



ACTUAL URANIUM EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES IN NIGER



PRESENTED
By

MAMANE KACHE
MINING ENGINEER
HEAD, DIVISION OF MINING OPERATIONS
AND CADASTRE

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Environmental Issues

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Introduction

Niger is among the first African Country which started mining uranium (more than 40 years of experience).

Uranium was known as a strategic mineral different from the other minerals till 1993.

In 1993, the Niger Government adopted an ordinance in which uranium is considered as an ordinary mineral like others.

In 2006, the Niger Government adopted a mining law in which the diversification of partners are allowed. Many exploration companies were interested in uranium exploration and mining till 2011.

Now, few mining companies are interested in uranium exploration and mining because of its low price.

Background information: Location



Flag



Coat of arm



Map of Niger



Map of Africa

Background information (Cont.)

- **Republic of Niger**
- Capital: Niamey
- Official language: French
- Land area: **1,267,000 km²**
- Population: **more than 17 millions of people (2012)**
- Mining Industry: a crucial piece of the Economy (40% of exports).
- Uranium represent 70% of national export

Historical Uranium Prospection and Mining Activities

- The search for uranium in Niger began in the 60s and its mining in the 70s.
- As given the drop in uranium prices in the 80s, these activities decreased significantly.
- The exploration activities took place in 2006 when many mining companies were very interested in the research of this radioactive metal (uranium).

Historical Uranium Prospection and Mining Activities

- In 2007, Niger had more than 150 exploration licenses (all minerals included) whose more than 100 uranium exploration permits.
- It had two (2) uranium operating mining companies (COMINAK and SOMAIR) till 2008 and it passed to four (4) mining companies in 2009.

Actual Uranium Exploration Activities

- 88 exploration licenses for all minerals are valid at 31st December 2013;
 - 59 for uranium;
 - ❖ 8 licenses issued in 2013;
 - ❖ 29 licenses renewed in 2013;
 - ❖ 8 applications for uranium exploration licenses in 2013

Actual Uranium Exploration Activities

- 47 Uranium exploration licenses are valid at 20th June 2014:
 - 2 licenses renewed in 2014;
 - 7 applications for renewal in 2014;
 - 12 exploration companies.
- One exploration company is advanced in the research works.
- 320 576 000 tons of uranium reserve which contains 235 978.60 tons of uranium metal.

Actual Uranium Mining Activities

- 3 uranium operating mining companies since 2011 (SOMAIR, COMINAK, SOMINA).
- 4275 tU are produced in 2013.
- The forecast 2014 uranium production is 4 254 tU.
- SOMAIR and COMINAK mining Contracts are expired on 31st December 2013;
- On 27 December 2013, the Niger Government extended SOMAIR and

Actual Uranium Mining Activities (cont.)

COMINAK mining Contracts till the end of the negotiation of new contracts.

