

## Copper Advances Most Since December on Chilean Supply Concerns

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By Luzi Ann Javier

March 25 (Bloomberg) -- Copper headed for the biggest gain in more than three months in New York on concern that supply in Chile, the world's largest producer, will be disrupted just as demand prospects improve.

Anglo American Plc is evaluating losses at its biggest copper mine in Chile after protests yesterday caused damage at the site amid a dispute with contract workers. China will accelerate public spending and loosen regulations on private investment to aid growth, Li Daokui, former adviser to the People's Bank of China, said in Bloomberg Television interview.

Metals are rebounding "as China displays increased determination to maintain growth rates and as Chilean copper production is plagued by labor unrest," Michael Turek, a senior director at Newedge USA LLC in New York, wrote in an e-mail.

"We should continue to see further, if gradual, signs of consolidation and resultant price recovery."

Copper futures for delivery in May climbed 2.3 percent to \$3.01.30 a pound at 11:29 a.m. on the Comex in New York. A close at that price will mark the biggest gain for a most active contract since Dec. 4.

On the London Metal Exchange, copper for delivery in three months advanced 2.2 percent to \$6,612.75 a metric ton (\$3 a pound). Prices have declined 10 percent this year as signs of slowing economic growth fueled concern demand would slow from China, the biggest user.

Los Bronces, the site of yesterday's protests, was the world's 10th largest copper mine by capacity in 2012, according to Bloomberg Industries, which cited data from the International Copper Study Group.

Aluminum, lead, nickel, tin and zinc also gained in London.

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