

15 October 2014

Australian Securities Exchange Limited

#### **DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION**

The Board of Aditya Birla Minerals Limited (ABML) is pleased to advise of the appointment of Mr Jagdish Chandra Laddha and Mr Neela Madhab Patnaik as Non-Executive Directors of the Company.

#### Mr Sunil Kulwal

As previously advised on 30 April 2014, the term of Mr Sunil Kulwals contract with the Company was extended to 31 December 2014. The Remuneration and Nomination Committee and Board of the Company has nominated Mr Neela Madhab Patnaik to ultimately replace Mr Kulwal, following his initial appointment as a Non-executive Director as outlined below.

Mr Kulwal will continue in his role as CEO/Managing Director until the expiration of his contract on 31 December 2014.

The Board of ABML would like to thank Mr Kulwal for his efforts in managing the Company throughout his tenure since being appointed in April 2008, and his significant input into all matters pertaining to the Company's affairs.

## Appointment of Mr Neela Madhab Patnaik

Mr Patnaik has been appointed as a Non-executive Director of the Compnay and has also been nominated to be appointed as the new CEO, subject to obtaining the necessary work visas, and will move into the executive directorship upon granting of the necessary visas. Mr Patnaik's nomination is to replace Mr Kulwal as outlined above.

Mr Patnaik 's candidature was presented to the Remuneration and Nomination Committee, which recommended his induction as a Director and ultimate designation as CEO.

Mr Patnaik has held various roles within the Aditya Birla Group ranging from Finance and Commercial Head of the Copper Smelting operations, Head of Copper Concentrate procurement cell and subsequently Head of the Central Procurement Cell for the Hindalco Group (total purchases ~ \$4 billion/annum). Mr Patnaik has demonstrated a consistent proactive performance during his tenure at Hindalco. He demonstrates a strong 'can do' attitude, bias for action and excellent networking skills with a proven track record of delivering stretched targets against significant odds. Mr Patnaik has developed relationships in a multi-cultural/multi geographic context which he has leveraged very effectively with Global Copper Miners and Traders in his Concentrate procurement role.

The Board believes the above qualities of Mr Patnaik should stand him in good stead in his future role at ABML.



#### **Resignation of Mr Dilip Gaur**

The Board advises that Mr Dilip Gaur has resigned as a Director of the Company. Concurrent with this, Mr Jagdish Chandra Laddha has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director as outlined below.

Mr Gaur previously held the position of Head of Copper Business at Hindalco Industries Limited and has recently taken on a new role within the Aditya Birla Group. The Board would like to thank Mr Gaur for his significant contribution he made to the Company and wishes him well in his future endeavours.

### Appointment of Mr Jagdish Chandra Laddha

Mr Laddha has a chartered accountant qualification and over three decades of experience of which almost two and a half have been with the Aditya Birla Group, a USD 40 billion global company with 35 manufacturing locations across the globe.

Mr Laddha joined the Aditya Birla Group in 1991 as the Head of Finance and Commercial for Mangalore Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) based at Mumbai/Mangalore and moved back to the Aditya Birla Group in 2003. Prior to this he held various roles at Hindustan Lever Ltd, Indian Rayon Corp Ltd, and National Rayon Corporation Ltd.

As a CFO of MRPL, Mr Laddha led the successful financial restructuring of MRPL which was the largest financial restructuring in corporate India at that time. As the head of the Management Services Division (MSD) he steered a new direction to the function which resulted in the realisation of the synergies across the Group's businesses. He also effectively facilitated the Group wide Collaborate and Scale Higher (CASH) initiative leading to substantial cost savings. Mr Laddha has served as internal consultant across the Aditya Birla Group group in commercial areas.

Mr Laddha's experience extends across various industry sectors of Viscose Filament Yarn (VFY), Nylon tyre cord, Heavy Chemicals, Aluminium, Oil & Gas to Fertilizers and Insulators.

As a CEO of the Insulators and Fertilizers business of Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd, Mr Laddha was responsible for providing direction and leadership to these businesses. He has successfully held this position from June 2010 until the present time.

Mr Laddha has recently been appointed to Hindalco Industries Limited as Head of its Copper Business as a Group Executive President, to replace Mr Dilip Gaur. Mr Laddha brings a wealth of experience to the Company and will add significantly to the existing skill set of the Board.

For further information please contact:

# Aditya Birla Minerals Limited

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