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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Left: Ambassador Jorge Argüello and Deputy Assistant Secretary Daniel Erikson. Right: Ambassadors Jorge Argüello and Kevin Sullivan.

MEETINGS WITH SENIOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

During the past week, the Ambassador of Argentina in Washington DC, Jorge Argüello, held two meetings of great interest for bilateral relations

First, he met at the Pentagon with the Department of Defense's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Daniel Erikson. The conversation focused on the preparation of the next meeting of the Bilateral Defense Group, which is held annually alternately

in Argentina and the United States. The next meeting's agenda will include regional cooperation, our country's defense modernization plans and cyber defense, among other topics.

Likewise, the importance for Argentina of strengthening cooperation in science and technology was emphasized, as well as the priority given to the gender issue. The Argentine Ministry of Defense's plan to reactivate the defense



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the meetings I held during the last week with the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs of the Department of Defense, Daniel Erikson, and with the Deputy Assistant Secretary for South America of the Department of State, Ambassador Kevin Sullivan.

In this edition we also include an article on the participation of twelve Argentine companies in the 37th edition of the organic and natural products fair "Biofach Americas Expo East", which took place from September 21 to 23, in the city of Philadelphia.

Finally, an article on the National General Elections, to be held on Sunday, October 22, in which the president and vice-president of the Nation, 24 senators and 135 national deputies will be elected.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

AT BOTH MEETINGS THEY
REAFFIRMED THEIR WISH TO
PURSUE STRENGTHENING THE
VITAL RELATIONSHIP.

industry was also discussed, with the aim of contributing to the generation of employment and national capabilities and the strategic priority that Argentina assigns to the South Atlantic.

At the Department of State, on Monday, October 2nd, Ambassador Argüello met with the recently appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Brazil Southern Cone and Andean Affairs, Ambassador Kevin Sullivan, who visited our Embassy accompanied by the Director for the Southern Cone of the same agency, Orna Blum. The meeting was an opportunity to exchange ideas about current events in both countries, and to continue deepening the alliance and strengthen the space of mutual trust.

Likewise, Ambassador Argüello highlighted the merits of the Argentine candidate to occupy the Presidency of the UNESCO Executive Council for 2023-2025, Ambassador Marcela Losardo. She possesses vast professional experience, is focused on the promotion and respect of human rights, and has an approach based on administrative modernization and efficiency. ■

ARGENTINA CONSOLIDATES ITS PRESENCE IN THE ORGANIC PRODUCTS MARKET

The 37th edition of the organic and natural products trade fair “Biofach Americas Expo East” took place September 21-23 in Philadelphia, with more than 1,000 exhibitors. As in previous years, and as part of the Export Promotion Plan carried out by the Argentine Foreign Ministry, together with embassies worldwide, Argentina participated in this prestigious trade fair with an institutional pavilion and twelve companies from all over the country: Izco SA, Pradera Natural, Bro SRL, Argenmieles, Petroagro, International Agricultural Organization, Nutrin SA, Going Natural, Espar, Paramerica, Biotuc and Wishbone. In addition, the province of Tucumán had its own stand.

The Argentine pavilion was strategically located between the organic and natural products sections, given the

diverse variety of products of the participating companies: lemons, blueberries, products derived from peanuts, corn, honey, sunflower oil, legumes, rice, yerba mate, sugar, as well as an organic certification company.

The presence of twelve companies with headquarters in five different provinces (Tucumán, Córdoba, Entre Ríos, Buenos Aires and Río Negro) demonstrates the wide distribution of organic products throughout Argentina. It also shows its great diversity, which reflects the variety of climates and soils typical of an extensive territory. Furthermore, in this edition there was an Argentine company that participated for the first time, Bro SRL, which specializes in the production of organic soybean-based foods, a growing trend in Argentina towards the increased

Argentine pavilion at the “Biofach Americas Expo East” fair.



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production of organic and natural products.

In 2022, the harvest of organically cultivated surface area grew by 14%, reaching almost 110,000 hectares in total, maintaining this variable's positive trend for more than a decade. Regarding exports, the United States continued to be the main destination for Argentine organic products in 2022, reaching 43% of the total exported, followed by the European Union with 40%. The main organic products exported to the United States were rice, cane sugar, pear puree, applesauce, wine, concentrated lemon juice, pears, apples, cranberries and garlic. It should be noted that Argentina is the third largest supplier of organics to the United States.

