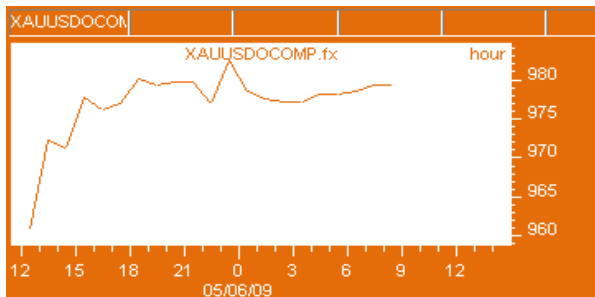


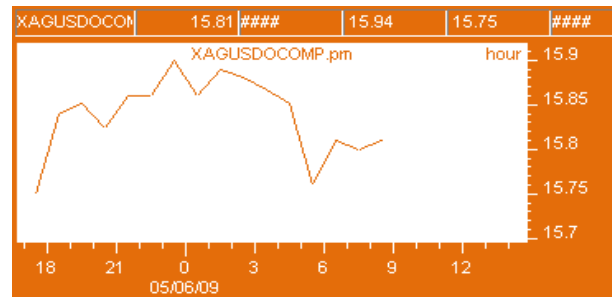
PRECIOUS METALS	
Metal	Price
GOLD	978,65 US\$/Oz
SILVER	15,78 US\$/Oz
PLATINUM	1.287,00 US\$/Oz
PALADIUM	255,50 US\$/Oz

LME (London Metals Exchange)			
Metal	Cash	3 Months	Price Unit
ALUMINIUM ALLOY (type C)	1.234,85	UnDef	US\$/t
ALUMINIUM HIGH GRADE (type C)	1.441,85	1.471,65	US\$/t
NA ALUMINIUM ALLOY (type C)	1.154,85	1.280,00	US\$/t
COPPER GRADE A (type C)	4.869,20	4.887,70	US\$/t
LEAD (type C)	1.565,65	1.580,30	US\$/t
NICKEL (type C)	13.801,50	13.874,00	US\$/t
TIN (type C)	14.623,00	14.564,50	US\$/t
ZINC (type C)	1.505,00	1.527,10	US\$/t

Gold



Silver



BASE METALS: China Copper Futures Hit 2009 High On Fund Buying

SHANGHAI (Dow Jones)--Copper futures on the Shanghai Futures Exchange settled sharply higher Friday amid fund buying on dollar weakness, in line with an overnight rally in London Metal Exchange counterparts. The benchmark September contract settled 4% higher at CNY41,050 a metric ton after notching a 2009 intraday high of CNY41,260/ton. Shanghai copper will likely maintain the upward momentum in coming sessions as upbeat sentiment prevails. "Increasing open interest showed that participants are establishing new long positions as they're bullish on the metal," assuming the dollar continues to fall, said Wang Zhouyi, an analyst with Shanghai Cifco Futures. Copper's rise helped aluminum and zinc, which both closed the week sharply higher. Analysts and traders ascribed the recent rally in metals to broader bullishness on domestic and foreign macroeconomic cues rather than to supply-and-demand fundamentals. "Copper at this level is just a reflection of market sentiment," said Wu Jianjian, an analyst with Yong An Futures. Copper traded at the Changjiang Nonferrous Metals Trading Market, a major spot metals market in Shanghai, was quoted at CNY40,700-CNY40,800/ton, down from CNY39,300-CNY39,400/ton Thursday. Three-month LME copper ended Thursday's PM kerb \$105 higher at \$5,020/ton. It was quoted 1.5% higher at \$5,095/ton around 0700 GMT, when the SHFE closed for the day.

The benchmark aluminum contract settled 3.8% higher at CNY13,490/ton, and benchmark zinc settled 2.6% higher at CNY13,580/ton.

3rd UPDATE: Rio Drops Chinalco, Plans Rights Issue And BHP JV

MELBOURNE (Dow Jones)--Rio Tinto Ltd. (RTP) said Friday it is terminating its planned US\$19.5 billion alliance with Aluminum Corp. of China, or Chinalco, and instead launching a US\$15.2 billion rights issue and entering into an iron ore joint venture with BHP Billiton Ltd. (BHP.AU). The Chinalco deal, which would have been China's biggest ever overseas investment, had drawn opposition from investors and Australian politicians, but in the end it was the brightening market conditions that overtook the deal. Analysts welcomed the decision to terminate the Chinalco deal and said the iron ore joint venture delivered clear benefits to shareholders, a view echoed by investors who piled into Rio and BHP's Australian listed shares. Rio Tinto Chairman Jan du Plessis said improving market conditions were behind the decision to terminate the Chinalco deal, which had been designed to ease Rio's US\$38.7 billion debt burden. "Firstly, the financial terms of the Chinalco transaction became markedly less valuable and, secondly our ability to raise a level of equity appropriate for our needs on attractive terms has improved very considerably," he said in a statement. The miner will now carry out a 21-for-40 rights issue to raise US\$15.2 billion, with the offer pitched at GBP14 per share in the U.K. and A\$28.29 a share in Australia. The pricing of the rights issue in Australia represents a 57.7% discount to the last trade of Rio shares Thursday before the announcement. One analyst said the steep discount reflected the complexity of carrying out. Du Plessis said the funds raised will allow Rio to reduce its net debt to US\$23.2 billion and meet repayments due this year and next on debt associated with its US\$38.1 billion purchase of Alcan in 2007. Rio also announced Friday it has entered into an agreement to form a joint venture with BHP at the pair's iron ore operations in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. Rio said the joint venture will deliver synergies of more than US\$10 billion as adjacent mines are combined into single operations, rail haulage is made more efficient and future growth is optimized. These are the very synergies that drove BHP's failed all-share takeover bid for Rio last year, which raised concerns from European competition regulators over a reduction in competition, and the current joint venture plan will again face European regulatory approval. BHP Chief Executive Marius Kloppers said the miners have applied lessons learnt during engagement with European regulators during the previous takeover bid in structuring the current deal and that the joint venture will not affect iron ore pricing. "This is a production joint venture (and) doesn't influence the commercial dynamics of the market at all," he told reporters. "I would expect that there is absolutely zero connection between what is a price discovery process on the one side and an efficiency and production effectiveness story on the other side".