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ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Ctr. L), Minister Sergio Massa (Ctr. R) and Secretary Janet Yellen (R) and their teams.

MINISTER SERGIO MASSA ENDED A PRODUCTIVE VISIT TO WASHINGTON AFTER HOLDING MEETINGS WITH JANET YELLEN AND KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA

On Monday, September 12, Economy Minister Sergio Massa capped an intense week of work in the United States very positively with visits to the Treasury Department and the IMF, where he talked with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva.

At the Treasury on Monday morning, an extensive and

productive meeting was held with Yellen's team that deals with international issues, led by Andy Baukol, Under Secretary for International Affairs, David Lipton, Counselor to Secretary Yellen on International Affairs, and Michael Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Western Hemisphere. Janet Yellen was present during the first part of the meeting, seen as a good-will gesture towards



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the visit of the Minister of Economy, Sergio Massa, which culminated in meetings with the Secretary of the Treasury, Janet Yellen, and the Managing Director of the IMF, Kristalina Georgieva.

In this edition we also include an article on the Americas Food & Beverage Show, which was held at the Miami Beach Convention Center, with the participation of more than 500 exhibitors and 10 Argentine companies.

Finally, an article on the 2022 Global Conference of the Coalition for Equal Rights, co-chaired by Argentina and the United Kingdom since 2019, which was held in the City of Buenos Aires on September 8 and 9.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA
CONGRATULATED THE MINISTER
“FOR THE STRONG STEPS THAT
HE AND HIS ECONOMIC TEAM
HAVE TAKEN TO STABILIZE
THE MARKETS AND REVERSE A
SCENARIO OF HIGH VOLATILITY.”

Minister Massa, as she was not expected to participate in the meeting.

In the afternoon, Minister Massa, together with Central Bank President Miguel Pesce and the negotiating teams from the Ministry of Economy and the Central Bank, met with Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the IMF and members of the Argentina team of the Western Hemisphere Department, in what was also a fruitful closing after an intense week of work by the technical teams of Argentina and the IMF, in which important advances were made with a view to completing the second quarterly review of the current Extended Facilities Agreement.

In the press release after meeting with Minister Massa and his team, Kristalina Georgieva congratulated the Minister “for the strong steps that he and his economic team have taken to stabilize the markets and reverse a scenario of high volatility”. She also expressed her satisfaction for his “commitment and drive” to achieve the goals of the program.

Her statement states that the technical teams will meet virtually in the coming days with the aim of concluding the staff level agreement on the second review of the Extended Facilities Agreement.

After Monday's meetings, Minister Massa returned to

Argentina after carrying out an agenda focused on trade, investment and opportunities in the real economy, in particular in the energy sector, but which also included very intense activities related to the relationship with high-level authorities of the USG, at the White House, the Treasury Department, the State Department, as well as productive meetings with the highest authorities of the international financial institutions based in Washington. ■

AMBASSADOR JORGE ARGÜELLO VISITED THE ARGENTINE STAND AT THE AMERICAS FOOD & BEVERAGE SHOW

On Tuesday, September 13, Ambassador Jorge Argüello visited the Americas Food & Beverage Show which took place at the Miami Beach Convention Center, and held meetings with the Argentine companies that were part of the Argentine stand.

After two virtual editions, this year it returned to its traditional format, with a participation of approximately five thousand people and more than 500 exhibitors. Ambassador Argüello toured the Argentine stand accompanied by the Consul General in Miami, Minister Leandro Fernández Suárez, and officials from the Consulate General.

The Americas Food & Beverage Show is the largest

food trade fair in the Southeastern United States. This important event is mainly oriented towards the Latin American community in the United States and trade with Central and South America, and represents an excellent opportunity to contact the most important distribution channels in the continent.

Besides Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Wales, Scotland, the United States, as well as African countries participated in this edition.

The Argentine stand, organized by the Argentine Investment and International Trade Agency, had showcased 10 companies that displayed a wide range of food products, from “tapas de empanadas” (round, flat

Argentine stand at the Americas Food & Beverage Show.



THE ARGENTINE STAND SHOWCASED 10 COMPANIES THAT DISPLAYED A WIDE RANGE OF FOOD PRODUCTS, FROM “TAPAS DE EMPANADAS” (ROUND, FLAT DOUGH USED TO COVER FILLING) AND WINE, TO OLIVE OIL, TEA AND YERBA MATE.



