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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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(From L. to R.) Juan Cortelletti, Cecilia Todesca and Jorge Argüello at the Embassy of Argentina.

SECRETARY TODESCA BOCCO VISITED WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS BILATERAL TRADE AND STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

During her official visit to Washington DC, the agenda of the Secretary for International Economic Relations Cecilia Todesca included meetings and activities with government agencies and the private sector.

During her stay, Todesca met at the State Department with Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Wells and Deputy Assistant Secretary Anna Shpitsberg, along with their

respective work teams. During these meetings, the state of the bilateral relationship was evaluated, and issues of mutual interest were addressed, such as critical mining, the energy transition, and the flow of trade and investment between both countries.

Additionally, the Secretary met with Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Daniel Watson at USTR headquarters.



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the official visit to Washington DC of the Secretary for International Economic Relations, Cecilia Todesca, whose work schedule included meetings and activities with government agencies and the private sector.

In this edition we also include an article on Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship Santiago Cafiero's participation in the Green Hydrogen Global Forum 2023, where this strategic sector's main stakeholders met to discuss how to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Finally, an article on the new plant of Carter's, a leader in the production and marketing of children's apparel, will be located in the Industrial Park of La Rioja, Argentina.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

THE MAIN ASPECTS OF THE
COMMERCIAL DYNAMICS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
WERE DISCUSSED, WITH THE AIM
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OF GOODS AND SERVICES.

During the meeting, they followed up on the outcome of the high level Third Meeting of the Council on the Framework Agreement on Trade and Investment (AMCI/TIFA) that took place in Buenos Aires on November 30.

Todesca also met with Assistant Secretary Arun Venkataraman at the Department of Commerce, where the main aspects of the commercial dynamics between the two countries were discussed, with the aim of increasing the exchange of goods and services.

Regarding the private sector, the Secretary led, together with Ambassador Jorge Argüello, a round table with mining, automotive and battery companies to analyze the implications of Bill for the Reduction of Inflation on lithium exports from Argentina.

Important companies such as Panasonic, Livent, Allkem, Rio Tinto, BMW, Triangle Lithium, General Motors and Albemarle participated in this meeting.

In addition, Todesca and Ambassador Jorge Argüello shared a working breakfast with the main think tanks in Washington DC. During this conversation, among the topics discussed were the investment processes in the region, the main exporting sectors and the role of US companies, Mercosur, and critical mining. ■

FOREIGN MINISTER SANTIAGO CAFIERO AT THE GREEN HYDROGEN GLOBAL FORUM 2023

On May 19th, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship Santiago Cafiero participated in the closing ceremony of the Green Hydrogen Global Forum 2023, held in the Argentine Province of Río Negro, where this strategic sector's main stakeholders met over two days, to discuss how to mitigate the effects of climate change.

This international Forum, the first meeting of its kind organized in Latin America, brought together diverse experts, business people, leaders of the energy sector and government officials, to learn about the substantial advances made by green hydrogen worldwide, and review the projects being considered in the region and globally, and to discuss the opportunities, future prospects and

challenges faced by this sector.

In his address at the closing ceremony, together with the governor of Río Negro Arabela Carreras, and the CEO of the non-profit organization Green Hydrogen Organization (GH2) Jonas Moberg, the Minister highlighted the opportunities that the energy transition offers to promote economic development and high-quality employment in Argentina, thus making it possible to find alternative vectors to the agro-export matrix or traditional industries and offering a strong potential to solve our country's structural problems.

In his speech, Foreign Minister Cafiero also praised the work carried out during the Forum and stated that it is

Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship Santiago Cafiero in the Province of Río Negro.



MINISTER CAFIERO MADE REFERENCE TO THE HYDROGEN BILL THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WILL SOON SEND TO NATIONAL CONGRESS.

network can be found here in Bariloche, where we have the largest number of scientists per square meter, we have a land of knowledge innovation, of permanent creativity". ■

of crucial interest for Argentina, since, according to his analysis, "the energy transition is part of the global debate today, and it does not only involve governments, but also companies and development models that are beginning to adapt to new energies", adding that "green hydrogen is linked to energy transition but is also linked to the challenges posed by climate change".

On the other hand, he also made reference to the Hydrogen Bill that the Executive Branch will soon send to the National Congress for debate, emphasizing that care was taken to ensure that the regulation balances the care of natural resources with the development necessary to generate high-quality employment and value-added exports. The Secretary of Energy, Flavia Royón, highlighted this project's progress; it covers green, pink and blue hydrogen, and seeks to establish a regulatory framework that enables Argentina to be positioned as a safe energy supplier, while promoting our country's energy, industrial and technological development.

Finally, Minister Cafiero referred to the Specialized Expo 2027 of the Bureau International des Expositions, in which the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Province of Río Negro, is one of the cities running to be host, and declared that it is about "an innovative project of technology and nature, and has a much more interesting perspective for the future, one with a different approach since it proposes a horizon with something that Argentina and Río Negro possess, which are natural and human resources. All the knowledge of our national scientific and technological



Carter's USA and Argentina executives, representatives of the government of La Rioja and the Argentine Consul in Atlanta.

US TEXTILE COMPANY CARTER'S ESTABLISHES PLANT IN LA RIOJA

Carter's, a leader in the manufacture and marketing of children's apparel, will soon start commissioning its new plant in the La Rioja Industrial Park in Argentina.

At the Argentine Consulate in Atlanta, where the company is headquartered, a participation agreement was signed for the company to begin producing children's and baby apparel in La Rioja, such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets and pants, for its two main brands, "Carter's" and "Osh Kosh".

Carter's USA executives participated in the signing; also Carter's representative in Argentina, Fernando Cosarinsky; the president of CAIBYN (Argentine Chamber of Clothing for Babies and Children); Hernán Ebekian and the company's partner in La Rioja, Javier Guchea. Also present were the

Minister of Labor, Employment and Industry of La Rioja, Federico Bazán; representative Gabriela Pedrali, and the Consul General of Argentina in Atlanta, Juan Manuel Navarro.

Javier Guchea, a local partner in La Rioja, appreciated the efforts between the public and private sectors, while the national legislator and member of the Commission on Industry of the Argentine Congress, Gabriela Pedrali, stated that La Rioja has become a major domestic textile hub.

In this regard, Minister Bazán said: "We are very happy that the main children's clothing brand in the United States decided to set up a factory in La Rioja. During our visit to Atlanta we were able to tour the company's facilities, meet

INDUSTRIAL POLICIES WERE IMPLEMENTED TO REACTIVATE THE INDUSTRIAL PARK, WHICH HAS LED COMPANIES TO CHOOSE LA RIOJA TO SET UP THEIR BUSINESSES, MOST OF THEM LINKED TO THE CLOTHING SECTOR.

with its executives and were there when this agreement was signed”.

Likewise, the province’s Secretary of Industry, Julieta Calderón, emphasized that since the beginning of Governor Ricardo Quintela’s administration, industrial policies were implemented to reactivate the Industrial Park, which has led companies to choose La Rioja to set up their businesses, most of them linked to the clothing sector. She added, “This is due to the confidence in the government of La Rioja, and that is why investors choose us and decide to bet on improving their productivity and competitiveness by establishing more industries in the province.”

For his part, the General Consul in Atlanta, Juan Manuel Navarro, highlighted the concrete results of the province of La Rioja’s industrial promotion policy, which translate into this project. He also spoke about the potential of the Southeast region of the United States for Argentina, with a wide potential for growth in investment and trade. ■