Rio Tinto announces start of production by 2013.

Alpha Condé meets the mining rights in Guinea.

After 5 years of delays, legislative elections in Guinea take place amid allegations of fraud.

Rio Tinto is granted new exploration license by the Government of Guinea.

The Government of Guinea introduces a new mining code.

BSGR awarded exploration permit for previously granted license covering Blocks 1 & 2 of Simandou for an area of 65,000 km², renewable for another five years.

The Government of Guinea introduces a new mining code.

BSGR awarded a three-year exploration permit by the Government of Guinea.

Constitutional changes are introduced.

The President's office community threatens to recall the President's rights to the entire concession.

The General Secretary of the President's department sends a letter to Rio Tinto listing a series of grievances regarding their concession.

Four Rio Tinto staff members are arrested in Conakry.

Alpha Condé meets the mining rights in Guinea.

Rio Tinto delays start of production at Simandou.

Vale to create a joint venture with Rio Tinto to develop and operate at Simandou.

Rio Tinto pays the Government of Guinea a 7.5% stake in the railroad and port, and $700m to retain other infrastructure work.

Simandou is halted.

VALE and Rio Tinto embark on development of Simandou to 2018, announcing start of production by 2015.

Rio Tinto embarks on development of Simandou, with an option to increase it 30% over time.

Rio Tinto delays start of production at Simandou.

Rio Tinto submits a feasibility study to the Government of Guinea on unprocessed ore, as accomplished by a major company.

The work of VBG at Zogota and Simandou is halted.

Vale produces 10 Mtpa of iron ore at Zogota and Simandou.

RIO TINTO / SIMFER

Planned VBG Simandou Project

BSGR / VBG

ALPHA CONDE

RIO TINTO / SIMFER

Planned VBG Simandou Project