

Successful celebration of the Latin American Festival in Kuala Lumpur



After two years of restrictions due to the Covid pandemic, on September 25, a new edition of the Latin American Festival took place at Plaza Low Yat shopping center in Kuala Lumpur, one of the main events that celebrates Latin American culture and gastronomy in Malaysia.

The festival, co-organized by the Embassies of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Peru in conjunction with Plaza Low Yat, Federal Hotels International and the Latin Women's Association of Malaysia, was attended by more than 8,000 visitors, among them Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Mahadi Che Ngah.

The event started at 11am with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a Latin American children's parade and cultural performances and ended by 6pm with the lucky draw of a round trip to Latin America courtesy of Turkish Airlines.

Our country displayed its stand (photo) in which several national culinary products were offered (empanadas, wines, meat, alfajores, yerba mate, dulce de leche) and tourist and commercial information was provided. Argentina also hosted tango presentations by a local couple (Iskandar Zulkarnain and Alyzsa Lim), who had reached the semifinals in a past edition of the Tango World Cup in Buenos Aires.

It is worth mentioning that all proceeds of the Festival will be donated to Yayasan Orang Buta Malaysia (YOBM).

Those who are not able to join can be sure that there will be more activities related to Latin American culture in the coming months, the next being a film festival that will be taking place in satellite cities outside of Kuala Lumpur, such as Ipoh. *Stay tuned*!

Argentine coach leads JDT II to Liga Premier championship

PETRONAS' investments in Argentina: follow-up meeting



On September 14, our Ambassador and the Head of the Trade and Investment Section of our Embassy met with Mark Fitzgerald, Vice President for International Assets of PETRONAS, and his team to evaluate the status of the recent agreements signed by the Malaysian company with its Argentine counterpart YPF for the exploitation of natural gas in Vaca Muerta, west of Argentina.

Mr. Fitzgerald was very satisfied with the recent signing of the Joint Study and Development Agreement (JSDA) with YPF that will ultimately enable the Malaysian company to expand its operations in Argentina in terms of gas extraction, liquefaction and export to third markets.

Regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), also recently signed with YPF, the PETRONAS representative expressed his hopes that the instrument will help the company develop hydrocarbon derivatives (especially lubricants) in Argentina and their subsequent export.

Finally, Mr. Fitzgerald highlighted the full confidence that he has in a strategic partner like YPF and expressed that both companies share substantial values, such us the protection of the environment and the reduction of CO2 emissions, with natural gas being a key part of that strategy.

Argentine energy company Galileo Technologies expands presence in Malaysia



On September 28, the Argentine Ambassador in Malaysia Manuel Balaguer Salas received Emilio Weber, International Trade Director of <u>Galileo</u> <u>Technologies</u>, an Argentine company that provides energy solutions, and Gabriel Lorenzi, its Vice President for the Asia Pacific region, to go

over the projects of this cutting-edge technology company in Malaysia.

During the meeting, Mr. Weber expressed his satisfaction for the signing of a local distribution and representation agreement with the Malaysian agricultural company Sime Darby, which will help the Argentine company expand its presence in the local market.



Argentine coach Mariano Echeverría (in the photo with his family) has led Johor Darul Ta'zim II (JDT II) to win the Liga Premier 2022 after beating Selangor FC 2 1-0 at UiTM Stadium, Shah Alam, on last September 30.

JDT II needed only a draw to win the title but they nonetheless got ahead in the 49th minute and

ended up topping the league with a total of 42 points, five points clear of Kelantan who settled for the runners-up position.

In statements made after the match, Mariano Echeverria considered the Premier League trophy win as a meaningful gift for the state of Johor and club owner Tunku Ismail Sultan Ibrahim.

"The combination of experienced players, especially the import players along with the young was the key to JDT II making history. The year 2022 is a brilliant season for the state of Johor" said the 41-year-old coach.

However, there will be no promotion for JDT II as in previous years because the Malaysian Football League will be restructured in the beginning of 2023. All teams will play in an expanded league.

