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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Secretary for International Economic Relations Cecilia Todesca and Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Ctr. Left) and Embassy officials.

SECRETARY CECILIA TODESCA VISITED WASHINGTON BEFORE THE UPCOMING TIFA MEETING

As part of her visit to Washington DC, the Secretary for International Economic Relations Cecilia Todesca held a working meeting at the US Department of the Treasury, and together with Ambassador Jorge Argüello and his team, discussed the next session of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) between both countries, to take place in Buenos Aires on November 30th.

Secretary Todesca met at the Treasury Department with the Assistant Secretary for International Trade and Development, Alexia Latortue, and with Michael Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Western Hemisphere, with whom she discussed the main challenges for development in Latin America and the Inter-American Development Bank's possible contribution, during the



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the visit to Washington DC of the Secretary for International Economic Relations, Cecilia Todesca, in which she held meetings at the Treasury Department and developed a preparatory session for the TIFA that will be held in Buenos Aires on November 30.

In this edition we also include an article on the meeting with the ambassadors of Brazil, Néstor Forster and of Uruguay, Andrés Durán Hareau, and technical teams, with the objective of analyzing the perspectives of the bovine meat market in the United States.

Finally, an article on the visit of a delegation of magistrates from the Argentine Republic, invited by the Office of Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) of the Department of State.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

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process of choosing who will head this organization.

Likewise, Cecilia Todesca met at the Argentine Embassy with the head of mission, Ambassador Argüello, and his team, where they focused on working on the agenda for the next session of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) between Argentina and the United States, to be held in person on November 30th in the City of Buenos Aires.

In force since March 2016, TIFA's objective is to promote an attractive investment climate and expand and diversify trade between Argentina and the United States, as well as to monitor trade relations, identifying barriers to trade and investment, and seeking advice from the private sector.

The officials reviewed other topics of interest such as market access, investment promotion, and digital dialogue, among others.

They also focused on the "Argentina-United States Business Forum: rethinking value chains" that will take place on December 1 at the San Martín Palace, headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship.

This forum will bring together the main actors in the

bilateral relationship of the private sector with authorities from both countries, to promote dialogue in specialized panels on energy security, electromobility and lithium, the knowledge economy and agribusiness. Companies such as Exxon Mobile, YPF, General Motors, IBM, Globant, Google, Amazon Web Services, Corteva and Cargill, among others, will participate in this event.

Finally, Ambassador Argüello, Secretary Todesca and embassy officials worked on the Argentine Embassy's 2023 Action Plan, which is part of the celebration of the 200 years of bilateral diplomatic relationship. ■

PROSPECTS FOR THE BOVINE MEAT TRADE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF RELIABLE AND SECURE SUPPLY NETWORKS

Together with the ambassadors from Brazil, Néstor Forster, and Uruguay, Andrés Durán Hareau, and their technical teams, Ambassador Jorge Argüello participated in a meeting held at the Argentine Embassy on Monday, November 21, to analyze the beef market prospects in the United States. Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are suppliers with a long history in the meat market, and with internationally recognized quality but, for various reasons, our access to the US market is well below its potential.

The United States ranks second among world exporters of bovine meat: in 2021 it exported \$ 9.2 billion (1.1 million tons). However, they are also the

main importers in the world, and supplement their offer by importing grass-fed cattle lean meats from several countries, including Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

In 2021, the United States imported more than 1 million tons of beef worth \$7.5 billion, reflecting the need of US companies to have enough lean meats to produce ground beef and hamburgers, since these products represent 60% of the total consumption of bovine meat in the United States.

One issue that restricts a greater participation by Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay in the bovine meat market are the tariff quotas imposed by the United

Ambassadors Néstor Forster, Jorge Argüello and Andrés Durán Hareau (Ctr.) and officials from the embassies of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.



ONE ISSUE THAT RESTRICTS A GREATER PARTICIPATION BY ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY IN THE BOVINE MEAT MARKET ARE THE TARIFF QUOTAS IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES THAT LIMIT THE QUANTITIES IMPORTED.

States that limit the quantities imported, once they are exceeded, an import tariff of 26.4% of the total value of the import must be paid.

During the meeting, it was recalled that the export volumes in the quotas were negotiated bilaterally with the United States during the GATT Uruguay Round in 1994, a negotiation that dates back 28 years and does not reflect the current important participation of our countries in the world meat trade.

Likewise, there was agreement that an opportunity arises to obtain better access conditions to the US market, as inflation and, in particular, the price of food, are factors that negatively impact US consumers. A greater supply of products of recognized quality (lean meats) that are complementary to the local production, could decisively contribute to an enhanced supply in reliable and safe supply networks, with prices in line with the needs of consumers.

Another opportunity considered is that since certain countries with significant export volumes assigned by the United States, because of market conditions are making a reduced use of these quantities, simply due to commercial decisions.



(From L. to R.) Néstor Forster, Jorge Argüello, Andrés Durán Hareau.

Consequently, it was agreed that the current difficulties regarding the supply and underutilization of tariff quotas offer an opportunity for a review of the management system of bovine meat imports by the United States, which in the current environment might create a more reliable supply of lean meat, would improve the competitiveness of the local industry, and reduce prices for the consumer.

Finally, it was agreed to continue working in a coordinated manner on joint initiatives to achieve a greater participation of our countries in the United States beef market. ■



Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of Argentina, Adrián Nador, Argentine magistrates and Embassy officials.

MEETINGS WITH ARGENTINE MAGISTRATES IN WASHINGTON

Invited by the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), a delegation of magistrates from the Argentine Republic visited Washington DC on November 15 -18.

The visiting delegation was integrated by federal magistrates from different jurisdictions, including the following: from Salta (Court of Appeals Judge Mariana Catalano, Public Defender Clarisa Galán and Prosecutors Ricardo Toranzos and Federico Zurueta); Mendoza (Oral Trial Court Judge María Paula Marisi, Prosecutor María Gloria André and Oral Court Judge Gretel Diamante); Santa Fe (Oral Court Judge Germán Sutter Schneider, Prosecutor Fernando Arrigo and Judge and Vice President of the Federal Judges Association Carlos Vera Barros); and from the Federal Court of Cassation (Judge Daniel Petrone).

During their trip, the Argentine officials visited the Argentine Embassy in Washington, where they stated that they appreciate in particular the bilateral cooperation on this issue, as a valuable contribution for the transition process from the inquisitive to the adversarial system underway in the Argentine federal justice system.

The program created by the INL aims to contribute to training judges, prosecutors, police, defense attorneys and law professors, in implementing the new judicial system. On this occasion, the Argentine magistrates had the opportunity to speak directly with US judicial officials about the characteristics and operation of the adversary system in the United States.

Representatives from the provinces of Salta and Jujuy, the

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first to transition to the adversary system, had already participated in training sessions supported by the INL and carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Similarly, officials from Santa Fe, Mendoza, Buenos Aires and Chaco also began practices in the new system. In fact, during the disruptions caused by the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, training continued virtually for thousands of civil servants across the country.

In the pioneering jurisdictions that are implementing the adversarial system in federal justice (already in more than 3000 cases), among the advantages of the adversarial system noted when administering justice, are a reduction in the time required for criminal prosecution and the length of pre-trial detention, among other indicators that demonstrate an improvement in the quality of the judicial service, enabling a swifter and more efficient justice to benefit the entire community. ■