

## **YAMANA GOLD INC.**

### **CHARTER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DATED AS OF DECEMBER 14, 2006**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

The Audit Committee shall provide assistance to the Board of Directors of Yamana Gold Inc. (the “Company”) in fulfilling its financial reporting and control responsibilities to the shareholders of the Company and the investment community. The external auditors will report directly to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee’s primary duties and responsibilities are to:

- Oversee the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company, and the audit of its financial statements, including: (i) the integrity of the Company’s financial statements; (ii) the Company’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; and (iii) the independent auditors’ qualifications and independence.
- Serve as an independent and objective party to monitor the Company’s financial reporting processes and internal control systems.
- Review and appraise the audit activities of the Company’s independent auditors.
- Provide open lines of communication among the independent auditors, financial and senior management, and the Board of Directors for financial reporting and control matters, and meet periodically with management and with the independent auditors.

#### **II. COMPOSITION**

The Audit Committee shall be comprised of at least three directors. Each Committee member shall be an “independent director” within the meaning of Multilateral Instrument 52-110 – *Audit Committees* (“MI 52-110”), as may be amended from time to time. Pursuant to MI 52-110, a member will be considered “independent” if he has no direct or indirect, material relationship with the Company. MI 52-110 sets forth certain relationships which deem one not to be independent. In addition, the composition of the Audit Committee shall comply with the rules and regulations of the Toronto Stock Exchange and any other stock exchange on which the shares of the Company are listed, subject to any waivers or exceptions granted by such stock exchange.

In addition, a director shall not be qualified to be a member of the Audit Committee if such director (i) is an “affiliated person” or (ii) receives (or his/her immediate family member or the entity for which such director is a director, member, partner or principal and which provides consulting, legal, investment banking, financial or other similar services to the Company), directly or indirectly, any consulting, advisory, or other compensation from the Company other than compensation for serving in his or her

capacity as member of the Board and as a member of Board committees. An “affiliated person” means a person who directly or indirectly controls the Company, or a director, executive officer, partner, member, principal or designee of an entity that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the Company.

All members shall, to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors, be financially literate in accordance with the requirements of the MI 52-110 (i.e. will have the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company’s financial statements). At least one member shall have accounting or related financial management expertise to qualify as a “financial expert”. A person will qualify as “financial expert” if he or she possesses the following attributes:

1. an understanding of financial statements and generally accepted accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements;
2. an ability to assess the general application of such principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves;
3. experience preparing, auditing, analyzing or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company’s financial statements, or experience actively supervising one or more persons engaged in such activities;
4. an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting; and
5. an understanding of audit committee functions.

The Committee members will be elected annually at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the annual general meeting of shareholders.

Quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Committee shall be a majority of the number of members of the Committee or such greater number as the Committee shall be resolution determine.

### **III. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS**

Responsibilities and powers of the Audit Committee include:

- Annual review and revision of this Charter as necessary with the approval of the Board of Directors provided that this Charter may be amended and restated from time to time without the approval of the Board of Directors to ensure that that the composition of the Audit Committee and the Responsibilities and Powers of the Audit Committee comply with applicable laws and stock exchange rules.

- Making recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the selection, the appointment, evaluation, fees and compensation and, if necessary, the replacement of the independent auditors, and assisting in resolving any disagreements between management and the independent auditors regarding financial reporting.
- Approving the appropriate audit engagement fees and the funding for payment of the independent auditors' compensation and any advisors retained by the Audit Committee.
- Ensuring that the auditors report directly to the Audit Committee and are made accountable to the Board and the Audit Committee, as representatives of the shareholders to whom the auditors are ultimately responsible.
- Confirming the independence of the auditors, which will require receipt from the auditors of a formal written statement delineating all relationships between the auditors and the Company and any other factors that might affect the independence of the auditors and reviewing and discussing with the auditors any significant relationships and other factors identified in the statement. Reporting to the Board of Directors its conclusions on the independence of the auditors and the basis for these conclusions.
- Overseeing the work of the independent auditors engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services.
- Ensuring that the independent auditors are prohibited from providing the following non-audit services and determining which other non-audit services the independent auditors are prohibited from providing:
  - bookkeeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements of the Company;
  - financial information systems design and implementation;
  - appraisal or valuation services, fairness opinions, or contribution-in-kind reports;
  - actuarial services;
  - internal audit outsourcing services;
  - management functions or human resources;
  - broker or dealer, investment adviser or investment banking services;
  - legal services and expert services unrelated to the audit; and

