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APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ANTOFAGASTA MINERALS S.A.

LONDON: 1 December 2004 - Further to its announcement on 5 November 2004 relating to the appointment of Mr. Jean-Paul Luksic as Chairman, Antofagasta plc today announces the appointment of Mr. Marcelo Awad, previously Senior Commercial Vice-President of Antofagasta Minerals S.A. (AMSA), the Group's mining division, as Chief Executive Officer of AMSA. This position was previously held by Jean-Paul Luksic.

Note to editors:

Antofagasta plc is a Chilean Mining Group listed on the London Stock Exchange and a constituent of the FTSE100. AMSA is the main mining subsidiary of Antofagasta plc.

The Group expects copper production to exceed 490,000 tonnes in 2004.

Mr. Awad was a Director of the London Metal Exchange until 1993 and Managing Director of Codelco, London, between 1990 and 1994. He then returned to Chile as Executive Vice-President of Copper Trading and Futures for the Codelco Group of companies before joining AMSA in 1996.

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