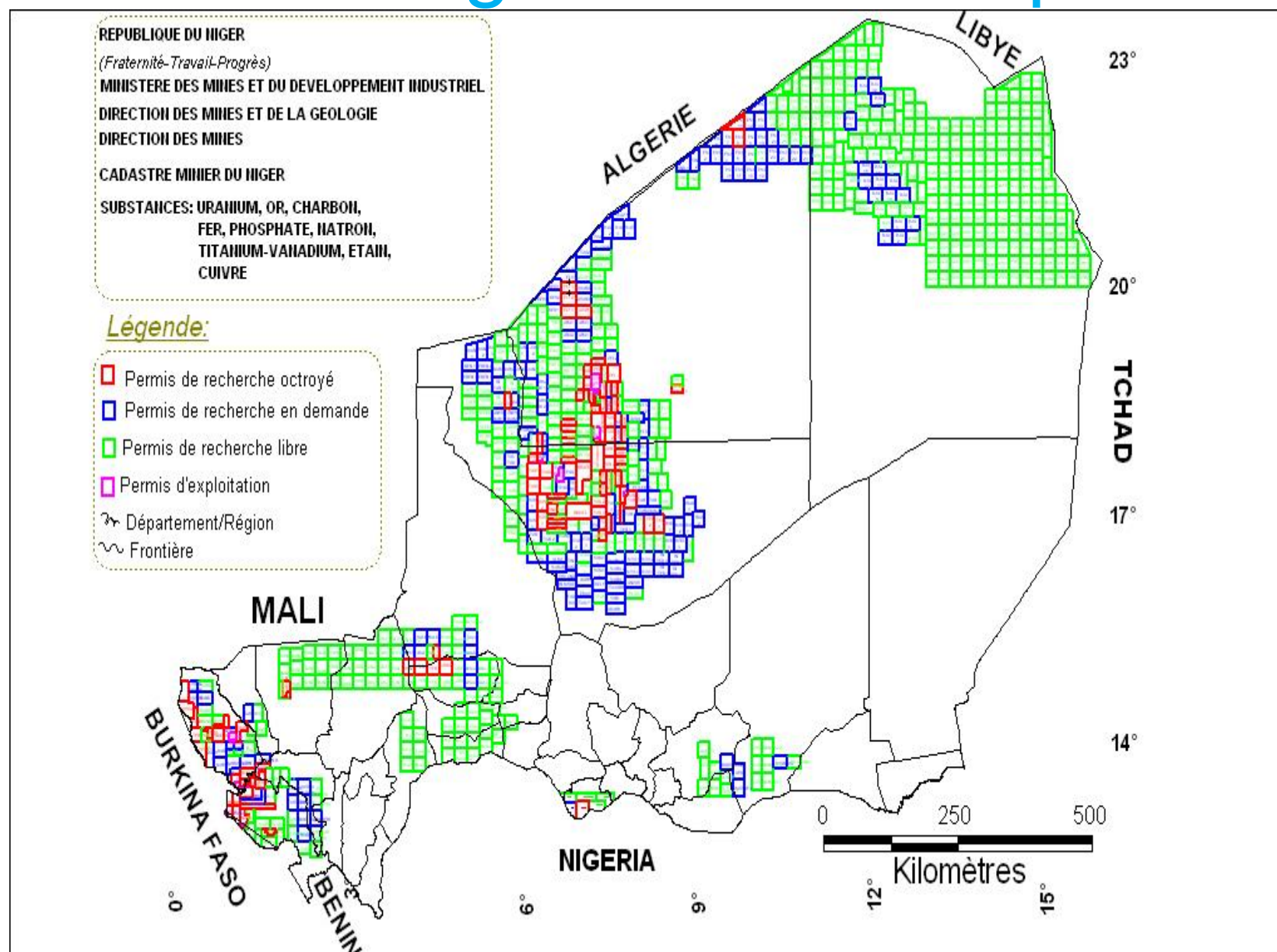
- On 26 May 2014, the Niger Government and AREVA (French firm) signed an agreement concerning :
 - ❖ the application of 2006 mining law to SOMAIR and COMINAK;
 - ❖ the financing of Irahzer valley project at 17 millions of Euro;
 - ❖ the financing of the Tahoua-Arlit road at

Uranium Mining Activities

90 millions of Euro;

