ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Mining and Geology Department

MINERAL PLAN OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

by

a team of BRGM engineers
coordinated by
A. BLANCHOT
chief geologist



BUREAU DE RECHERCHES GÉOLOGIQUES ET MINIÈRES

DIRECTION DES RECHERCHES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT MINIERS

B.P. 6009 - 45018 Orléans Cédex - Tél.: (38) 63.00.12 et 63.39.54

FOREWORD

Within the framework of a contract of mutual agreement, bearing the number 63/NF/OC and dated 4th June 1974, the Minister for Planning and Industrial Development, acting on behalf of the Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA, entrusted the Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières with the drawing up of a Mineral Plan.

This present work which results from this contract includes:

- a synthesis of geological and mining work carried out in MAURITANIA up to 1st October 1974;
- recommendations for research based on new interpretations of the results of earlier work and on modern metallogenic data;
 - prospection programme proposals costed according to current prices.

When drawing up this mineral plan and particularly when defining the programme proposals, the specialists of the Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières had two aims:

- On the one hand, starting from deposits already known and exploited in MAURITANIA and from the concept of mineral provinces, they have envisaged research work for the development of know deposits and the discovery of new deposits.
- On the other hand, attempting to foresee the evolution of the world market for raw materials and considering the increasing development of MAURITANIA, and consequently of its internal needs, they have recommended the prospection of new ores or of useful materials and substances, whilst always respecting the rules of provisional economic geology.

The Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières wishes to thank the Mauritanian authorities most sincerely for the confidence they have shown in entrusting it with this work and for their assistance during its realisation.

GENERAL SUMMARY

	Pages
FOREWORD	
FIRST PART - HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL MAPPING AND MINING RESEARCH IN MAURITANIA	1
SECOND PART - SHORT SYNTHETIC DESCRIPTION OF THE GEOLOGY OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA	31
THIRD PART - PROSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA	65
FOURTH PART - DESCRIPTION OF THE MAJOR METALLIFEROUS CONCENTRATIONS OF MAURITANIA	275
FIFTH PART - PROSPECTION PROGRAMME PROPOSITIONS	439
BIBLIOGRAPHY	513
LIST OF THE FIGURES, TABLES AND MAPS	565

