

December 19, 2011

By email

Commerce Group Corp. and
San Sebastian Gold Mine, Inc.
c/o Mr. John E. Machulak and
Mr. Eugene Bykhovsky
Machulak, Robertson & Sodos, S.C.
1733 North Farwell Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Republic of El Salvador
c/o Mr. Derek Smith and
Mr. Luis Parada
Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP
1101 New York Avenue NW
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005-4213

Re: Commerce Group Corp. and San Sebastian Gold Mines, Inc. v. Republic of El Salvador (ICSID Case No. ARB/09/17) – Annulment Proceeding

Dear Sirs,

Please note that the requested payment is still outstanding. In accordance with ICSID Administrative and Financial Regulation 14(3)(d) and (e), the Secretary-General of ICSID has moved that the *ad hoc* Committee stay the proceeding in this case.

I write to inform you that the Committee has decided to stay the proceeding pursuant to the above-mentioned provision.

If the proceeding is stayed for non-payment for a consecutive period in excess of six months, the Secretary-General may, after notice to and as far as possible in consultation with the parties, move that the *ad hoc* Committee discontinue the proceeding.

Sincerely yours,



Marco Tulio Montañés-Rumayor
Secretary of the *ad hoc* Committee

cc: Members of the *ad hoc* Committee