

## **FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE MINING MINISTRIES OF THE AMERICAS**

By order of the last Reunion of Mining Ministries of Latin America, that has taken place in 1995, at the city of Caracas, Venezuela and previously at Cochabamba, Bolivia, the Ministers, Vice Ministers, Secretaries, Subsecretaries and Chiefs of Delegations, gathered in Santiago de Chile, the fifteenth day of the month of May of 1996, in the I Conference of Mining Ministers of the Americas, organized by the Mining Ministry of Chile in the headquarters of the Economical Committee for Latinamerica and Carib (CEPAL) we formulate the following declaration:

### **SANTIAGO DECLARATION**

#### **WHEREAS:**

That mining contributes decisively to the growth through the generation of foreign currency, fiscal collecting, creation of new jobs and that it favors the development of economic decentralization and a better articulation with the development of other industrial sectors, the herein signers manifest the following:

1. Our satisfaction for the significative development that has had the exploration and exploitation of our mining resources, in the frame of the application of reforms that favor the growth of investment which manifests by the fact that 58% of the world total that will be invested in what remains of the century will have as destination the American continent which is equal to 18.000 million of dollars.
2. Our disposition to reinforce the policies and actions directed to intensify the exploration and exploitation of mineral deposits, and the intracontinental cooperation to modernize the institutions related to the development of mining.

In such sense we consider necessary to increase the relations between organism in charge of the management of mining concessions and to intensify the interchange of experiences between the geological services and other governmental agencies in charge of mining,

3. Our interest in stimulating the relations between the enterprises and national and international institutions with the object of facilitating the capacitacion, the professional and academic improvement, the scientific-technological research, the transference of technologies and the protection of the environment in the mining ambit.
4. The preoccupation for the problems that face the mining production at small scale, since the operation of this tasks involve social and environmental aspects.

For such reason the Mining Ministries of the American continent agree to:

1. Institutionalize the Annual Conference of Mining Ministries of the Americas, for such they will gather once a year with the participation of Ministers, State Secretaries, Vice Minister, Subsecretaries or Delegates ordered by the same.
2. Realize the next Conference of Mining Ministries of the Americas in the city of Arequipa, Peru in the month of September of 1997. The Mining Ministry of Peru will accomplish the Executive Secretary and will consult a previous agenda with the other Ministries, nevertheless are of the interest of the signers the following matters: protection of the environment, mining concession regimes, situation of the preparation of the human resource and scientific-technological development in mining.
3. Entrust to geological services the publication of a geological chart of the mineral resources of America, whose coordination and elaboration of the final document of these services will be decided in the Iberoamerican Reunion of the same, which will take place at Santiago de 16<sup>th</sup> of May of 1996.
4. We ask the CEPAL the elaboration of an Annual Report of Mining in America and we urge them to work together with this instance of Ministries recently created, the Latinamerican Organism of Mining (OLAMI)
5. We greet with approval the initiatives adopted by the gremial entrepreneurial organizations and the parliaments of the respective nations, supporting initiatives of this nature.
6. We will reinforce our intercontinental cooperation and we call the attention of the official agencies and multilateral financing organisms to contribute to improve the conditions in which the small mining exist.

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Mining Secretary of the Republic of Argentina

**JOSE ANTONIO FLORES**  
National Mining Subsecretary of Bolivia

**RAIMUNDO BRITO**  
Mining and Energy Minister of Brasil

**RON SULLY**  
Assistant Vice Minister of Natural Resources of Canada

**LUIS ARMANDO GALVIS VALLES**  
Mining Vice Minister of Colombia

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**LUIS BERNAL MONTES DE OCA**  
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**ANTONIO DE LOS REYES BERMUDEZ**  
Vice Minister of Basic Industry of Cuba

**BENJAMIN TELIZKY**  
Mining Ministry of Chile

**SANTIAGO CORDOVEZ NOBOA**  
Mining Subsecretary of Ecuador

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Mining General Director of Guatemala

**JOSE RIVERA BANUET**  
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**EVANAN ROMERO**  
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