

BRAZILIAN PETROLEUM CORP  
Form 6-K  
May 17, 2004

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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### FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer  
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

**For the month of May, 2004**

**Commission File Number 1-15106**

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### PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. - PETROBRAS

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

### Brazilian Petroleum Corporation - PETROBRAS

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

**Avenida República do Chile, 65  
20035-900 - Rio de Janeiro, RJ  
Federative Republic of Brazil**  
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

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### New Downstream Director

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(Rio de Janeiro, May 14, 2004). PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S/A - PETROBRAS, [Bovespa: PETR3/PETR4, NYSE: PBR/PBRA, Latibex: XPBR/XPBRA], a Brazilian international energy company, announces that the Board of Directors has elected Paulo Roberto Costa to replace Rogério Manso da Costa Reis as Downstream Director.

Paulo Roberto Costa graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the Universidade Federal do Paraná in 1976 and specialized in Off-shore Engineering at Petrobras. He has been Managing Director of TBG-Transportadora Brasileira Gasoduto Bolívia Brasil since April 2003. From January 2001 to April 2003, he was General Manager for Logistics at Petrobras's Natural Gas Segment. He was Director of Petrobrás Gás S.A.-GASPETRO from May 1999 to December 2000.

In 1995 he was promoted to General Manager of E&P Sul (Southern Brazil Exploration and Production), with responsibility for the Santos and Pelotas basins. In 1996 he became general manager for Logistics in the E&P Area. From May 1987 to 1999 he headed up the Gas Segment, responsible for commercialization of natural gas.

From 1979 to 1994 he worked on platform installation and production development at the Campos basin in the areas of Engineering, Support Management and as Superintendent of the Southeastern Production Region.

<http://www.petrobras.com.br/ri/english>

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#### Contacts:

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This document may contain forecasts that merely reflect the expectations of the Company's management. Such terms as anticipate, believe, expect, forecast, intend, plan, project, seek, should, along with similar or analogous expressions, are used to identify such forecasts. These predictions evidently involve risks and uncertainties, whether foreseen or not by the Company. Therefore, the future results of operations may differ from current expectations, and readers must not base their expectations exclusively on the information presented herein.

## SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 17, 2004

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO  
S.A--PETROBRAS

By: */s/* José Sergio Gabrielli de  
Azevedo

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**José Sergio Gabrielli de  
Azevedo  
Chief Financial Officer  
and Investor Relations  
Director**

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release may contain forward-looking statements. These statements are statements that are not historical facts, and are based on management's current view and estimates of future economic circumstances, industry conditions, company performance and financial results. The words "anticipates", "believes", "estimates", "expects", "plans" and similar expressions, as they relate to the company, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Statements regarding the declaration or payment of dividends, the implementation of principal operating and financing strategies and capital expenditure plans, the direction of future operations and the factors or trends affecting financial condition, liquidity or results of operations are examples of forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect the current views of management and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. There is no guarantee that the expected events, trends or results will actually occur. The statements are based on many assumptions and factors, including general economic and market conditions, industry conditions, and operating factors. Any changes in such assumptions or factors could cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.

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