

May 12, 2015

Press Release

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.

### **Increase in Number of Outside Directors**

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. today announced its decision to increase the number of outside directors to two for the purposes of further strengthening the Company's corporate governance, and as its new outside director selected the candidate described below at a meeting of its Board of Directors.

#### I. New outside director candidate

Hitoshi Taimatsu

#### II. Reasons for candidacy as outside director

The Company has decided to increase its independent outside directors from one to two in order to further strengthen its corporate governance with the aims of further enhancing transparent and sound management practices and increasing the corporate value of the Company.

Mr. Hitoshi Taimatsu has specialized knowledge as a researcher in the field of materials science and engineering, which is an essential discipline for the metals industry. He has been presented as a candidate for outside director because he is expected to perform his role as outside director utilizing his extensive knowledge.

#### III. Biography of new outside director candidate

1. Name: Hitoshi Taimatsu

2. Date of birth: November 20, 1951

3. Professional experience:

April 1979

Research Associate, Mining College of Akita University

October 1988

Lecturer, Mining College of Akita University

April 1990

Associate Professor, Mining College of Akita University

April 1994

Professor, Mining College of Akita University

April 1998

Professor, Faculty of Engineering and Resource Science of Akita University

April 2006

Director of the Radioisotope Research Center of Akita University

April 2008

Member of the Education and Research Council of Akita University

April 2010

Professor, Graduate School of Engineering and Resource Science of Akita University

Vice Dean, Graduate School of Engineering and Resource Science of Akita University

As of May 12, 2015

Professor, Graduate School of Engineering and Resource Science of Akita University

If the Election of Eight (8) Directors proposal is approved at the 90<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 29, 2015, the number of outside directors of the Company will increase to two: Messrs. Tsutomu Ushijima (reelected) and Hitoshi Taimatsu (newly elected).

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