



## DEATH OF DIEGO MARADONA : TRIBUTES IN MALAYSIA

Last November 25th Diego Armando Maradona, the renowned Argentine football player, passed away due to a heart attack in Buenos Aires. He was 60 years old.

Diego Maradona was globally famed as one of the greatest football players of all times. He was best remembered when he captained Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. Apart from the Argentine National football team, he also played for important clubs such as FC Barcelona in Spain, Napoli in Italy and Boca Juniors in Argentina. Maradona will always remain as a legend in the hearts of his fans, both in Argentina and worldwide.

The Government of the Argentine Republic established three days of national mourning in honour of this extraordinary Argentine football player. The National Flag of our Embassy -and that of all Argentine Missions in the world- were hoisted at half mast..

Also, and in consideration of the movement restrictions currently in force in Malaysia, our Embassy opened a virtual Book of Condolences in which dozens of messages of grieve and admiration were received, while various tributes took place in Malaysia, such as the one carried out by the Johor Darul Ta'zim Football Club (JTD), who lit up its stadium in blue and white, or the minute of silence that was observed at the Aman Club Soccer School..



## Argentine Foreign Ministry I: "We are working to encourage more Argentine companies to be part of our exports"

"We are committed to outlining the necessary strategies for our foreign trade to grow, for more Argentine companies to be part of our exports and for our country to receive more investments" explained Jorge Neme, Secretary of International Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during his participation at the 2020 International Congress organized by the Argentine Agricultural Confederation (CONINAGRO) on November 9<sup>th</sup> under the slogan "Sustainable food in Argentina: production and opportunities."

The Secretary pointed out that "the pandemic has generated a drop in production levels and also in the world demand, along with logistical difficulties and access to technologies. However, our country, which produces a wide range of agriculture and agro-industrial products, has preserved its production levels in those sectors".

In this regard, he also stated that "the agribusiness sector must have enormous confidence in itself: in 1990 Argentina produced 30 million tons of grains, today it produces 140 million. In the nineties, our lemon exports were worth just a few million US dollars, today our lemon exports are worth 800 million US dollars. Same with wine: just a few million US dollars in the nineties versus more than 1000 US dollars today. Those sectors, which are the most competitive due to their capacity to generate investments, incorporate technology and sell to the world, have not stopped growing. "







**Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs II: "There cannot be protection of the environment without investments"**

During his participation at the XVIII Business Forum of the Franco-Argentine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI France Argentine), the Secretary of International Economic Relations of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jorge Neme, assured that "it is a good sign that environmental issues are discussed" within the negotiation of the MERCOSUR-EU Agreement, but that "it shouldn't be seen as just a matter of defining a legal framework but also of

promoting the necessary investments so that the environment is properly protected".

“The deterioration of the environment in South America is mainly associated with the poverty levels and the lack of development” he stressed.

On the other hand, the Secretary also highlighted "the fundamental role of the SME model in Argentina" and added: "We are totally open to building commercial alliances between our SMEs and their European counterparts as the previous step before moving into industrial alliances".

**The G77 + China strongly supported Argentina in the Malvinas Islands dispute with the United Kingdom**

During the 44th Annual Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which was held virtually, the Group of 77 + China , issued a Ministerial Declaration on November 12th supporting the resumption of negotiations between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom over the Malvinas Islands dispute and once again recognized the right of our country to "take legal action" against "unauthorized exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons" in the archipelago area.

The statement of the Group, composed of 134 developing countries, is especially important considering that this year marks the 55th anniversary of the adoption of Resolution 2065 by the United Nations General Assembly in 1965, the first Resolution that specifically refers to the dispute.

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Pablo Tettamanti, thanked the continuous support of the Group and reiterated that the recovery of the full exercise of the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding maritime spaces constitutes a permanent mandate for Argentina.



**The President led the commemoration of the 200 years of the first hoisting of the Argentine flag in the Malvinas Islands**



On November 6, President Alberto Fernández led the commemoration of the 200 years of the first hoisting of the Argentine flag in the Malvinas Islands.

During the main ceremony, that took place in Buenos Aires, the President raised the Argentine flag simultaneously with several other cities throughout the country.

Since the very beginning of its existence as an independent nation in 1810, Argentina continued to exercise its jurisdiction over this vast territory that included the Malvinas Islands that, until then, had been administered by Spain: enacting legislation, legal and administrative framework, promoting the development of commercial activities, regulating the exploitation of natural resources, land distribution and the settlement of population.

With that purpose, on November 6 1820, the Argentine Navy Colonel David Jewett took solemn possession of the Malvinas Islands in the name of the United Provinces of the River Plate. In a public ceremony in front of the captains and crews of the vessels from many countries anchored at Puerto Soledad, Colonel Jewett raised the Argentine flag, fired 21 cannon shots and read a proclamation, making it known that, among other issues, the authorities of Buenos Aires had decided to put an end to the unrestricted hunting of marine mammals.

This effective exercise of sovereignty was interrupted on January 3rd 1833, when the United Kingdom usurped the Islands, expelling the legitimate Argentine authorities and the population that had settled there, disrupting our country's territorial integrity. This act of force was immediately and permanently protested, and has never been consented by any Argentine government. Since then –and until the present day- the Islands are the subject of a sovereignty dispute with the United Kingdom, recognized by the United Nations through Resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly.



## Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs: "Human Rights are a transversal topic of our foreign policy"



Minister of Foreign Affairs Felipe Solá held a meeting on November 25 with Jan Jarab, Representative for South America of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with whom he agreed to continue deepening the cooperation and working together on issues relevant to the programs and initiatives that this UN Office develops both in Argentina and the region.

In this regard, Solá conveyed to Jarab his interest in collaborating, for example, in those initiatives aiming at people deprived of their liberty, indigenous peoples and communities that suffer discrimination. Jarab thanked the government of the Argentine Republic for its willingness to advance this agenda.

## President Alberto Fernández spoke with the President-elect of the United States, Joe Biden



On November 30 President Alberto Fernández had a telephone conversation with the President-elect of the United States, Joe Biden..

The Argentine President congratulated the President-elect on the result of the recent elections and stressed that his victory means "a great opportunity for the United States and Latin America to reunite".

Biden stressed that the economic situation in Latin America is extremely important and critical and that the region must be supported in its economic recovery.

Fernández said that “we have a lot ahead to do in the region. This is the most unequal continent in the world and it must be developed economically and balanced socially”.

In another part of the conversation, the Argentine President highlighted his bond with Pope Francis, with whom he shares friendship, and that he was helping Argentina in the negotiations with the IMF. President-elect Biden, in turn, said that he shared many values with the Pope, such as catholic faith, concern about climate change, the fight against poverty and the dire situation of refugees.

### **30<sup>th</sup> of November: National Mate Day**

On November 30, the National Mate 2020 Day was celebrated, a traditional South American infused drink, which is made by soaking dried leaves of the yerba mate plant in hot water and is served with a metal straw in a container typically made from calabash gourd.

If you would like to know more about mate, we invite you to watch the following videos:

Introducing yerba mate [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89YHJ88\\_mEc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89YHJ88_mEc)

Argentine yerba mate production <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNkRifvPckU>