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TO PROMOTE THE  
BILATERAL AGENDA

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*Investments*

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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

# ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Left) and President Alberto Fernández (Right).

## MEETINGS HELD IN ARGENTINA TO PROMOTE THE BILATERAL AGENDA

On March 30, the Argentine Ambassador to the United States was summoned to Buenos Aires in order to analyze, together with President Alberto Fernández, the state of the relationship with the United States, with the aim of further deepening bilateral ties.

In addition to reviewing aspects of the bilateral relationship, Ambassador Jorge Argüello also discussed with the

President the agenda for the IX Summit of the Americas, and topics related to Indonesia's presidency of the G20, as the Argentine Sherpa in that forum.

The Summit of the Americas, which this year will take place in early June in Los Angeles, California, is the only regular meeting in the hemisphere with countries from the North, South, and Central America, and the Caribbean. As host,



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the report to President Alberto Fernández and Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero on the state of the relationship with the US, and about the meeting with the ambassador to Argentina, Marc Stanley.

In this edition we also include an article on the investment of US\$ 200 million by Lamb Weston Alimentos Modernos SA to build a green field plant in Mar del Plata whereby hundreds of jobs will be created and dozens of million dollars generated as new exports.

Finally, an article on the Global Equality Fund (GEF) spring meeting, an event held at our Embassy with Jessica Stern, US Special Envoy, to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTIQ+ People.

Jorge Argüello  
Ambassador to the United States

THE AMBASSADOR HELD A CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT ABOUT THE AGENDA FOR THE IX SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, AND TOPICS RELATED TO INDONESIA'S PRESIDENCY OF THE G20.

Aires, the positive meeting held with the United States Ambassador to Argentina, Marc Stanley, also stands out. Both ambassadors maintain a fluid dialogue that strengthens the bilateral relationship. ■



Ambassadors Jorge Argüello (Left) and Mark Stanley (Right).

the United States decided that the focus of the Summit will be on “Building a sustainable, resilient and equitable future” for our continent.

Ambassador Argüello also met with Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero. As with President Alberto Fernández, in the meeting they reviewed the issues that make up the Argentina-United States bilateral relationship, and analyzed the Argentine agenda in multilateral organizations.

Within the framework of his trip to the country, among other meetings the Ambassador also met with the Minister of Labor, Claudio Moroni, to exchange ideas on the new challenges posed by trade union organizations and international cooperation on labor issues, both in the bilateral framework and in the framework of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

Finally, as part of the agenda carried out in Buenos



Chancellor Santiago Cafiero (Left) and Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Right).



Minister Matías Kulfas, Chancellor Santiago Cafiero & Secretary Cecilia Todesca (Ctr.) with executives from Lamb Weston Alimentos Modernos SA.

## LAMB WESTON WILL INVEST \$200 MILLION TO BUILD AN INDUSTRIAL PLANT IN MAR DEL PLATA

Last March, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Santiago Cafiero, together with the Minister of Productive Development, Matías Kulfas, and the Secretary of International Economic Relations, Cecilia Todesca Bocco, met with executives from Lamb Weston Alimentos Modernos SA, who announced an investment of \$200 million dollars to build a production plant for frozen pre-fried potatoes, mashed potatoes and potato starch, in Mar del Plata.

Cafiero noted the following: “This investment announcement demonstrates companies’ interest in betting on our country and ratifies the upward trend

in production growth in Argentina. It represents an endorsement of the path we started on two years ago, when we set out to recover our industrial policy, to reactivate production and work in the country.”

For his part, Minister Matías Kulfas stated: “This announcement once again demonstrates confidence in investing in our country, and ratifies the path that Argentina is following, to increase industrial production and generate more employment. We appreciate the confidence shown by a top company in the international food market in choosing our country to invest and continue developing.”

THIS PLANT WILL CREATE  
HUNDREDS OF JOBS AND  
DOZENS OF MILLION DOLLARS  
GENERATED IN NEW EXPORTS.

