



OPHIR ENERGY PLC

Acquisition of Indonesian Exploration Licences

London, 27 October 2014: Ophir Energy plc ("Ophir" or "the Company") is pleased to announce it has entered into an agreement with Niko Resources ("Niko") to acquire interests in seven deepwater Production Sharing Contracts ("PSCs") in Indonesia. The transaction brings access to large acreage positions in highly prospective basins and expands Ophir's footprint in South East Asia, following the award of acreage offshore Myanmar earlier this year.

Highlights

- Acquisition of interests in seven PSCs, six of which will be operated by Ophir, for a cash consideration of US\$31.3million with further payments contingent on exploration success.
- Significant new country entry in deepwater blocks with identified unrisks prospective resource of >3.0billion boe and considerable further exploration potential.
- PSCs split across three core areas with exposure to a mix of proven and frontier oil and gas plays.
- Drilling activity commencing 2016 over a footprint of 21,500km².
- Post completion, Ophir will be a leading deepwater exploration acreage holder in Indonesia and the transaction will increase the Company's total gross licensed acreage by 40%.

Nick Cooper, CEO, Ophir Energy, commented:

"We are excited by the exploration and market opportunities in South East Asia, which can complement our continued expansion in Africa. This transaction with Niko Resources provides one new country entry but access to three new core areas. The asset package adds a high impact, deepwater, exploration portfolio to our existing asset base at a very low entry cost."

Indonesia is a mature, hydrocarbon producing province with a long-established regulatory and fiscal framework that contains an exciting mix of proven and frontier deepwater basins. The latter are largely underexplored and are in-line with our strategy of early entries into operated, potentially transformational acreage where multiple geological plays have been identified.

This deal represents a significant reloading of the company's exploration portfolio, expanding our gross acreage by 40% and in combination with Ophir's recent Myanmar PSC award, positions Ophir as a leading deepwater Asian explorer. We look forward to delivering a number of high impact wells from this new Asian portfolio as well from our existing African assets in the coming years."

Assets

Ophir is acquiring seven PSCs with equity interests ranging from 18.5-100%, six of which will be operated positions, with partners including Statoil and ENI. In total, the acreage covered by the PSCs is approximately 21,500km² with significant 2D and 3D seismic data already acquired by Niko. Multiple leads and prospects, along with underexplored new plays, have been identified across the portfolio, across a mix of clastic and carbonate play types in both proven and frontier basins.

The licences are split broadly into three core areas – West Papua, Western Birds Head and the Makassar Strait. The West Papua area is frontier and potentially high-impact, primarily prospective for oil within a carbonate play

in which reservoir quality has been partially de-risked by drilling to date. The Western Birds Head area, prospective for both oil and gas in clastic and carbonate plays, has been de-risked by existing discoveries on the Kofiau PSC. The Makassar Strait area is a proven, world class hydrocarbon province in which several large fields feed the multi-train, but now under-utilised, Bontang LNG plant located onshore East Kalimantan. The acquired acreage has already seen some 3D seismic acquisition and the maturing of several leads and prospects that could be commercialised via this route with the threshold for commercial volumes as low as c.200BCF.

The initial focus of activity will be to re-interpret the existing 3D seismic data and to commission new 3D surveys on several blocks. It is expected that the first drilling campaigns are likely to start early 2016. Ophir may decide to reduce its cost exposure to some of these wells prior to drilling.

Total net remaining liabilities and minimum spend commitments under the current terms of the PSCs are estimated at US\$1.3million. The Company also expects a number of key Niko personnel based in country to transition across with the assets on completion.

Terms of the acquisition

Ophir will pay Niko Resources US\$31million on completion of the transaction, with further success payments payable on the declaration of commerciality of up to four discoveries, and consequently first production from up to four future developments. In aggregate, the total further consideration payable on success is capped at US\$56million.

The transaction is subject to approval by SKKMiGas and the Government of Indonesia.

ENDS

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

Ophir Energy plc +44 (0)20 7811 2400
 Nick Cooper, CEO
 Bill Higgs, COO

Brunswick Group +44 (0)20 7404 5959
 Patrick Handley
 Marleen Geerlof

Notes to Editors

Summary of Licences being acquired

Permit	Interest Being Acquired	Operator	Partners
West Papua IV	50%	Ophir	Statoil, Tately
Aru	60%	Ophir	Statoil
North Makassar Strait	30%	Ophir	Statoil, BPE
North Ganai	18.5%	ENI	Statoil, BOE, GDF Suez
Obi	42%	Ophir	Statoil, Tately
Kofiau	100%	Ophir	-
Halmachera-Kofiau	80%	Ophir	Tately

Ophir Energy (OPHR.LN) is an upstream oil and gas exploration company which is listed on the London Stock Exchange (FTSE 250). Ophir has an extensive deepwater acreage position in West and East Africa acquired since its foundation in 2004.

The Group's headquarters are located in London (England), with operational offices in Perth (Australia), Dar es Salaam and Mtwara (Tanzania), Malabo (Equatorial Guinea), Libreville (Gabon) and Nairobi (Kenya)

For further information on Ophir, please refer to www.ophir-energy.com