

Position statement

Climate Change

In accordance with the ICMM Principles and our commitment to sustainable development, ICMM members have agreed to the following position on climate change.

- 1) ICMM members recognize the significance of climate change as a global issue, requiring a global response. Mining and metals companies are important consumers of energy, employing some highly energy intensive processes. Several ICMM members are also major producers of energy products, for example coal and uranium.
- 2) Significant progress has already been made in improving energy efficiency at our operations. In addition to improving performance directly, the use of our industry's products can play a role in lowering greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, for example through:
 - Materials used for improving energy efficiency in downstream products and processes;
 - Materials used in renewable energy technologies; and
 - Materials that utilize the intrinsic durability and recyclability of metals to reduce lifecycle GHG emissions.
- 3) Scientific evidence shows that, to protect the global climate system, sustained reductions in GHG emissions are necessary. However, the growing global demand for energy (predicted by the International Energy Agency to increase by more than 50% by 2030) means that there will be a continuing reliance on fossil fuel sources for many years to come.
- 4) Supplies of clean, reliable and affordable energy are fundamentally important for sustainable development; particularly for economic development and improving social welfare in developing countries.
- 5) There is a pressing need to address the dual issues of climate change and energy needs. A focus on long-term energy solutions is essential, though this should not detract from the necessity for short-term action, which involves improving energy efficiency and reducing GHG emissions through the adoption of good practices, continuous technological improvements, and efficient market-based mechanisms that focus on emissions reduction with the least cost and greatest long-term potential.

- 6) Given the global nature of climate change, an effective response must involve all stakeholders. ICMM corporate members will:
- Continue to meet or exceed government requirements, contributing positively wherever they operate.
 - Monitor and report GHG emissions consistent with international standards, in line with their commitment to report in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative framework.
 - Reduce GHG emissions as measured in absolute terms or per unit of production or through improved energy efficiency. This can be achieved by, for example:
 - Sharing and promoting good practices;
 - Committing to well designed emissions trading mechanisms where appropriate;
 - Carrying out or promoting research, development, demonstration and technology transfer to reduce GHG emissions at operations and from the use of mining and metals products;
 - Continuing to promote and improve the recycling of products within the context of lifecycle GHG emissions reduction;
 - Working with industry bodies in energy generation and transmission, as well as customers to develop integrated ways of improving energy efficiency;
 - Working with governments and civil society organizations to address the challenge of climate change.