



## PAMPA CALICHERA, POTASHCORP AND SIGNIFICANT MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS NOMINATED CANDIDATES AS DIRECTORS OF SQM

**Santiago, Chile. April 22, 2015.-** Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. (SQM) (NYSE: SQM; Santiago Stock Exchange: SQM-B, SQM-A) informed today that Pampa Calichera has nominated Hernán Büchi B., Juan Antonio Guzmán M., Dieter Linneberg A. and Wolf von Appen B. to stand for election to the board of directors of SQM at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 24, 2015, representing the series A shares.

**Hernán Büchi B.:** Mr. Büchi is a Civil Engineer with a degree from the Universidad de Chile. He served as Vice Chairman of SQM's Board from January 2000 to April 2002. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Quiñenco S.A. and S.A.C.I. Falabella, among others. He is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Universidad del Desarrollo. Mr. Büchi has been an SQM board member since 1993.

**Juan Antonio Guzmán M.:** Mr. Guzmán is an Industrial and Chemical Engineer from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and has a Ph.D. from the Polytechnic of North London. He has professional experience in managing different organizations both in the public service (Minister of Education) and in the private sector where he has been appointed to several executive positions as CEO and Board member (Gener, CGE, Sonda, Indisa, Chilean Canadian Chamber of Commerce). Furthermore he has been active as owner in entrepreneurial activities in sectors such as energy, mining, real estate and health. He has been an SQM board member since 2013.

**Dieter Linneberg A.:** Mr. Linneberg is an Economist from the Universidad de Chile. He also received a Ph.D. from the Université Catholique Louvain, in Belgium. Currently, he is the Executive Director of the Corporate Governance and Capital Markets Department at the Business School of the Universidad de Chile. He is a faculty member at the same University, giving lectures in Corporate Governance and International Finance.

**Wolf Von Appen B.:** Mr. Von Appen is an entrepreneur. He is currently a member of Centro de Estudios Públicos. Mr. Von Appen has been an SQM board member since 2005.

PotashCorp has nominated three of its employees –Ms. Joanne Boyes, Mr. Robert Kirkpatrick and Mr. Arnfinn Prugger– to stand for election to the board of directors of SQM at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 24, 2015, representing the series A shares.

**Joanne Boyes:** Ms Boyes, a Senior Director of Corporate Reporting, Finance and Compliance, has been with PotashCorp since 2004 and is responsible for external financial and integrated reporting, complex accounting, treasury activities, and overseeing internal controls compliance. She is a regular management participant on PotashCorp's Audit Committee.

**Robert Kirkpatrick:** Mr. Kirkpatrick, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary of PotashCorp, has been with PotashCorp since 1994 and is responsible for securities regulatory compliance and advising on corporate finance and development matters. He is a regular management participant on PotashCorp's Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.

**Arnfinn Prugger:** Mr. Prugger, Vice President, Technical Services for PCS Potash, has been with the company for over 25 years and has a wide range of senior-level experience in mining and geophysics.

### **SQM**

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Pampa Calichera's and PotashCorp's supported nominees join Mr. Edward J. Waitzer, supported by significant minority shareholders, to stand for election to the board of directors of SQM at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 24, 2015, representing the series B shares.

**Edward J. Waitzer:** Mr. Waitzer was Chair of Stikeman Elliott LLP, a leading Canadian law firm, from 1999 to 2006 and remains a senior partner whose practice focuses on complex business transactions. He also advises on a range of public policy and governance matters. He is a Professor and the Jarislowsky Dimma Mooney Chair in Corporate Governance and is Director of the Hennick Centre for Business and Law at Osgoode Hall and the Schulich School of Business at York University. Mr. Waitzer served from 1993 to 1996 as Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission (and of the Technical Committee of the International Organization of Securities Commissions) and until 1981 as Vice-President of The Toronto Stock Exchange. He is Chair of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario. He has written and spoken extensively on a variety of legal and public policy issues and serves or has served as director of a number of corporations, foundations, community organizations, editorial boards and advisory groups, including the Canadian Foundation for the Advancement of Investors Rights. He is currently the President of the Canada -Chile Business Council and spent 2003-2004 as an advisor to the Superintendent of Securities and Insurance (SVS) in Santiago, Chile. He earned his LL.B. (1976) and LL.M. (1981) from the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto. Mr. Waitzer was called to the Ontario Bar in 1978 and the New York Bar in 1985.

Pampa Calichera and PotashCorp support such eight nominees and are pleased with the changes to SQM's board and governance structure and are looking forward to supporting SQM in executing its operating and growth strategy.

## About SQM

SQM is an integrated producer and distributor of specialty plant nutrients, iodine, lithium, potassium-related fertilizers and industrial chemicals. Its products are based on the development of high quality natural resources that allow the Company to be a leader in costs, supported by a specialized international network with sales in over 110 countries. SQM's development strategy aims to maintain and strengthen the Company's position in each of its businesses.

The leadership strategy is based on the Company's competitive advantages and on the sustainable growth of the different markets in which it participates. SQM's main competitive advantages in its different businesses include:

- Low production costs based on vast and high quality natural resources;
- Know-how and its own technological developments in its various production processes;
- Logistics infrastructure and high production levels that allow SQM to have low distribution costs;
- High market share in all its core products;
- International sales network with offices in 20 countries and sales in over 110 countries;
- Synergies from the production of multiple products that are obtained from the same two natural resources;
- Continuous new product development according to the specific needs of its different customers;
- Conservative and solid financial position.

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## Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as: "anticipate," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "strategy," "should," "will" and similar references to future periods. Examples of forward-looking statements include, among others, statements we make concerning the Company's business outlook, future economic performance, anticipated profitability, revenues, expenses, or other financial items, anticipated cost synergies and product or service line growth.

Forward-looking statements are neither historical facts nor assurances of future performance. Instead, they are estimates that reflect the best judgment of SQM management based on currently available information. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they involve a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that are outside of our control and could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in such statements. Therefore, you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements. Readers are referred to the documents filed by SQM with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the most recent annual report on Form 20-F, which identifies important risk factors that could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based on information available to SQM on the date hereof and SQM assumes no obligation to update such statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.