As to the groups of products of plant origin, industrial products and organic fruits continued to be the main exported products as regards quantity. Likewise, the export of products of animal origin like honey and products from the sheep industry also increased. On the other hand, according to the certifying companies, organic production is mainly for export, as only 1.3% of certified products are consumed domestically. ■



Presidential candidates in the first presidential debate on Sunday, October 1 (Photo: TELAM - Emilio Rapetti).

GENERAL ELECTIONS ON OCTOBER 22: VOTING AT ARGENTINE CONSULATES ABROAD

As has happened every four years uninterrupted since 1983, on Sunday, October 22, National General Elections will take place to elect the president and vice president, 24 senators and 135 national deputies.

In Article 97, The National Constitution states that If the most voted formula obtains more than forty-five per cent of the affirmative votes validly cast, its members shall be proclaimed President and Vice-President of the Nation. Or, alternatively, Article 98 determines that if in the first ballot the most voted formula obtains at least forty per cent of the affirmative votes validly cast, and there is a difference of more than ten per cent regarding all the affirmative votes validly cast for the formula following in the number of votes, its members shall be proclaimed President and Vice-President of the Nation.

In accordance with Article 96, If the cases set forth above do not occur, a runoff must be held within thirty days of the previous election between the two voting formulas of the most voted candidates, The National Electoral Chamber has established in its electoral timetable that, if so required, the runoff will take place on Sunday, November 19, 2023.

Argentine citizens residing abroad who wish to exercise their right to vote may consult the Register on this website: <https://www.padron.gob.ar/>, where they can enter their DNI number and choose the option "Argentines abroad" under the "District" section.

Regarding the vote in this city, elections will take place on Sunday, October 22, 2023, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the

ARGENTINE CITIZENS WITH AN ADDRESS IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC REGISTERED ON THEIR DNI MUST PROVIDE A JUSTIFICATION FOR NOT VOTING ON OCTOBER 22.

Embassy of the Argentine Republic to the United States of America, located at 1600 New Hampshire Ave NW.

Regulations (Decree 189/2021) establish that the right to vote abroad can only be done in person at the consular offices. In the United States, in addition to Washington, the other voting centers will be in the cities of Miami, Houston, Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

All Argentine citizens over 16 years of age with Washington, D.C., Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, or West Virginia registered as their place of residence in their DNI may vote at this Embassy.

Voters are informed that the following types of documents are accepted to cast their vote: Civic Booklet, Enrollment Booklet, Green Booklet DNI, Light Blue Booklet DNI and DNI Card (Libreta Cívica, Libreta de Enrolamiento, DNI Libreta Verde, DNI Libreta Celeste and tarjeta DNI).

You will not be able to vote with a passport, nor with a pending DNI certificate, nor with a digital DNI on your cell phone.

The voting instrument is a single ballot designed by the

National Electoral Chamber, identical for all Argentine consulates, which highlights the electoral district, the candidate category (president/vicepresident, senators, members of Mercosur Parliament, etc), the date of the election, and the legend "I vote for the party's official candidates." It is divided into equal sections, depending on each district's number of competing political groups, and these divisions display the name and identification number of each political group, arranged in ascending order, with a space for casting a vote. It may include the logo of the political group and its top candidate.

The head of the polling station will give each voter an official ballot corresponding to the relevant district, and is signed on the spot in his/her own handwriting. Then the elector goes to the place designated for individual voting, and marks the square corresponding to the party of his/her preference on the ballot, then folds the ballot, and places it inside the ballot box.

Voting is not mandatory for Argentines with an address abroad registered on their DNI. Argentine citizens with an address in the Argentine Republic registered on their DNI must provide a justification for not voting on October 22 (they can do so online from home, or in person at the Consulate). Likewise, those who did not vote in the PASO Elections on August 13, 2023, have until October 12, 2023 to justify not having voted.

Argentine residents interested in exercising their right to vote should carefully open the following website, which contains general guidelines on voting abroad <https://cancilleria.gob.ar/es/servicios/elecciones/vota-desde-el-exterior>, as well as the news regularly published on our website <https://eeuu.cancilleria.gob.ar/>. ■