

Press Release

28/01/99

Union Minière : share buy-back

In the light of recent developments in the price of its shares, Union Minière has decided to implement its share buy-back policy. This measure is in line with the decisions adopted during the Extraordinary Meeting of Shareholders which took place on 13 October 1998 and is in the interests of all its shareholders.

UM believes that the current share price does not reflect the company's prospects for improved performance. The implementation of the Group's 1996-98 Industrial Plan is in its final stage and corrective measures are continuing to be put in place in accordance with the planned timetable, contributing gradually to bring about the desired results.

n.v. Union Minière s.a

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