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## **RIO CRISTAL ANNOUNCES POSITIVE DRILL INTERCEPTS AT ITS CONDOR GOLD PROJECT**

**Vancouver, Canada and Lima, Peru** - (December 16, 2010) Rio Cristal Resources Corporation (TSXV:RCZ) ("Rio Cristal" or the "Company") is pleased to report first results from drilling at its Condor gold project including:

- 38 meters averaging .717 g/t gold, including 4 meters averaging 3.421 g/t gold
- 16 meters averaging .559 g/t gold, including 2 meters averaging 2.502 g/t gold
- 20 meters averaging .737 g/t gold, including 2 meters averaging 3.605 g/t gold.

Tom Findley, President and CEO said "these first drill results at Condor are excellent and demonstrate the continuity of gold mineralization within a sandstone package which is up to 40 meters thick and exposed at surface. Gold mineralization in Zone 2 appears to extend over an area which is approximately 300 meters by 100 meters and open to the north, south and east."

"We will complete our original 1,000 meter drilling program by the end of this year and we expect to define a mineralized zone where we will begin a second, expanded drill campaign early in 2011."

Drilling to-date has focused on Zone 2 of the property and at least three other anomalous target zones remain untested. The objective of further drilling will include testing of continuity of gold mineralization between the target areas defined thus far. Mineralization at the Condor project is hosted within highly fractured and quartz-veined sandstones interbedded with shales and intruded by argillically altered andesite dikes.

The intercepts are perpendicular to bedding and therefore are believed to approximate true thickness. A geological map identifying drill holes locations, and a table of results are available at [www.riocristalresources.com](http://www.riocristalresources.com).

The Company maintains a strict quality control program in preparing and shipping all samples from the Condor project. Standards, blanks and duplicates are inserted in the field. Final samples are bagged, codified, and sealed by Company geologists and transported to the BSE Inspectorate laboratory facilities in Lima, Peru. BSE Inspectorate is an ISO 9001:2008-certified laboratory (#39041). Samples are assayed using the FAAA method (Fire Assay and Atomic absorption). The QA/QC program for each sampling batch includes geochemical standards insertion every 10th sample, blank samples insertion every 20th sample and field duplicate insertion every 30th sample. High grade samples pulp duplicates and rejects will be re-assayed at ALS Chemex Laboratory facilities in Lima applying the same sample preparation procedure as that used by BSE Inspectorate.

As required by the National Instrument 43-101, Rio Cristal Resource's designated Qualified Person is John Brophy, who has verified the technical information reported in this news release.

### **About Rio Cristal Resources Corporation**

Rio Cristal Resources is a Canadian corporation focused on the discovery and further development of gold, copper and zinc deposits in Peru. The Company's most advanced exploration project is the 18,000 hectare Bongará zinc claim block located in northern Peru. Outstanding initial drilling results confirm that the project is within an important emerging Mississippi Valley-type zinc district. The Company expects to begin a second drill campaign in early 2011 when permits are received.

The Company recently acquired a highly prospective copper oxide project, La Cumbre, near Chala in southern Peru and is currently in the process of obtaining drilling permits. The Company believes there is evidence of potential zones of bulk-mineable copper oxide mineralization grading in excess of 2% copper at La Cumbre. Additionally there is potential for copper sulfide mineralization in a belt hosting iron oxide copper-gold deposits. Extensive recent underground workings indicate a possible resource which could be rapidly quantified with potential for mineralization extensions.

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Information about Rio Cristal Resources Corporation can be found on the Company's website, [www.riocristalresources.com](http://www.riocristalresources.com).

*This news release includes certain "forward-looking statements" under applicable Canadian securities legislation. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this release, including, without limitation, statements regarding potential exploration results, future plans and objectives of the Company are forward-looking statements that involve various risks and uncertainties. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate and actual results and future results, events and objectives could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from Rio Cristal's expectations include exploration and other risks detailed from time to time in the filings made by the Company with securities regulators.*

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