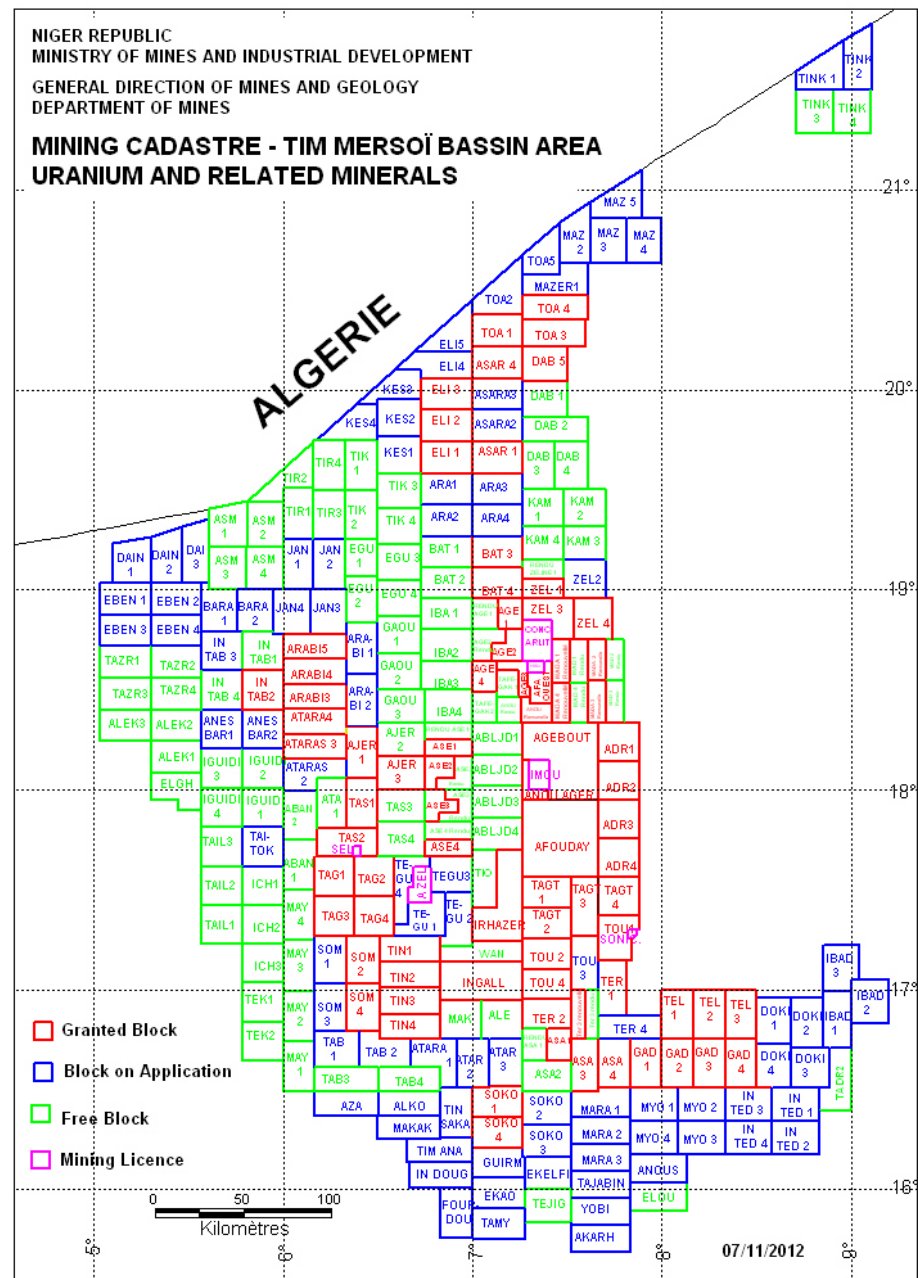
- ❖ the construction of the AREVA Head quarter in Niamey at 10 millions of Euro;
- ❖ the General Directors of SOMAIR and COMINAK will be the Nigerien respectively in 2014 and 2016.;
- ❖ the reporting of the IMOURAREN Project;
- ❖ the creation of a committee between Niger and AREVA to state on the resumption of the IMOURAREN Project and the future production date.

