

ORVANA

MINERALS CORP.

ORVANA ANNOUNCES FEBRUARY PRODUCTION RESULTS AND FILES TECHNICAL REPORT ON RESOURCES OF UPPER MINERALIZED ZONE

TORONTO, ONTARIO, March 16, 2005 -- Orvana Minerals Corp. (TSX symbol: ORV) announced today that it produced 6,074 fine troy ounces of gold during the month of February, 2005 at its Don Mario mine in eastern Bolivia. Ore extracted from the underground mine had an average head grade of 14.86 grams per tonne (g/t) and ore extracted from the mini-pit had an average head grade of 8.86 g/t.

Mine Operations

During February 2005, 13,540 tonnes of development and cut and fill ore were extracted from the underground mine and 8,179 tonnes were extracted from the mini-pit. As the head grade of ores produced from the underground mine during the month was significantly higher than the average ore grades processed to date, the mill's throughput was reduced to 615 tonnes per day in order to achieve an average recovery rate of 90.6% for the month.

The following table summarizes the tonnes treated, head grades and mill recovery rates for January and February 2005 with comparable results for the fiscal first quarter ended December 31, 2004.

		February 2005	January 2005	3 months ended December 31, 2004
Underground mine	tonnes	11,231	13,691	41,330
	g/t	14.86	8.78	8.50
Mini-pit	tonnes	5,894	7,100	18,056
	g/t	8.86	8.83	7.72
Total tonnes treated	tonnes	17,214	20,792	59,384
	g/t	12.12	8.80	8.26
Recovery rate		90.6%	84.1%	89.1%
Ounces produced		6,074	4,950	14,047

Upper Mineralized Zone Technical Report

Orvana has received a final Resource Estimate Review and National Instrument 43-101 Technical Report on the Don Mario's Upper Mineralized Zone (UMZ) prepared by the consulting firm Pincock Allen & Holt, (PAH) dated March 11, 2005. As previously reported (see Press Release dated February 14, 2005), the estimated grades and tonnages for the various UMZ ore types in the indicated mineral resources category are as follows:

Zone	AuEq Cutoff	Indicated Resources			
		Au g/t	Cu %	Ag g/t	Tonnes
Porous	1.00	1.31	1.78	52	443,422
Oxides	1.00	1.57	1.99	49	1,790,670
Transition	1.27	1.41	1.37	57	1,775,430
Sulfides	1.32	1.46	1.42	44	1,568,151
Total		1.47	1.61	50	5,577,672

Note: AuEq based on the following formulas:

Oxides = g/t Au + % Cu x 1.682 + g/t Ag x 0.01571 = 1

Transition = g/t Au + % Cu x 1.257 + g/t Ag x 0.01294 = 1.27

Sulfides = g/t Au + % Cu x 1.306 + g/t Ag x 0.01484 = 1.32

The PAH report has been filed on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) and on the Company's website (www.orvana.com).

Raul Borrastero, a Certified Professional Geologist with PAH, and Richard Addison, a Professional Engineer and PAH's Principal Metallurgical Engineer, are the Qualified Persons responsible for the work performed by PAH. The technical report and resource estimates have been prepared in accordance with the Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects as defined by National Instrument 43-101 of the Canadian Securities Administrators.

Orvana commenced work during 2004 on the infill drilling program to move the UMZ ore resource from 'inferred' to 'indicated' status and this program is now completed. The Company is proceeding with metallurgical work and tests on bulk samples are being conducted at CIMM, Tecnologias y Servicios S.A. laboratories in Santiago, Chile, as part of the Company's plans to expand reserves and future production.

About Orvana

Orvana Minerals is a Canadian gold mining and exploration company based in Toronto, Ontario and is involved in the evaluation, development and mining of precious metal deposits in Latin America. The Company owns the Don Mario gold mine in eastern Bolivia. Orvana's long-term goal is to become a multi-mine producer in Latin America. Its shares have been listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange since 1992 under the trading symbol ORV.

For further information, please contact George Hamilton, Chairman and Director, Orvana Minerals Corp., (905) 822-1463, ghamilton@orvana.com

Forward Looking Statements

This news release may contain forward-looking statements that are based on the Company's expectations, estimates and projections regarding its business and the precious metals market and economic environment in which it operates. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to control or predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements and readers should not place undue reliance on such statements. Statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update them publicly to reflect new information or the occurrence of future events or circumstances.