

Please find article below written by Dorothy Kosich on the 26 August 2010.

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Latin Resources Limited.



[www.latinresources.com.au](http://www.latinresources.com.au)

Level 1, 173 Mounts Bay Road, Perth, Western Australia, 6000

Tel: +61 (0) 8 9485 0601

Fax: +61 (0) 8 9321 6666

## Peru has 3.88b silver ozs, 66.3m gold ozs in reserves - Peru mines ministry

*Fantastic reserves of silver, copper, gold and zinc keep Peru at or near the top as a favorite Latin American mining powerhouse, according to the Ministry of Energy and Mines.*

Author: Dorothy Kosich

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RENO, NV -

Peru's Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) reported Wednesday that Peru remains the world's largest silver miner with about 30% of global reserves while the nation ranks second in copper and zinc reserves, respectively, with 16% and 11% of the total.

During a talk to a seminar on production, metallurgy and jewelry at the College of Engineers of Peru, MEM's Director of Mining Promotion Henry Luna Cordova said Peru's reserves include 120,532,294 kilograms (3.88 billion ounces) of silver.

He also estimated Peru has 90,814,530 metric tons of copper reserves and 22,257,995 metric tons of zinc reserves.

In his speech Luna also discussed Peru's gold production in 2009 which he said was 182,403,000 grams (5.7 million ounces), an increase of 1.4% over the prior year. He said this growth means Peru remains the top gold producer of Latin America and is ranked sixth in global gold production, a feat which is largely the result of gold production in northern Peru.

"Our gold reserves are altogether 1,968,878,828 grams fine (66.3 million ounces) and are equivalent to 4% of the existing reserves in the world," Luna noted.

Peru's mines contribute 42% of the financial revenues which are allocated to the regions of Ancash, La Libertad, Arequipa, Puno, Tacna, Moquegua and Caramarca among others, according to Luna.