With information from The Star and Malay Mail

Argentine delegation participates in ICANN meeting in KL

From September 15 to 22, an Argentine delegation represented by Olga Cavalli, from the Secretariat of Public Innovation, and Gabriela Mattausch, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, participated in the Second Annual Meeting of ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), which took place at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center.



Formed in 1998, ICANN is a not-

for-profit partnership of people from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers.

The delegation was received by Ambassador Manuel Balaguer Salas and the rest of the diplomatic staff of our Embassy at the official residence (photo) to exchange views on our country's interests within the referred organization.

"Nine Queens" represents Argentina at the Kota Kinabalu International Film Festival



Additionally, during their stay in Malaysia, the representatives of Galileo entertained meetings with the directors of ZDA Corporation -a local producer of hydrocarbon extraction pumps- and PETRONAS Research and Development team.

Argentina showcases its halal products and services at MIHAS Fair



Argentina participated with its own stand, managed by our Embassy, in the 18th edition of the Malaysia International Halal Showcase (MIHAS) which took place between September 7 and 10 at the Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Center (MITEC) in Kuala Lumpur.

MIHAS is the most important fair for halal products worldwide and a renowned platform for countries to showcase their halal products and services in a wide array of sectors: food, cosmetics, tourism, finance, etc.

The Argentine stand received a large number of enquiries from visitors and exhibitors as well, mostly referred to our tourism sector and halal food products for export, such us meat and fresh fruit.

Exports in the first 8 months hit record



Argentine exports in the first eight months of the year reached USD 59.72 billion, which represents an all-time record for that period. Exports grew by 17.7% compared to January-August 2021 and surpassed the previous record (January-August 2011) by 9%.

Estimates for the whole 2022 indicate that exports of goods will reach USD 90,000 million and exports of services, USD 10,000 million. It must be noted that the highest record of Argentine exports was registered in 2011, when they reached USD 97,477 million in total.

With the exception of Primary Products, the rest of the sectors saw an increase in their foreign trade performance in August this year. In this scenario, exports of Manufactures of Agricultural Origin (MAO) stood out, with USD 2,881 million of exported value. In terms of products, the largest exports were for motor vehicles, lithium carbonate and aluminum in the industrial sector, and petroleum oils, soybean oil and boneless beef in terms of agricultural products.

The main export markets in the first eight months of the year were Brazil (13.6%), the United States (7.5%), China (6.9%), India (5.8%) and Chile (5.6%).

Argentine animation and video game companies expand their international presence

Between September 17 and 25, the thirteenth edition of the <u>Kota</u> <u>Kinabalu International Film Festival (KKIFF)</u> took place, both online and in theaters.

In this framework, films from Argentina, Malaysia, Germany, France, New Zealand, Spain, Brazil and Italy were screened. Our country presented the film "Nueve Reinas" ("Nine Queens"), a crime drama film written and directed by Fabián Bielinsky which centers on two artists who meet and decide to cooperate in a major scam. The 2000 film was nominated for 28 awards and won 21 of them, and is now considered a classic in Argentine film history.

When referring to the movie, KKIFF organizers mentioned that "The duplicity-laden and enchantingly scripted plot features one bewildering twist after another and there are superb performances from the two main actors".

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinated during September the Argentine participation in the 11th edition of Pixelatl (Mexico), one of the main networking events between Latin American audiovisual creators and the global animation, comic and video game industries. In this edition, our country was the Guest of Honor.

The national delegation was made up of 16 animation and video game companies that shared a space in our National Pavilion. In 2021, the Argentine audiovisual sector - composed by almost 2,000 companies, 200 of which focus on providing animation services- exported US\$ 289 million.



Argentine companies stand out in the G20 Digital Innovation Network in Bali



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the participation of 5 Argentine startups (MOOVA, APLIFE, UALI, UNTECH, STÄMM and GRID EXPONENTIAL) in the G20 Digital Innovation Network, which took place in Bali, Indonesia, during September. Within this framework, two of the participating Argentine companies were selected as finalists: MOOVA, in the Supply Chain sector, and UALI, in the Green and Renewable Energies sector.

The companies presented their solutions to some one hundred investment funds from the G20 member countries, promoting their services and developing an intense networking activity both through a virtual platform created for this purpose and in person through an exhibition stand.



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