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**APPOINTMENT OF MR. TIMOTHY BAKER AS A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RESIGNATION OF MR. DANIEL YARUR AS A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

London, 1 March 2011:- Antofagasta plc ("Antofagasta") announces that Mr. Tim Baker has today been appointed an Independent Non-Executive Director and that Mr. Daniel Yarur has resigned as a Non-Executive Director.

Mr. Baker was previously Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer at Kinross Gold Corporation, and is a member of the board of Augusta Resource Corporation. He has a B.Sc in Geology from Edinburgh University. Prior to joining Kinross Gold Corporation in 2006, Mr. Baker was Executive General Manager of Placer Dome Chile. He has previously managed mining operations in Chile, Tanzania and Venezuela and held geological and production roles in Kenya and Liberia.

Mr. Baker is aged 58 and is a citizen of Canada and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Jean-Paul Luksic, Chairman of Antofagasta, stated, "On behalf of the Board, we are delighted that Tim has accepted our invitation to join the Board as a Non-Executive Director. Tim has an extensive knowledge of the mining industry both in Latin America and across the globe. This, we feel, will greatly benefit Antofagasta as it continues to enhance its overall growth profile".

"We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Daniel Yarur for his valuable contribution to Antofagasta over the years and wish him every success for the future".

Mr William Hayes will replace Mr. Yarur as a member of the Audit Committee.

Save as disclosed above, there are no disclosures under Listing Rule 9.6.13(1) to (6) in respect of Mr. Baker.

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