



**Santiago, Chile, March 05, 2013** – We hereby inform you that the Directors of Sociedad Quimica y Minera de Chile S.A. (SQM), in its ordinary Board of Directors meeting held on March 5, 2013, unanimously agreed to recommend to the next Annual General Shareholders Meeting to pay by a definitive dividend of 50% of the distributable net income obtained by SQM during the fiscal year 2012.

This recommendation implies maintaining the current "Dividends Policy for Fiscal Year 2012 of SQM" that was approved at the General Annual Shareholders Meeting that took place on April 26, 2012.

Therefore, and subject to the approval of SQM's shareholders at the next Annual General Shareholders Meeting to be held on April 25th of this year, SQM will pay a definitive dividend of US\$ 1.23323 per share as a consequence of the distributable net income obtained during the 2012 fiscal year. Nevertheless, the amount of US\$ 0.94986 shall be deducted from the definitive dividend, which was already paid as a provisional dividend, and the balance, in the amount of US\$ 0.28337 per share, shall be paid and distributed to the SQM shareholders who are registered in the respective Registry during the fifth business day prior to the day such payment will be paid.

Said amount will be paid in its equivalent in local currency, Chilean Pesos, based on the "Observed Dollar" or "USA Dollar" published in the "Diario Oficial" on April 25, 2013. This, in favor of the corresponding Shareholders personally or through duly authorized representatives, beginning at 9:00 am on Wednesday, May 8th, of this year.

We notify the above as an "Essential Fact" and pursuant to that provided for this purpose in Articles 9 and 10, second paragraph of the Law N°18,045, and in conformance with that indicated in SQM's "Dividends Policy for Fiscal Year 2012 of SQM" and in Bulletins N°660 and N°1062 in the General Regulation N°30 of this Superintendence.

#### 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 115 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 115 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)

For media inquiries, contact: Rosalia Vera / [rvera@imaginacion.cl](mailto:rvera@imaginacion.cl)

#### **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)



### 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.