

Good morning ladies and gentlemen.

Primarily, I would like to thank the presence of you all, that kindly accepted the invitation.

It is a special opportunity to be here in Australia, at this pleasant city of Perth alongside with representatives from the mining industry. This is the first time that a Brazilian delegation, headed by the Secretary of Mining, come to participate of an important event like the Latin America Down Under, aiming to strengthen the ties of friendship and commerce between our countries.

You may know that Brazil has great geological potential, as we have about eighty mineral resources being explored, some of which representing strategical interests for both internal and global priorities, such as gold, copper, nyquil, bauxite, phosphate and lithium.

The Bolsonaro government, which has begun last January, pays a special attention on the mining sector, focusing on its development and reallocating it to the centre of the

Ministry of Mines and Energy policies, as repeatedly stressed by the Ministry Bento Albuquerque. Such a priority represents a commitment with a new way of conducting the public affairs, based on ethical standards, integrity and transparency. Governance values and practices that ensure credibility and trust to the investors.

In that manner, at the present semester, the Brazilian government will offer to the market a thousand areas for mineral exploration, which represents a tiny part of a total of twenty thousand areas.

Here, you can meet the Secretariat of Mining staff, as well as the president of the Brazilian Geological Survey and its crew. Feel free to contact them if you have any question.

Last but not least, thank, ambassador Sérgio Eduardo Moreira Lima, for the warm welcome and the initiative.

