

GOLD FIELDS LTD

Form 6-K

October 25, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 6-K

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rules 13a-16 or 15d-16 under**

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Dated 24 October 2016

Commission File Number: 001-31318

**GOLD FIELDS LIMITED**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

150 Helen Rd.

Sandown, Sandton 2196

South Africa

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): \_\_\_\_\_

**Directors** C A Carolus (Chair), N J Holland

†

\*\* (Chief Executive Officer), P A Schmidt\*\* (Chief Financial Officer), A Andani

#

, K Ansah

#

, P J

Bacchus

†

, T P Goodlace, A R Hill

≠

, R P Menell, D M J Ncube, S P Reid^, Y G H Suleman, G M Wilson

^Australian,

†

British,

≠

Canadian,

#

Ghanaian, \*\* Executive Director

Company Secretary: MML Mokoka

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**DAMANG REINVESTMENT PLAN**

**Johannesburg, 24 October 2016:** Gold Fields Limited (Gold Fields) (JSE, NYSE: GFI) is pleased to announce the Reinvestment Plan for the Damang Gold mine in Ghana which will extend the life of mine (LOM) by eight years from 2017 to 2024. The Reinvestment Plan, entails Gold Fields investing US\$1.4bn (operating and capital expenditure) over the LOM. It will enhance the Group's presence in one of its key operating regions and will result in significant social benefits for Ghana, including the creation and preservation of 1,850 direct jobs.

Over the LOM, a total of 165Mt will be mined, with 32Mt processed at a grade of 1.65g/t, resulting in total gold production of 1.56Moz. Mining and processing costs are estimated to average US\$3.60/t and US\$16.25/t, respectively while all-in costs (AIC) are forecast to average US\$950/oz. The benefits of the Development Agreement (signed between Gold Fields and the Government of Ghana in March 2016), have been key inputs into the Plan and enhances the economics of the project.

The Reinvestment Plan is based on mineral resource models that have been updated in 2016 and extensively reviewed both internally and by external consultants, namely SRK, Optiro and Rowley Geological Services (RGS).

Since operations at Damang commenced in 1997, the mine has produced in excess of 4.0Moz, sourced from multiple open pits. Production from the Damang Pit Cutback (DPCB) came to an end in 2013, and since then mining has focused on the margins of the Damang pit (the Huni, Juno and Saddle areas) as well as lower grade satellite deposits. The decline in production since 2013 has been exacerbated by variations in grade in the northern and southern extremities of the DPCB and the satellite pits where grades have been lower than expected.

Consequently, a strategic review of Damang commenced in 2015 which identified that Gold Fields should return to mining the higher grade core of the main Damang orebody. Evaluation work in 2015 and 2016 considered a number of options, including:

- Care and maintenance (C&M)
- Closure

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- Continuing operations
- Expanding operations

Given the importance of the region to the Group and taking into account the benefits of the Development Agreement, Gold Fields has taken the decision to continue operations at Damang through the Reinvestment Plan. The Group will also retain the optionality to expand the operation should the gold price strengthen sustainably to above US\$1,400/oz.

The Reinvestment Plan entails a major cut back to both the eastern and western walls of the DPCB. The cut back will have a total depth of 341m, comprising of a 265m pre-strip to access the base of the existing pit. This will be followed by a deepening of the pit by a further 76m which will ultimately provide access to the full Damang orebody including the high grade Tarkwa Phyllite lithology. To provide short term ore supply, while the Damang pre-strip is in progress, mining will continue at the Amoanda, and paleoplacer satellite pits (Lima South, Kwesi Gap and Tomento East). In addition, the plant feed will be supplemented by low grade surface stockpiles.

Inclusion of the Damang cutback will result in a 72% increase in Proven and Probable Reserves to 1.68Moz (31.5Mt @ 1.65g/t) compared with the December 2015 figure.

