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APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

London: 3 May 2005:- Antofagasta plc announces the appointment today of two additional Non-Executive Directors, Mr Juan Claro and Mr Jozsef Ambrus. Both are Chilean citizens.

Mr Claro, 54 years old, a Civil Engineer, is a graduate of the Universidad Catolica de Chile. He has held many important Board positions in major Chilean companies (particularly in the oil and gas industries – Gasco, Metrogas, Gasandes and Gasnor) and is currently a member of the Board of Telefónica-CTC (the main Chilean telephone company owned by Telefónica España).

Mr Ambrus, 61 years old, is a graduate of the University of Chile and obtained a PhD in Geological Sciences at the University of Salamanca in Spain. He is a widely experienced geologist with a renowned international reputation and has worked from 1970 to 1980 for Codelco, ultimately as Chief Geologist. He has been a director and consultant of many companies around the world.

Mr Ambrus has been a non-executive Director of Antofagasta Minerals S.A. since 1997 and was recently appointed a member of the Michilla Board. Mr Claro was appointed a non-executive Director of Antofagasta Minerals S.A. this year. Both Antofagasta Minerals S.A. and Minera Michilla S.A. are part of the Antofagasta Group.

The Company said today that they are pleased that Jozsef Ambrus and Juan Claro have agreed to join the Board of Antofagasta plc. They bring a wide range of very practical experience of both Chilean and international business to the Company.

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