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## PRESS RELEASE

### WORLD GOLD COUNCIL APPOINTS GREGORY C. WILKINS AS CHAIRMAN

World Gold Council (WGC) has today announced that Greg Wilkins, President and Chief Executive Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation, is to succeed Pierre Lassonde as Chairman of the WGC with immediate effect.

Commenting on his appointment, Greg Wilkins said: "This is an exciting time for the gold industry and I feel honoured to be given the opportunity to play a part in driving the WGC's mandate to develop sustainable demand for gold. The WGC has enjoyed many successes in recent years, not least the introduction of exchange traded gold and the rejuvenation of the gold jewellery market in key geographies. I very much look forward to picking up the baton and working with the WGC's talented team.

"I would also like to congratulate my predecessor, Pierre Lassonde, whose leadership and passion for the industry have helped drive the success of the WGC's efforts over the last three years."

Pierre Lassonde was elected chairman of the World Gold Council in March 2005. During his time as chairman, Pierre has played a pivotal role in increasing the WGC membership base, which now represents 23 companies and more than 60% of obtainable global gold production. Pierre has also been instrumental in rolling out gold-backed, exchange-traded funds across Europe and Asia.

James Burton, CEO of the World Gold Council, said: "Pierre has made an outstanding contribution to the World Gold Council. His energy, enthusiasm and conviction have played a crucial role in driving the WGC's mandate and strengthening our membership base. Going forward, we are very much looking forward to benefiting from Greg's wealth of industry experience as the gold industry faces new opportunities and challenges in the future."

Greg Wilkins was elected President and Chief Executive Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation in February 2003 and has been a member of the Board of Directors since 1991.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to Editors:**

**World Gold Council**

The World Gold Council (WGC), a commercially-driven marketing organisation, is funded by the world's leading gold mining companies. A global advocate for gold, the WGC aims to promote the demand for gold in all its forms through marketing activities in major international markets. For further information visit [www.gold.org](http://www.gold.org).