



## Board Proposes Payment of Special and Final Dividends

**Santiago, Chile, March 22, 2016** – Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. (SQM) (NYSE: SQM; Santiago Stock Exchange: SQM-A, SQM-B), announces that its Board of Directors held an ordinary board meeting today, and unanimously agreed to do the following:

1. Partially modify the current “Dividend Policy for the 2015 business year” that was informed at the Company’s Annual General Shareholder meeting that took place on April 24, 2015, with the essential purpose of incorporating in said “Policy” a special (“*dividendo eventual*”) dividend payment of US\$150 million – equivalent to approximately US\$0.56992 per share. This dividend will be charged to SQM’s retained earnings. This dividend payment will be presented for consideration at the next Annual General Shareholders’ Meeting, which will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup> of this year. If such special dividend is approved by shareholders, it will be paid at the same time as the final dividend described below in point 2.
2. Recommend, subject to the approval of SQM’s shareholders at the next Annual General Shareholders’ Meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> of this year, that the Company distribute and pay a final dividend, as described in the “Dividend Policy for the 2015 Business Year”, totaling 50% of the 2015 net income of the Company. Therefore, and subject to the approval of SQM’s shareholders at the next Annual Meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> of this year, the Company shall pay a final dividend of US\$0.40496 per share as a consequence of the distributable net income obtained during the 2015 business year. Nevertheless, the amount of US\$0.31915 must be deducted from said final dividend, which was already paid as a provisional dividend, and the balance, in the amount of US\$0.08581 per share, shall be paid and distributed to SQM’s Shareholders who are registered in the respective Registry by the fifth business day before the day on which the same shall be paid.

Said amounts of US\$0.56992 per share related to the special dividend and US\$0.08581 per share related to the final dividend, described above, shall be paid in the equivalent in Chilean national currency according to the value of the “Observed Dollar” or “US Dollar” that appears published in the Official Gazette on April 26, 2016. This shall be paid to the corresponding shareholders, in person or through their duly authorized representatives, as of 9:00am on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> of this year.

We inform you of the above as an essential fact and pursuant to that established for this purpose in Articles 9 and 10, second paragraph of Law N° 18,045. Additionally, also in accordance with the provisions in SQM’s “Dividend Policy for the Business Year 2015” and Bulletins N° 660, N° 687 and N° 1062 and in the General Rule N° 30 of Superintendency of Securities and Insurance (SVS).

### **SQM**

Los Militares 4290 Piso 6,  
Las Condes, Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56 2) 2425 2485  
Fax: (56 2) 2425 2493  
[www.sqm.com](http://www.sqm.com)



## 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.

For further information, contact:

Gerardo Illanes 56-2-24252022 / [gerardo.illanes@sqm.com](mailto:gerardo.illanes@sqm.com)

Kelly O'Brien 56-2-24252074 / [kelly.obrien@sqm.com](mailto:kelly.obrien@sqm.com)

Carolyn McKenzie 56-2-24252280 / [carolyn.mckenzie@sqm.com](mailto:carolyn.mckenzie@sqm.com)

For media inquiries, contact:

Carolina García Huidobro / [carolina.g.huidobro@sqm.com](mailto:carolina.g.huidobro@sqm.com)

Alvaro Cifuentes / [Alvaro.cifuentes@sqm.com](mailto:Alvaro.cifuentes@sqm.com)

Tamara Rebolledo / [Tamara.rebolledo@sqm.com](mailto:Tamara.rebolledo@sqm.com) (Northern Region)

## 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.