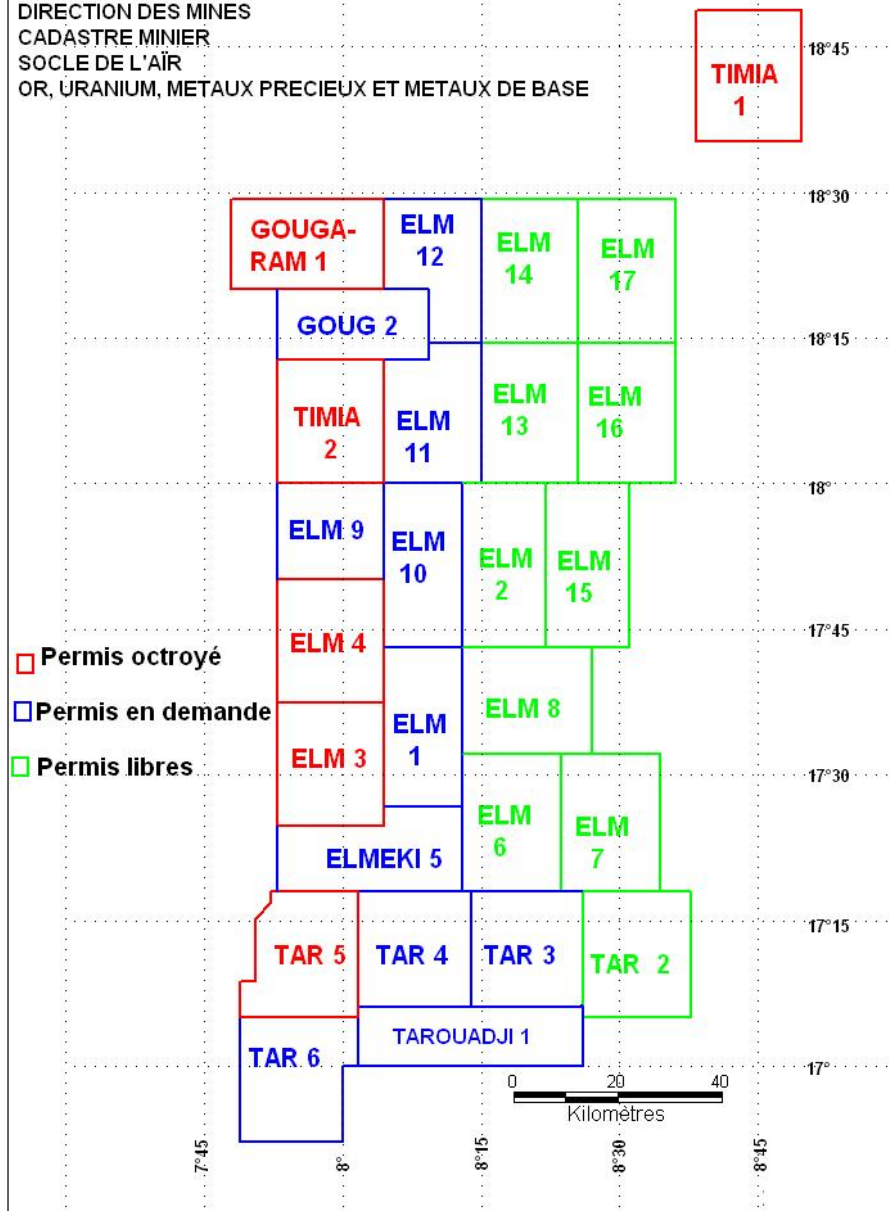
Mining Cadastral Map



NIGER REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF MINES AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
GENERAL DIRECTION OF MINES AND GEOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