Mining will be undertaken by two mining contractors, with negotiations currently at an advanced stage. At this stage, the contractors are expected to be mobilised early in 2017. A total of 165Mt will be mined over a 7-year period, with the majority of material coming from the Damang Complex (DCPB/Saddle). Of this 32Mt will be processed at a grade of 1.65g/t, resulting in 1.56Moz of gold production. Operational metrics for the project are summarised in the table below:

**2017**

**2018**

**2019**

**2020**

**2021**

**2022**

**2023**

**2024**

**LOM**

**Tonnes mined**

Kt

32 500

36 900

33 200

24 500

15 200

13 300

9 300

0

165 000

**Tonnes milled**

Kt

4 200

3 450

4 200

4 200

4 200

4 200

4 250

3 600

32 300

**Head grade**

g/t

0.90

1.25

1.75

1.80

2.10

2.05

2.05

1.10

1.65

**Gold production**

Koz

110

125

220

225

265

250

260

115

1 565

**Mining cost**

US\$/t

3.30

3.10

3.35

3.70

4.25

4.50

5.20

0.00

3.60

**Processing cost**

US\$/t

15.95

17.75

15.95

15.95

15.95

15.90

15.65

17.40

16.25

**AIC**

US\$/oz

2 265  
1 730  
1 025  
930  
660  
675  
605  
800  
950

Apart from the waste strip, the only other significant capital required is for the construction of the Far East Tailings Storage Facility (FETSF) as the existing tailings storage facility (TSF) is approaching full capacity. An interim 2.5m raise has commenced on the TSF, which will provide for an additional 3.6Mt tailings capacity and is due for completion by the end of November 2016. Stage 1 of the new FETSF is planned for completion by end-2017 and will provide 20Mt capacity. Further lifts of the FETSF will cater for all tailings for the new LOM. Only minor capital work will be required on the Damang Processing Plant, mostly due to replacement of the SAG Mill shell in 2018.

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Figure 1 below illustrates the capex profile for the Damang Reinvestment Plan:

In addition to the attractive returns associated with the project, the Reinvestment Plan will result in significant social and fiscal benefits flowing into Ghana and, more importantly, the communities surrounding Damang.

Gold Fields estimates direct employment associated with the Reinvestment Plan of 1,850 people. Of this:

- 368 will be Gold Fields employees, 55% of whom will come from the adjacent communities;
- 90 will be on fixed term contracts, all from the catchment community; and
- Approximately 1,400 will be contractor employees, 60% of whom will come from local communities.

Assuming a dependency ratio in Ghana around eight dependents per direct mining job, the spin-off benefits of the new and retained jobs will be significant.

Investment in sustainable development projects is estimated to be US\$5.0m over the eight-year period. This will be split between education (US\$1.5m), health (US\$0.2m), water and sanitation (US\$0.7m), agriculture (US\$1.6m) and infrastructure (US\$1.0m).

Gold Fields has also commenced the tarring of the road between Damang and Tarkwa, estimated to cost US\$17m, which is expected to have benefits for the mines as well as local stakeholders.

### **Enquiries**

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0

20

40

60

80

100

120

140

160

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

Waste Stripping

Pre-development Cost

Re-investment Study

Mining

Processing & FETSF

Compensations

Engineering Projects

Others Projects

Growth Capital



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### **Notes to editors**

### **About Gold Fields**

Gold Fields Limited is an unhedged, globally diversified producer of gold with eight operating mines in Australia, Ghana, Peru and South Africa with attributable annual gold production of approximately 2.0 million ounces. It has attributable Mineral Reserves of around 46 million ounces and Mineral Resources of around 102 million ounces. Attributable copper Mineral Reserves total 532 million pounds and Mineral Resources 5,912 million pounds. Gold Fields has a primary listing on the JSE Limited, with secondary listings on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the Swiss Exchange (SWX).

**Sponsor:** J.P. Morgan Equities South Africa (Pty) Ltd

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on

its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorised.

GOLD FIELDS LIMITED

Dated:

24 October 2016

By:

/s/ Nicholas J. Holland

Name:

Nicholas

J.

Holland

Title:

Chief Executive Officer