



## Official Statement

### EXPOMIN and authorities announce the postponement of the mining event

**March 12, 2020**

**Santiago**

We wish to inform that this morning, it has been decided to postpone the XVI International Exhibition and Congress EXPOMIN, initially programmed for April 20-24 in Santiago of Chile. This decision was taken due to the rapid global expansion of COVID-19, the declaration of the World Health Organization (WHO) that classified it as pandemic, and in line with the recommendations given out by both local and international health authorities.

The event will be held a few months from now, tentatively during the last trimester of this year. We hope to confirm this very soon.

The Chilean Minister of Mining, Baldo Prokurica, speaking of the postponement of EXPOMIN, called it " the outcome of the reality the world is living through with the corona virus."

The secretary of State expressed support for the decision "... to put off this important event, as a way to safeguard the health of Chileans, of people participating in the show, and of our principal capital in the mining sector, the people." He added that "... for this reason we prefer to avoid the possibility of contagion during this massive event. "

"EXPOMIN 2020 will bring together international mining players from the Unites States, China, Germany, Canada, Spain, Australia, Korea, and Japan, among others. We must consider the impact that coronavirus has had in other countries of the world, which has meant postponing sports and musical events, and the closing of borders in some cases. This will mean looking for a new calendar that will permit the participation of international delegations during the year 2020," the secretary of State emphasized.

The manager of EXPOMIN, Franciso Sotomayor said, "... as an organization we want to ratify our commitment to the mining sector, one of the most relevant in our country. We therefore make a call to unite our efforts to make a new edition of this exhibition that we know is a showcase for Latin America that also contributes to the economic development and employment in our country."

Sotomayor maintained that, "...if it is true that today as a sector we confront a difficult moment, we have readjusted the agenda so that, as an industry, we do not loose this important space for the promotion and development of business."



He explained that, as organizers, "...we are looking for the best date to host the event with the full support of the government, our strategic partners from the sector, exhibitors and sponsors.

The President of the Expomin Congress, Francisco Costabal, said "...the health of people is primordial for mining companies and to be consequent with all the ways we act in all our operations, we must also projects this to the community. Therefore, we sincerely support the decision to avoid contagion and to maintain this virus as far away as possible. The postponement of EXPOMIN is not what we want, but - given the present situation - it is the correct thing to do with the people in the sector."