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**Appointment of Mr Andrónico Luksic
as Honorary President of Antofagasta plc**

LONDON - 05 November 2004: Antofagasta plc announces that Mr Andrónico Luksic is stepping down as Chairman of Antofagasta and will be leaving the Board today, on reaching his 78th birthday. The Board has invited Mr. Luksic to become Honorary President of Antofagasta in recognition of his enormous contribution in creating Antofagasta as a major mining company and a constituent of the FTSE-100 Index. Mr Jean-Paul Luksic, currently Deputy Chairman of Antofagasta, has been elected Chairman with immediate effect.

Ends

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