United States market, which operates in 110 countries, chose our country for this investment. We plan to be leaders in Latin America with a wide export margin and without importing inputs”, highlighted the Sociedad Comercial del Plata’s President, Ignacio Noel. ■

Todesca Bocco said: “This is a project designed to export, which will generate approximately 200 direct jobs and many more indirect ones. It is a very important investment, and is the result of an alliance between a domestic company and a company from North America”.

According to the business plan, this investment implies the creation of between 150 and 200 direct jobs, and 3,000 indirect jobs. Ninety percent of the plant’s production will go to the foreign market. Export projections are \$50 million in 2024, and reaching \$114 million in 2029. Plant construction is estimated to last 18 months and commissioning is expected by the end of 2023.

The President and CEO of Lamb Weston Holdings Inc., Tom Werner, participated in the meeting, as well as the President of Sociedad Comercial del Plata, Ignacio Noel, and its Vice President and CEO, Pablo Arnaude.

The company executives thanked the support of the Argentine Government to advance in making this investment and highlighted the productive recovery that Argentina is undergoing. “This investment is very important for our company and we are very happy to have chosen this country to continue growing,” they said.

Lamb Weston Alimentos Modernos SA arises from a commercial alliance between Sociedad Comercial del Plata (SCP) and the multinational Lamb Weston Holdings Inc., which ranks first in the production of frozen potatoes in the United States, and second place globally.

“I am very proud that the number one company in the



Center: Jessica Stern, the US Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTIQ+ Persons and Ambassador Jorge Argüello.

## THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY HOSTED THE SPRING MEETING OF THE GLOBAL EQUALITY FUND

Ambassador Jorge Argüello and the United States Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTIQ+ Persons, Jessica Stern, chaired the Spring Meeting of the Global Equality Fund (GEF) on April 8.

The event took place at the Argentine Embassy under a hybrid format, which included face-to-face and virtual attendees, and was part of the two annual meetings in which the work carried out through this Fund to promote and protect human rights and freedoms of the LGBTIQ+ collective around the world is discussed.

Through the GEF -managed by the State Department and launched in December 2011- a group of like-minded governments, companies, foundations and non-

governmental organizations work together to support initiatives promoted by human rights defenders and civil society organizations, aimed at protecting LGBTIQ+ people from violence, abuse, criminalization, discrimination and stigmatization, as well as seeking to empower the people and movements of this group.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Argüello reiterated the Argentine government's commitment to LGBTIQ+ Human Rights; its defense constitutes a firm State policy, which over the years has made it possible to consolidate an important agenda to expand rights in our country. In this context, he emphasized that the path taken by Argentina was not easy or without difficulties, adding that on the contrary, it was marked by the constant struggles

DEFENDING LGBTIQ+ HUMAN RIGHTS CONSTITUTES A FIRM STATE POLICY, WHICH OVER THE YEARS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO CONSOLIDATE AN IMPORTANT AGENDA TO EXPAND RIGHTS IN OUR COUNTRY.

The Argentine Republic is part of this public-private association, together with the United States, Germany, Australia, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Italy, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Uruguay, among others, as well as members from the private sector and civil society. ■

of the LGBTIQ+ community, especially after the first Pride March in 1992, which ratifies the key role played by civil society actors in the search for equality and inclusion.

Thus, he stressed that almost 20 years after that historic mobilization, the Argentine Congress finalized the passing of two fundamental laws: the Equal Marriage Law in July 2010, and the Gender Identity Law in May 2012. He also made reference to the latest policies promoted by the government of President Alberto Fernández, among which he mentioned the establishment of a trans quota in the National Public Administration, the creation of non-binary National Identity Documents and Passports, as well as the designation of Alba Rueda, the first trans person to hold position of Special Representative on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

Before closing his speech, the Ambassador stated that despite the notable achievements made by Argentina and many other countries in this area, it is clear that the suffering of LGBTIQ+ people continues, which reaffirms the importance of mechanisms such as the Global Equality Fund, through which its members can make progress together, although aware that there is still a long way to go.