

SANTIAGO SAFETY SUMMIT AND TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM (OPENING REMARKS BY CHARLOTTE HEBEBRAND)

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, bienvenidos en Santiago de Chile!

I would like to speak a bit on the two very important topics that we are addressing here today in this first combined edition of the IFA Global Safety Summit and Technical Symposium.

IFA's first Safety Summit was held in 2009 at the initiative of our current President, Bill Doyle, whose company, Potash Corp, has been an industry leader in this area for many years, and who is also personally engaged in making safety in production a top priority for our industry. His passion for safety is shared by IFA's leadership, as demonstrated by the participation of members of our Executive Management Committee and the sizeable delegations from their companies and I would like to thank them for their dedication to ensuring employee safety: Eugenio Ponce from SQM, Esin Mete from Toros and Abdulrahman Jawahery from GPIC. At IFA, we are convinced that safety must reach from the executive board room level to the production sites. In fact, some companies are looking out for their employees even beyond the production site as evidenced by

the important step taken by some companies, such as Potash Corp and GPIC to institute a ban on using mobile telephones while driving.

In addition to learning about the industry's initiatives to promote a Safety First mentality in operations, our meeting will focus on a number of important technical issues. As IFA's new DG, I want to ensure you that I am not someone whose eyes glaze over when the discussion turns to technical matters (although I may ask you to slow down when the discussion gets really technical...), and that I view these matters very much as a backbone of IFA. Without your expertise on how to promote energy efficiency and product stewardship (which I am pleased to see being expanded to include product security) or in other areas, such as the harmonization of sampling and testing standards, this industry simply cannot be successful.

We have a very rich agenda and I would like to invite your feedback on this convening. Concretely, I would like to personally hear from you about any key learnings that you may have gained which will allow you to make a difference in your operations back home. Please also let me know if there are any issues that you would have liked us to address that we did not.

Before handing the podium over to Mr. Bill Doyle, IFA's President and Eugenio Ponce, IFA's Sr VP, I would like to take this opportunity to thank SQM, and Eugenio in particular, for their warm welcome to sunny Santiago by providing an exceptional level of leadership and support in preparation for the Summit. Like many of you, I am also excited to visit the Atacama and to see first hand SQM's commitment to safety excellence, and to visit a region that holds such a wealth of "fossil nitrogen" resources, and which - after the depletion of guano reserves – served as the major source of fertilizers for the world until a discovery that took place exactly one hundred years ago this year- the Haber Bosch process.

Eugenio will in turn introduce our keynote speaker, Francisco Orrego Bauza, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Mines in Chile. Many thanks also to you for your kind participation, Senor Bauza.

Last, but certainly not least, we will have our 2013 Green Leaf Awards Ceremony to round out this opening session.

So without further ado, I would like to leave the podium to Bill ...