

PREFACE

At a time, when Zambia is entering a new phase in its mining history as described later, it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to this special Zambia issue of "Geologie en Mijnbouw" for mining is the mainstay of the economy of the Republic of Zambia and geology a mainstay of the mining industry.

The problem associated with the economic development of the countries of the third world, of which Zambia is one, have led many such nations to ask for and receive a far greater say in the exploitation of their national resources, a move which is being seen increasingly by the developed countries as only right and just. In Zambia this policy has been implemented within the framework of the concept of state participation, that is to say the permanent partnership between the state and foreign investment.

Mindeco, was formed two years ago as the embodiment of this concept in the mining sector. It is the corporation's function both to act as holding company for the group formed following Zambia's decision to take a 51 percent share in the two mining companies operating on the Copperbelt up to life end of 1969, and also to act as the catalyst for new mining investment on a partnership basis.

In the context of this issue of "Geologie en Mijnbouw", I would like to say that Mindeco is particularly proud of the research and development departments, which now form part of the operating companies within the Mindeco group and that we are determined that the high level of work for which they are justly renowned shall be maintained, and if possible, improved upon. We value the expertise which serves our mining industry so well and we value equally the persons of many nationalities, who by living and working in Zambia make that expertise available, not only directly to the mining industry but also indirectly to the nation of which Mindeco is the instrument.

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