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## Vale S.A.

(incorporated in Brazil as a Sociedade por Ações) (Stock code: 6210 for Common Depositary Receipts) (Stock code: 6230 for Class A Preferred Depositary Receipts)

## Vale clarifies Public Civil Action

The following sets out the main text of the announcement published by Vale S.A. on May 4, 2016.

Chief Financial and Investor Relations Officer of **Vale S.A.** Luciano Siani Pires

Hong Kong, May 4, 2016



## Vale clarifies Public Civil Action

Rio de Janeiro, May 04, 2016 - Vale S.A. ("Vale") discloses that, pursuant to CVM Instruction No. 358/2002, as amended, it has learned that a Public Civil Action (Ação Civil Pública) has been filed by the Federal Public Prosecutor (Ministério Público Federal, or "MPF") relating to the accident at the tailings dam of Samarco Mineração S.A. ("Samarco"), before the 12<sup>th</sup> Federal Court at Belo Horizonte, against Samarco, BHP Billiton Brasil Ltda. ("BHP"), Vale, the Brazilian Government, the states of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo, the National Water Agency (Agência Nacional das Águas - ANA), the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Instituto Brasileiro de Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis - IBAMA), the National Department of Mineral Production (Departamento Nacional de Produção Mineral - DNPM), the Chico Mendes Biodiversity Institute (Instituto Chico Mendes de Biodiversidade – ICMBio), the National Foundation for Indigenous People (Fundação Nacional do Índio – FUNAI), the National Sanitation Agency (Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária – ANVISA), the Institute for the National Historical and Artistic Patrimony (Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional - IPHAN), the Brazilian national development bank Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES, the State Forestry Institute (Instituto Estadual de Florestas – IEF), the Minas Gerais Water Management Institute (Instituto Mineiro de Gestão de Águas – IGAM), the State Environmental Foundation (Fundação Estadual de Meio Ambiente – FEAM), the Minas Gerais State Institute for Historical and Artistic Patrimony (Instituto Estadual do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico de Minas Gerais - IEPHA), the States Environmental and Water Resources Institute (Instituto Estadual de Meio Ambiente e Recursos Hídricos - IEMA), the Espírito Santo Agriculature and Forestry Institute (Instituto de Defesa Agropecuária e Florestal do Espírito Santo - IDAF) and the State Water Resources Agency (Agência Estadual de Recursos Hídricos - AGERH). The Public Civil Action requests a variety of relief and states a total value of 155,052,000,000 Brazilian reais.

Vale clarifies that, according to the MPF complaint, the stated value is not based on the Samarco dam accident, but rather on an unjustified comparison with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Vale will take all necessary steps to defend itself.

Finally, Vale also discloses that Samarco has taken all necessary emergency actions in connection with the accident, and that studies and social, economic and environmental remedial measures are already under way, pursuant to the agreement already entered into by Samarco, BHP and Vale with the federal authorities and the Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo state authorities.

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This press release may include statements that present Vale's expectations about future events or results. All statements, when based upon expectations about the future and not on historical facts, involve various risks and uncertainties. Vale cannot guarantee that such statements will prove correct. These risks and uncertainties include factors related to the following: (a) the countries where we operate, especially Brazil and Canada; (b) the global economy; (c) the capital markets; (d) the mining and metals prices and their dependence on global industrial production, which is cyclical by nature; and (e) global competition in the markets in which Vale operates. To obtain further information on factors that may lead to results different from those forecast by Vale, please consult the reports Vale files with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (CVM), the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF), and The Stock Exchange of Hong Limited, and in particular the factors discussed under "Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" in Vale's annual report on Form 20-F.