



Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A.
NYSE Ticker: SQM

PRESS RELEASE

Santiago, April 26, 2002.- SQM informs that on the Annual General Shareholders Meeting carried out today, the shareholders approved, among other issues, to distribute a definitive dividend of 370.2003 Chilean pesos per ADR, which will be paid on May 8, 2002.

During the Meeting, the shareholders also elected new members of the Board.

Therefore, SQM's new Board of Directors is conformed by Messrs. Julio Ponce, Hernán Büchi, Kendrick Wallace, Avi Milstein, Wayne Brownlee, José María Eyzaguirre and Roberto Izquierdo, representing the Series A shares and by Mr. José Antonio Silva, representing the Series B shares. The election for President and Vice President of the Board will take place during the next Board of Directors Meeting.

SQM is an integrated producer and distributor of specialty fertilizers, industrial chemicals and iodine and lithium. Its products are based in the development of high quality natural resources that allow the Company to be leader in costs, supported by a specialized international network with sales in over 100 countries. SQM's development strategy aims to maintain and strengthen the world leadership in its three main businesses: specialty fertilizers, iodine and lithium.

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