**MINING CADASTRE - TIM MERSOI BASSIN AREA
URANIUM AND RELATED MINERALS**





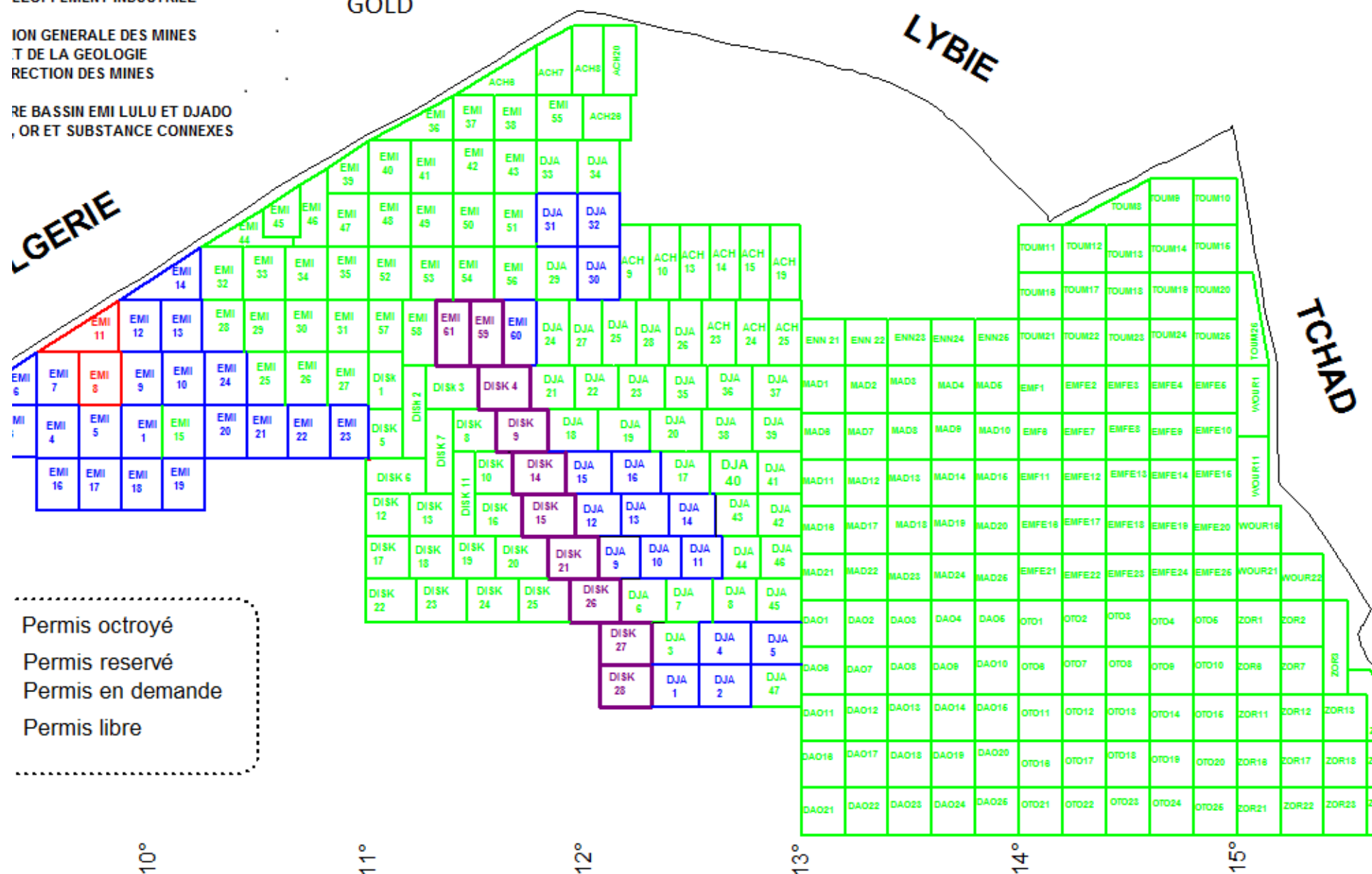
REPUBLIQUE DU NIGER

MINISTERE DES MINES ET
DEVELOPPEMENT INDUSTRIEL

DIRECTION GENERALE DES MINES
DIRECTION DE LA GEOLOGIE
DIRECTION REGIONALE DES MINES

REGION DU BASSIN EMI LULU ET DJADO
OR ET SUBSTANCE CONNEXES

URANIUM AND GOLD



05/06/2014

CONCLUSION

Since the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident in 2011, many mining companies are not interested in uranium. It leads to the decrease in uranium spot price and the delay of IMOURAREN Project. Only, 47 exploration licenses for 12 mining companies are now valid in Niger.

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION