



South American trade mission visits Malaysia



During May, a trade mission organized by the MERCOSUR - ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) visited Kuala Lumpur with the goal of deepening the commercial exchanges between South America and Malaysia in the

framework of a tour that also included Thailand and the Philippines. It must be noted that MERCOSUR (ie. Southern Common Market) is a regional economic bloc comprising Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The mission, that was assisted by the Embassies of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, was composed by businessmen and government officials from the three countries and, among other activities, its agenda included meetings with representatives of the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), the Halal Development Corporation (HDC) and meetings with potential local trade partners.

In this regard and with the view of supporting the purposes of the mission, our Embassy organized a bilateral meeting between the Argentine government officials and the Malaysian Ministry of Agriculture, as well as several B2B meetings for the participating Argentine companies and a reception that included Argentine delicacies, meat, cheese and Malbec wines.

Halal training for Argentine beef exporters

Over the course of the last month, our Embassy co-organized together with Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) a webinar specifically addressed to Argentine beef exporters with the purpose of training them in the compliance of Malaysian Halal requirements for importing the product.



The event included the participation as keynote speakers of Ms. Zuraiza binti Hussin, Senior Assistant Director of the International Halal Authority Board of JAKIM, and Mr. Alexis El Sayer, Director of Halal Certification of the Islamic Center of the Argentine Republic (CIRA), who jointly addressed an audience composed by representatives of 14 meat establishments in our country, as well as officials from the Argentine and Malaysian veterinary departments, respectively SENASA and DVS.

The activity was part of a program that aims at fostering the Argentine beef exports to the Malaysian market, a program that also included technical inspections carried out by JAKIM in 2022 to 18 meat establishments in Argentina. It must be mentioned that the Malaysian market for Argentine beef was reopened in 2020 and our country has been increasingly exporting this product ever since.

Celebration of the "International Book Day in Spanish"



In addition to the celebration of the "Spanish Language Day" that took place on last May 3 in Eslite bookstore at Starhill Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, our Embassy participated in the

"International Book Day in Spanish", jointly organized by the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics of the Universiti Malaya and the diplomatic offices of the Spanish speaking countries in Malaysia.

In this context, Malaysian students from the said institution recited a selection of poems in Spanish. The selected work to represent Argentina was "Poema de los dones" ("Poem of the gifts") by the internationally renowned writer Jorge Luis Borges.

In its turn, our Embassy donated books by Argentine authors translated into Bahasa Melayu in the framework of "Programa Sur" ("South Program"), a financial support program implemented by the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs to translate Argentine literature into other languages to facilitate its access by non-Spanish speakers.

Celebration of our National Day



On May 25, the Argentine National Day was celebrated at The Selangor Polo Club, located in the center of Kuala Lumpur, where a friendly Polo match was organized for the indulgence of the more than 350 guests that attended, including members of the diplomatic corps, local authorities, businessmen, representatives of the local academic and cultural scene and members of the Argentine community.



The celebration was formally inaugurated by the Ambassador Manuel Balaguer Salas, who made a brief review of the state of the bilateral relations, stressing the high volume reached by the trade exchanges and the recent expansion seen in the field of investments. During his speech, the

Ambassador was accompanied by the Guest of Honor, the Vice Minister of Economy, Dato Hajjah Hanifah Hajar Taib, who extended the salutations of the Malaysian authorities and offered a toast in honor of our country. Finally, two professional Malaysian singers, who recently participated in the musical "Evita" in Kuala Lumpur, performed versions of the Argentine and the Malaysian anthems.

After the opening, an award ceremony for the participating Polo teams was organized. It must be noted that the teams were composed by a mix of Argentine and Malaysian players and that most of the horses used in the competition –currently owned by members of the said Polo club– were imported from Argentina.

Also, during the course of the event, a live pictorial exhibition in charge of the Argentine plastic artist Roberto "Mocho" Dávalos (IG:@mocho_davalos), who had traveled all the way from Argentina for the occasion, took place, his work mainly revolving around equestrian themes.

Additionally, the celebration included the active participation of an Argentine family that is traveling the world in a caravan and have chosen Malaysia as the last destination before embarking on the long-awaited return to our country after years of travel.

Argentine artist Roberto Dávalos exhibits in Malaysia



As part of his South Asian tour and the celebrations of the Argentine National Day on May 25, the Argentine artist Roberto "Mocho" Dávalos, a talented painter from Salta, in the Northwest of the country, visited Malaysia and featured his work at The Selangor Polo Club.

Dávalos comes from a family with a rich heritage in winemaking and art. Renowned for his captivating depictions of horses and rich cultural traditions, the artist brings a unique artistic perspective to the world of equestrian sports and pays homage to the splendour of horses and the vibrant landscapes of his hometown, where he has developed a distinct style characterized by vibrant colours and mastery of light.

After visiting Malaysia, the artist continued his tour to Singapore.



Argentine companies in SIAL food fair, China



The Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinated the participation of 14 Argentine food and beverage companies at SIAL China, one of the most important international events in the food industry, which took place from May 18 to 20 in Shanghai.

"The participation of Argentine businessmen in SIAL China shows the potential of our agri-food sector and its ability to contribute to global food security in a context of increased demand for food. Being present at this fair was essential to continue strengthening trade ties with Asia," said the Undersecretary for Trade and Investment Promotion, Guillermo Merediz.

The Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been carrying out strong work to assist exporting SMEs from different sectors and to consolidate their presence in the international markets.