(From L. to R.) Iván Barrios, CEO of World Trade Center Miami, Ambassador Jorge Argüello and Consul Leandro Fernández Suárez.

dough used to cover filling) and wine, to olive oil, tea and yerba mate.

Bodega Gaitieri Vautier, Agropremiun SRL, Aimurai S.A., Bria Alimentos, Cia. Argentina de Alimentos Saludables SRL/Delicel, CultivaTE/La Buena Vida S.A., Doña Noly S.R.L, INVERMEN S.A/Bodega Mi Terruño, LEHIA SRL/Deluxe & BlaBla Snacks and PISTACUY S.A. were part of this group. Likewise, the Argentine participation showed a federal character, as six provinces were represented: Mendoza, San Juan, Buenos Aires, Tucumán, Córdoba and La Rioja.

The fact that Argentina maintains its historical presence in this trade fair since its inception shows the strategic

importance of this market for Argentine exporting companies. In 2021, the state of Florida remained one of Argentina’s main trading partners in the United States. Argentina ranks 11th as Florida’s international trading partner, with \$4,268 million in total traded (including trade via the free zone), with a 21.2% year-on-year (2020-2021) increase. Likewise, it ranks fifth in exports and 33rd for state imports. ■



The 2022 Equal Rights Coalition Global Conference at Palacio San Martín in Buenos Aires.

ARGENTINA HOSTED THE 2022 EQUAL RIGHTS COALITION GLOBAL CONFERENCE

“Human rights are a cross-cutting issue in Argentina’s domestic and foreign policy, and as part of our country’s identity, this issue reflects our strong commitment to the promotion and protection of LGBTIQ+ people’s rights”, said the Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs, Santiago Cafiero, in his opening speech at the 2022 Equal Rights Coalition Global Conference, which took place on September 8 and 9 at Palacio San Martín in Buenos Aires.

This meeting of the Coalition -created in 2016 as a global collaboration mechanism to promote the human rights of LGBTIQ+ people around the world, co-chaired by Argentina and the United Kingdom since 2019- brought together its 42 Member States and more than 140 civil society organizations, to discuss and agree on joint actions regarding the urgent problems faced by the members

of this group. On the other hand, proposals arose to review achievements during the last three years of the Argentine-British co-presidency, define steps to continue consolidating the Coalition, and discuss issues of interest related to the rights of LGBTIQ+ people.

It is important to remember that one of the main achievements of the mandate of Argentina and the United Kingdom as co-chairs (also highlighted in a report prior to the Conference) was the agreement obtained within the Coalition in July 2021 of its Strategic Plan 2021-2026 to help guide and energize the group’s work while ensuring that the organization can live up to its enormous potential.

Among the Argentine authorities leading the meeting together with Minister Cafiero, the presence of the special

THIS COALITION MEETING
BROUGHT TOGETHER ITS 42
MEMBER STATES AND MORE
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ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR
COUNTRY'S CAPITAL.

representative on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Alba Rueda, stood out. She was recently interviewed by the Washington Blade, one of the main LGBTIQ+ newspapers in the United States. In her intervention, Rueda emphasized that her appointment by President Alberto Fernández in May of this year, "symbolizes the commitment of the Argentine State in enacting public policies that seek to overcome the inequalities of the community to which I belong". She added that she is "a trans activist that holds a government post, which is a huge achievement of our societies."

Thus, the public policies mentioned by the Special Representative, among which we can mention the Equal Marriage Law, the Gender Identity Law, the Trans Labor Quota Law, and the signing of the Presidential Decree that enables the issuance of documentation for non-binary identities, highlight a strong affinity between the governments of the Argentine Republic and the United States. At the Global Conference the US was represented by the Special Envoy for the Promotion of Human Rights of LGBTIQ+ Persons, Jessica Stern, in her first official visit to our country.

As significant events of the meeting held in Buenos Aires, the transfer of the co-chairmanship of the Coalition for

Equal Rights by Argentina and the United Kingdom to Germany and Mexico can be pointed out. These two countries did this for a longer time than expected, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as to a Joint Communiqué issued by member countries, in which stock was taken of what had happened since the last in-person Conference held in Vancouver in 2018. The previous one took place in Montevideo in 2016, while in 2021 it was held virtually. They also made progress on multiple commitments for the coming years, which demonstrate the great vitality of the Coalition. ■