- any other services which the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board determines to be impermissible.
- Pre-approving all audit services, internal control related services and approving any permissible non-audit engagements of the independent auditors, in accordance with applicable legislation.
- Meeting with the auditors and financial management of the Company to review the scope of the proposed audit for the current year, and the audit procedures to be used.
- Meeting quarterly with auditors in “in camera” sessions to discuss reasonableness of the financial reporting process, system of internal control, significant comments and recommendations and management’s performance.
- Reviewing with management and the independent auditors:
  - the Company’s annual financial statements (and interim financial statements as applicable) and related footnotes, management’s discussion and analysis and the annual information form, for the purpose of recommending approval by the Board of Directors prior to its release, and ensuring that:
    - management has reviewed the audited financial statements with the audit committee, including significant judgments affecting the financial statements
    - the members of the Committee have discussed among themselves, without management or the independent auditors present, the information disclosed to the Committee
    - the Committee has received the assurance of both financial management and the independent auditors that the Company’s financial statements are fairly presented in conformity with Canadian GAAP in all material respects
  - Any significant changes required in the independent auditors’ audit plan and any serious issues with management regarding the audit.
  - the Company’s internal controls report and the independent auditors’ certification of the report, and review disclosures made to the Committee by the CEO and CFO about any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls or material weaknesses therein and any fraud involving management or other employees who have a significant role in the Company’s internal controls.

- Other matters related to the conduct of the audit that are to be communicated to the Committee under generally accepted auditing standards.
- Satisfying itself that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements, other than the public disclosure described in the preceding paragraph, and assessing the adequacy of such procedures periodically.
- Reviewing with the independent auditors and management the adequacy and effectiveness of the financial and accounting controls of the Company.
- Establishing procedures: (i) for receiving, handling and retaining of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal controls, or auditing matters, and (ii) for employees to submit confidential anonymous concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
- Reviewing with the independent auditors any audit problems or difficulties and management's response and resolving disagreements between management and the auditors and reviewing and discussing material written communications between management and the independent auditors, such as any management letter of schedule of unadjusted differences.
- Making inquires of management and the independent auditors to identify significant business, political, financial and control risks and exposures and assess the steps management has taken to minimize such risk to the Company.
- Making inquires of management and the independent auditors to identify significant business, political, financial, litigation and control risks and exposures and assess the steps management has taken to minimize such risk to the Company.
- Assessing the overall process for identifying principal business, political, financial, litigation and control risks and providing its views on the effectiveness of this process to the Board.
- Ensuring that the disclosure of the process followed by the Board of Directors and its committees, in the oversight of the Company's management of principal business risks, is complete and fairly presented.
- Obtaining reports from management, the Company's independent auditors that the Company is in conformity with legal requirements and the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and reviewing reports and disclosures of insider and affiliated party transactions.
- Discussing any earnings press releases, as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies.

- Ensuring adequate procedures are in place for review of the Company's disclosure of financial information and assess the adequacy of these procedures at least once per year.
- Reviewing of confirmation of compliance with the Company's policies on internal controls, conflicts of interests, ethics, foreign corrupt practice, etc.
- Ensuring that the Company's Annual Information Form and the Company's Management Information Circular contains the disclosure as required by law, including that required by MI 52-110.
- Reviewing with financial management and the independent auditors interim financial information, including interim financial statements, management discussion and analysis and financial press releases for the purpose of recommending approval by the Board of Directors prior to its release.
- At least annually obtaining and reviewing a report prepared by the independent auditors describing (i) the auditors' internal quality-control procedures; (ii) any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review, or peer review, of the auditors, or by any inquiry of investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the auditors, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues; and (iii) all relationships between the independent auditors and the Company (to assess auditors' independence).
- Reviewing and approving hiring policies for employees or former employees of the past and present independent auditors.
- Reviewing disclosure by management in the event that management deviates from existing approved policies and procedures which disclosure must also must be contained in financial reporting sub-certification forms.
- Engaging independent counsel and other advisors, without seeking approval of the Board of Directors or management, if the Committee determines such advisors are necessary to assist the Committee in carrying out its duties and setting and paying for any counsel or advisors employed by the Audit Committee for such purpose. The Committee shall advise the Board of Directors and management of such engagement.
- Discussing with the Company's legal counsel legal matters that may have a material impact on the financial statements or of the Company's compliance policies and internal controls.
- Conducting special investigations, independent of the Board of Directors or management, relating to financial and non-financial related matters concerning the Company and/or any one or more of its directors, officers, employees, consultants and/or independent contractors, if determined by the Committee to be in the best interests of the Company and its Shareholders. The Committee shall advise the

Board of Directors with respect to the initiations of such investigations and shall periodically report any findings such investigation to the Board of Directors.

- Reporting annually to the shareholders in the Company's Annual Information Form on the carrying out of its responsibilities under this charter and on other matters as required by applicable securities regulatory authorities.

#### **IV. MEETINGS**

The Audit Committee will meet regularly at times necessary to perform the duties described above in a timely manner, but not less than four times a year and any time the Company proposes to issue a press release with its quarterly or annual earnings information. Meetings may be held at any time deemed appropriate by the Committee.

The Audit Committee shall meet periodically in separate executive sessions with management (including the Chief Financial Officer), the internal auditors and the independent auditor, and have such other direct and independent interaction with such persons from time to time as the members of the Audit Committee deem appropriate. The Audit Committee may request any officer or employee of the Company or the Company's outside counsel or independent auditor to attend a meeting of the Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Committee.

The independent auditors will have direct access to the Committee at their own initiative.

The Chairman of the Committee will report periodically the Committee's findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors.