
FORM 6-K

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date: December 23, 2008
Commission File Number 001-31528

IAMGOLD Corporation

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

401 Bay Street Suite 3200, PO Box 153
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 2Y4
Tel: (416) 360-4710

(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): _____

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

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): _____

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's "home country"), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- _____

Description of Exhibit

| <u>Exhibit</u> | <u>Description of Exhibit</u> |
|----------------|---|
| 99.1 | IAMGOLD Options Merrex Gold's Siribaya Gold Project in Mali and Confirms Equity Position in Merrex Gold |

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 authorized.

IAMGOLD CORPORATION

Date: December 23, 2008

By: /s/ Larry E. Phillips

Larry E. Phillips
Senior Vice-President, Corporate Affairs & Corporate Secretary



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PRESS RELEASE

No. 53/08

IAMGOLD Options Merrex Gold's Siribaya Gold Project in Mali and Confirms Equity Position in Merrex Gold

Toronto, Ontario - December 23 , 2008 – IAMGOLD Corporation ("IAMGOLD") has entered into a definitive Option Agreement ("Agreement") to earn a 50% interest in the Siribaya Gold project in Mali, West Africa, which is 100% controlled by Merrex Gold Inc. ("Merrex") (MXI: TSXV). IAMGOLD can earn its interest by spending Cdn\$10.5 million over four years. As part of the Agreement, IAMGOLD completed a private placement of Cdn\$1.5 million in Merrex by subscribing for 4,285,714 units at \$0.35 per unit. Each unit is comprised of one common share of Merrex and one 12-month warrant, exercisable at \$0.45 per share.

As a result, IAMGOLD holds 4,285,714 common shares of Merrex, representing approximately 6.47% of the outstanding common shares of Merrex. If IAMGOLD were to exercise all warrants of Merrex, IAMGOLD would control an aggregate of 8,571,426 common shares of Merrex, or 12.15% of the resulting outstanding common shares (on a partially diluted basis).

Other than as agreed to in consideration for the Siribaya Agreement, IAMGOLD does not have any present intention to acquire ownership of, or control over, additional securities of Merrex.

The Siribaya gold project consists of a 700 square kilometer land package in western Mali that covers two major regional structural trends that hold significant potential for economic gold mineralization. Merrex has spent over \$8.0 million to date on exploration at Siribaya and has reported significant gold intersections along a two kilometer segment of an anomalous gold trend that extends for more than six kilometers within the land package. In addition, higher grade gold drill intersections from a breccia-hosted sulphide-gold zone are also a priority target for further drilling. Merrex also has an established presence in western Mali and will continue as the initial operator at Siribaya.

Mike Donnelly, IAMGOLD's Senior VP, Exploration says, "We are pleased to enter into this arrangement with Merrex. We are excited by the early results that Merrex has had on both the zones along the main regional structures, but also by the results from the breccia zone as these attest to the potential across this large 700 square kilometer property. IAMGOLD has considerable exploration knowledge and experience in this part of West Africa and we see good potential to discover a significant gold deposit at Siribaya."

IAMGOLD's President & CEO, Joseph Conway adds, "With our recent announcement of the proposed acquisition of Orezone Resources Inc., with its four million ounce gold deposit under construction in Burkina Faso, we have firmly established IAMGOLD as a leading gold company in West Africa. The agreement with Merrex further advances IAMGOLD's strategy of building the Company's resource base and production profile in West Africa. Our experience in West Africa dates back to IAMGOLD's initial discovery and ongoing involvement in the Sadiola and Yatela gold mines that spans almost 20 years in Mali alone. About 50% of IAMGOLD's almost one million ounces of gold production this year is from Africa. "

About IAMGOLD

IAMGOLD is a leading mid-tier gold mining company producing almost one million ounces from 8 mines on 3 continents. IAMGOLD is focused on growth with a target to reach 1.8 million ounces gold production by 2012. IAMGOLD is uniquely positioned with a strong financial base, together with the management and operations expertise to execute our aggressive growth objectives. IAMGOLD is focused in West Africa, the Guiana Shield of South America and in Quebec where it has a pipeline of development and exploration projects. It continues to assess accretive acquisition opportunities with a strategic fit. IAMGOLD is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("IMG"), the New York Stock Exchange ("IAG") and the Botswana Stock Exchange.

For further information please contact :

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Please note:

This entire press release may be accessed via fax, e-mail, IAMGOLD's website at www.iamgold.com and through Marketwire's website at www.marketwire.com . All material information on IAMGOLD can be found at www.sedar.com or at www.sec.gov .

Si vous désirez obtenir la version française de ce communiqué, veuillez consulter le <http://www.iamgold.com/fr/accueil.html> .