Mr Mackay said: "The group continues to make progress, in line with expectations at the time of our preliminary results announcement in May of this year, with first quarter organic lager volumes for the group growing by 7%.

"In South Africa, lager volumes were up 3%, benefiting from the inclusion of an Easter trading period in the first quarter, and our premium brand portfolio continues to show strong growth. Soft drink volumes grew by some 4%.

"In South America, the integration and investment programmes are proceeding as planned. Buoyant trading conditions were experienced across the region and excellent volume performances were recorded by all of our operations, leading to a 9% growth in lager volumes over the prior year on a pro forma basis. In Peru, the market continues to grow strongly in a competitive pricing environment. Both soft drink and beer volumes in Central America were up by 9%, reflecting effective sales and marketing activities.

"Our Europe business once again performed strongly and produced good results with organic lager volume growth of 6% reflecting the benefits of increased marketing investment and enhanced sales initiatives, particularly in Poland and Russia.

"In North America, Miller's US domestic sales to retailers (STRs) decreased by 2.4% compared to the prior year, and Miller Lite brand volumes were level. The trading environment remains highly competitive.

"The Africa & Asia business achieved excellent organic growth of some 19% in lager volumes, with China continuing to record strong growth across all regions. In Africa (excluding Zimbabwe), lager volumes grew by almost 4%, with good performances in Mozambique and Uganda offset somewhat by Botswana, where disposable incomes remain under pressure.

Ends

Notes to editors:

SABMiller plc is one of the world's largest brewers with brewing interests or distribution agreements in over 60 countries across five continents. The group's brands include premium international beers such as Miller Genuine Draft, Peroni Nastro Azzurro and Pilsner Urquell, as well as an exceptional range of market leading local brands. Outside the USA, SABMiller plc is also one of the largest bottlers of Coca-Cola products in the world.

In the year ended 31 March 2006, the group reported US$15,307 million in revenue and profit before tax of $2,453 million. SABMiller plc is listed on the London and Johannesburg stock exchanges.

This announcement is available on the company website: www.sabmiller.com

High resolution images are available for the media to view and download free of charge from: www.vismedia.co.uk

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