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YOUR REFERENCE

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JASPR/vib
TRANSMISSION NUMEROUS DATE 1998

DIRECT DIAL

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27 April 1998

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México, Distrito Federal, 01030
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Gentlemen,

**ROBERT AZINIAN AND OTHERS V. UNITED MEXICAN STATES (ICSID CASE
NO. ARB(AF)/97/2)**

The Arbitral Tribunal is in receipt of the Respondent's Motion for Directions forwarded under cover of a letter dated 1st April 1998 as well as the Claimants' responsive letter dated 9 April 1998.

The Arbitral Tribunal proposes to await the production of information voluntarily proposed by the Claimants. Upon receipt thereof, the Respondent is invited forthwith to inform the Arbitral Tribunal whether it still considers it necessary to apply for any


ruling(s), and to request a reasonable adjustment of the time limit for its Counter-Memorial. The Arbitral Tribunal will then establish a new deadline.

By way of possible guidance, the Arbitral Tribunal wishes to record its views on two points:

- each party is in all senses of the word responsible for the presentation of its case; its opponent is not only entitled but indeed expected to call attention to any shortcomings in that presentation, but is not entitled to insist that it be reorganised;
- the Arbitral Tribunal discourages references to parallel arbitral proceedings, including the *Metalclad* case, which do not form part of the record before it.

Yours faithfully,


Jan Paulsson
President

pf 
Alejandro Escobar
Secretary