connelly and Nigel Spicer The charter is on WAF's website.

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	<p>the members of the Committee; and</p> <p>(5) in relation to each reporting period, the number of times the Committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or</p> <p>(b) if it does not have an Audit Committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of its corporate reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removal of the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner.</p> <p>4.2 The Board of a listed entity should, before it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its CEO and CFO a declaration that, in their opinion, the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity and that the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.</p> <p>4.3 A listed entity that has an AGM should ensure that its external auditor attends its AGM and is available to answer questions from security holders relevant to the audit.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p>	<p>Refer Appendix A</p> <p>Refer to Directors Report in latest accounts</p> <p>The Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent) and the Chief Financial Officer (or equivalent) have provided a declaration to the Board in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act and have assured the Board that such declaration is founded on a sound system of risk management and internal control and that the system is operating effectively in all material respects in relation to financial risk.</p> <p>The Company ensures the external auditor's lead engagement partner attends the Annual General Meeting to answer questions concerning the conduct of the audit, the preparation and content of the auditor's report, accounting policies adopted by the Company and the independence of the auditor in relation to the conduct of the audit.</p>

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5 – Make timely and balanced disclosure	5.1 A listed entity should: (a) have a written policy for complying with its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules; and	Y	Procedures are in place to ensure that price sensitive information is reported to the ASX in accordance with the Continuous Disclosure Requirements. The Board has nominated the CEO and the Company Secretary as being responsible for all matters relating to disclosure.
	(b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	Y	The policy is available on the website.
6 – Respect the rights of security holders	6.1 A listed entity should provide information about itself and its governance to investors via its website.	Y	Refer to website.
	6.2 A listed entity should design and implement an investor relations program to facilitate effective two-way communication with investors.	N	This process is managed informally by the Executive Chairman/CEO, from time to time.
	6.3 A listed entity should disclose the policies and processes it has in place to facilitate and encourage participation at meetings of security holders.	Y	The Company has a Shareholder Communication Strategy available on the website. The Company actively communicates with its Shareholders in order to identify their expectations and actively promotes Shareholder involvement in the Company. It achieves this by posting on its website copies of all information lodged with the ASX. Shareholders with internet access are encouraged to provide their email addresses in order to receive electronic copies of information distributed by the Company. Alternatively, hard copies of information distributed by the Company are available on request.
	6.4 A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.	Y	Shareholders are able to make contact with and receive communications from both the Share Registry and the Company electronically.
7 – Recognise and manage risk	7.1 The Board of a listed entity should:		WAF has a Risk Management policy on the website.
	(a) have a committee or committee to oversee risk, each of which:	N	The Board adopts practices to identify significant areas of risk and to effectively manage those risks in accordance with the consolidated entity's

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	<p>(1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and</p> <p>(2) is chaired by an independent Director, and disclose:</p> <p>(3) the charter of the committee;</p> <p>(4) the members of the committee; and</p> <p>(5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or</p> <p>(b) if it does not have a risk committee or committees that satisfy (a) above, disclose the fact and the processes it employs for overseeing the entity's risk management framework.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>risk profile. Where appropriate the Board draws on the expertise of appropriate external consultants to assist in dealing with or mitigating risk. In recognition of the current development phase the Company is now in, a Technical Committee has been formed to oversee the Sanbrado Project development. The Committee comprises: Rod Leonard (Chair), Richard Hyde (CEO), Lyndon Hopkins (COO) , Nigel Spicer (NED) and Mathew Wilcox (CDO)</p> <p>The Company's main areas of risk include:</p> <p>Mineral exploration, development and production; Fluctuating metal prices and exchange rates; Financing Staffing; Jurisdictional risk and Title to assets.</p>
	<p>7.2 The Board or a committee of the Board should:</p> <p>(a) review the entity's risk management framework at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound; and</p> <p>(b) disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether such a review has taken place.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>Y</p>	<p>The Board identifies operational risk categories to assist with risk identification, measurement and provide a basis for organising and reporting outcomes. It also identifies the mitigating practices & controls identified by management.</p> <p>The Board have identified operational risk categories and the framework is work in progress.</p>
	<p>7.3 A listed entity should disclose:</p> <p>(a) if it has an internal audit function, how the function is structured and what role it performs; or</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>The Company does not have an internal audit function.</p>

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	(b) if it does not have an internal audit function, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of its risk management and internal control processes.		The function of an internal audit division is applied through the Audit Committee.
	7.4 A listed entity should disclose whether it has any material exposure to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and , if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.	N	
8 – Remunerate fairly and responsibly	8.1 The Board of a listed entity should:		The Board has an established Remuneration Committee.
	(a) have a Remuneration Committee which:	Y	
	(1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors; and	Y	The Remuneration Committee established by the Board has three, independent, non-executive Directors. The current members of the committee are Mark Connelly (Chair), Rod Leonard and Simon Storm.
	(2) is chaired by an independent Director,	Y	
	and disclose:		
	(3) the charter of the committee;	Y	The Remuneration Committee has a formal charter in place and is disclosed on the Company website. The charter defines the Remuneration Committee’s function, composition, mode of operation, authority and responsibilities.
	(4) the members of the committee; and		Mark Connelly (Chairman), Rod Leonard and Simon Storm
	(5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members; or	Y	Refer to Directors Report in latest accounts
	(b) if it does not have a Remuneration Committee,	N/A	

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	disclose that fact and the processes it employs for setting the level and composition of remuneration for Directors and senior executives and ensuring that such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.		
	8.2 A listed entity should separately disclose its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive Directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other senior executives.	Y	The information provided in the Remuneration Report is audited as required by section 308(3C) of the Corporations Act 2001.
	8.3 A listed entity which has an equity-based remuneration scheme should: (a) have a policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme; and (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	N	Any securities issued would be unlisted therefore no policy in place.

Appendix A

Board Skills Matrix

	BOARD OF DIRECTORS					
	Mark Connelly	Richard Hyde	Lyndon Hopkins	Simon Storm	Rod Leonard	Nigel Spicer
Term Expiration Date	November 2020 (by rotation)	N/A	N/A	November 2021 (by rotation)	May 2020 (followed by rotation)	May 2020 (followed by rotation)
Length of service	June 2015	September 2006	December 2016 Director since September 2019	November 2007	September 2019	September 2019
Independence Status	Independent	Non- Independent	Non- Independent	Independent	Independent	Independent
Committee Membership	Audit Remuneration	Technical	Technical	Audit Remuneration	Remuneration Technical	Audit Technical
Skills and Experience						
ASX/TSX Listed Board of Director Experience	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-
International Experience	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Complex Organisation Experience	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial Specialism – including capital markets, corporate finance, re-structuring	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-
Exploration Sector Experience	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mine construction/development	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓
Mining Experience	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