

Press release

9 August 2001

Union Minière name change scheduled for 3 September

As already anticipated at the time when the invitation was sent out to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting of 10 August 2001, the quorum will not be met at this meeting for the purpose of taking a decision on changing the company's name.

On the basis of the number of bearer securities lodged and the notifications of attendance received for this Extraordinary General Meeting of 10 August 2001, it was noted that the quorum required by Article 558 of the Company Code will not be met.

As a result the failure to comply with the required quorum conditions will be stated at the start of the meeting which consequently will not be qualified to deal with the items on the agenda, including the change of the company's name.

A new meeting will therefore be convened for 3 September 2001 at 9 am. This meeting will be duly empowered to take decisions irrespective of the number of shares represented by shareholders attending the meeting or proxies.

This situation is not unusual in view of the fact that no quorum has been met for any Extraordinary General Meeting held in the course of the past few years.

For more information:

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PROFILE

Union Minière (UM) is an international metals and materials group, which strives to obtain leadership positions in selected markets. Its activities are centred on 3 main business groups: Copper & Precious Metals, Zinc and Advanced Materials. To ensure a rapid response to market openings, each business group is divided into several business units.

The UM Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base through an international sales network with offices in more than 25 countries.

The underlying principles of UM's strategy across the various business groups are a commitment to technological innovation, operational excellence, recycling and environmental responsibility.

The Group generated a turnover of EUR 3.8 billion in 2000. UM currently employs some 8,000 people.
