

Memorandum

24th Meeting of the Heads of European State Mining Authorities

Salzburg, Austria, 23rd to 25th September 2018

We, the representatives of European State Mining Authorities, signed hereunder, have been pleased to accept the invitation of Austria to attend the 24th Meeting of the Heads of European State Mining Authorities in Salzburg, which focused on the topic "Emergency planning and crisis response in surface and underground mining operations".

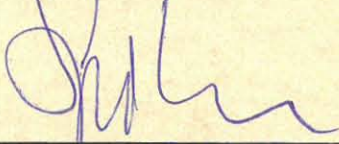
We unanimously proclaim that:

1. The 24th meeting has contributed to the exchange of knowledge, information and experience in both emergency planning and crisis response in surface and underground mining operations.
2. Mining, extraction and processing techniques have been greatly improved and risks to workers, communities and the environment have been minimised over the years. In complex mining systems, human-technical-natural risks have to be reduced to the lowest possible level.
3. It is essential to provide the legal basis for emergency planning and crisis response at national level in accordance with international regulations. Minimum legal requirements should guarantee that the health and safety of persons, the environment and property are protected.
4. A competent mine management and workforce will help to prevent accidents. Hazard identification, evaluation, monitoring and subsequent mitigation measures are recognised as major accident prevention tools.
5. Suitable and efficient emergency planning is obligatory for all mining operations.
6. Emergency planning is a set of measures to detect, respond to and cope with natural and technical accidents and disasters with the aim of protecting health and safety of persons, property and the environment. Emergency planning contributes to the efficient and effective management of emergency and crisis situations.
7. An emergency plan describes the guidelines for the internal mine rescue operations including a set of organisational and technical measures and documented procedures required to cope with accidents, dangerous occurrences and reasonably predictable natural and/or industrial disasters or to ease their consequences.
8. Recurrent instructions and training, rendering of insistence of emergency situations as well as national and international solidarity in mine rescue operations are fundamental to guarantee the safety of persons at and within the vicinity of mining operations.
9. The meeting, given the reduction in active mining operations, encourages the continued exchange of information and in addition the regional and cross-border cooperation of mine rescue capabilities.

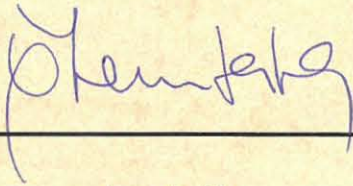
We are pleased to accept the invitation from **Germany** to host the 25th Meeting of the Heads of European State Mining Authorities in September 2019 in Brandenburg on the topic "**Community and environmental protection in active and abandoned mines and quarries**".

SIGNATURES

Thomas Spörker
Republic of Austria



Martin Štemberka
Czech Republic



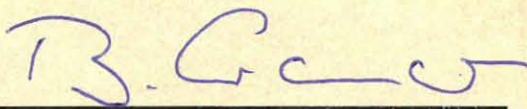
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Ossi Leinonen
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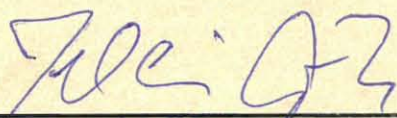
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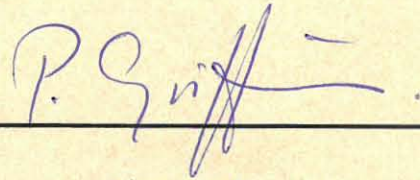
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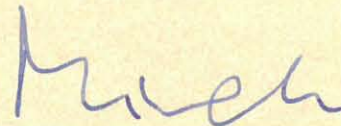
Gábor Zelei
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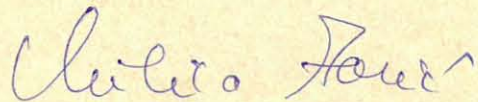
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