

The New Mining Code that has been drafted will contain legislation devised to regulate the environmental matters related to existing mining operations and all new projects.

The market for suppliers of mining equipment:

There are no trade barriers to the importation of equipment, which does not require licenses or permits. The general customs duty is 10% on all imports.

Although this is a well-established and very competitive market, dominated in several areas by the Swedish giant Atlas Copco, but served also by suppliers from the U.S.A., Finland, Germany, Japan, Chile, Peru and Brazil, Canadian firms are also active and there is room for more.

Companies that provide equipment and services for mining exploration have the best possibilities, because there is a very ambitious plan of exploratory drilling (134,000 meters of diamond and reverse circulation drilling will be drilled this year. Suppliers of good reconditioned equipment have also a good potential.

It is calculated that purchasing of mining equipment during the present year will reach the figure of US\$ 47.0 million.

To succeed in this market, it is necessary to have a good local agent or distributor who can provide parts and be reliable after sales service.