



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Stockholm



The high-level Philippine Mining Delegation, composed of DENR officials and representatives from the Philippine private sector and the academe, visited the Viscaria and LKAB Mines, on 03 April 2025, in Kiruna Sweden.

The Viscaria team, led by CEO Jörgen Olsson, gave a presentation on their objectives for reopening operations of the Viscaria mine, experience in applying for permits to be able to operate, the challenges they faced with respect to securing their environmental permit, and the plans it has to ensure that the mine will be sustainable and will have minimal negative impacts on the environment and the community (i.e., through the use of zero-emission transportation, use of electricity from renewable energy sources, and coordination and dialogue with the local government and the community).



Photo taken during the presentation of Gruvaktiebolaget Viscaria representative.

Following the visit to the Viscaria mine, the delegation visited the LKAB Visitors Centre, where they were given a briefing on LKAB's general operations, including its production of fines, iron ore pellets, and carbon-free sponge iron. The Visitors' Guide also discussed the HYBRIT project, which LKAB currently works on with its partners SSAB and Vattenfall and which aims to develop a fossil-free value chain of iron and steel production.



Photo taken during the visits to LKAB underground drilling rigs.

Gruvaktiebolaget Viscaria was founded in 2006 under the name Avalon. In 2015, the company was restructured to become Copperstone Resources, and in May 2024, upon

receiving the environmental permit ruling, the name was changed to Gruvaktiebolaget Viscaria. Today, the company is scaling up to become a modern and responsibly producing mining company through the reopening of the Viscaria mine in Kiruna. By using modern technology, Viscaria is well-positioned to deliver high-quality and responsibly produced copper – an important contribution to the transition to renewable energy sources.

Meanwhile, LKAB is an international group that sells sustainable iron ore, minerals and special products. They are leading the green transformation of the iron and steel industry. LKAB is Europe's largest iron ore producer. The core product is mined in northern Sweden and shipped out to the rest of the world from ports in Narvik and Luleå.

The visit to the mines in Kiruna is part of the activities organised for the Philippine delegation, who are visiting Sweden, with the aim of gaining insights on Swedish best practices in sustainable mining, mining safety and innovation, and exploring possible areas of cooperation and investments in advanced technologies and research. END