

EMBAMEX SWEDEN MARCH NEWSLETTER

MAGICAL TOWNS: CUATRO CIÉNEGAS

Located in the state of Coahuila, three hours from Saltillo, the state capital, Cuatro Ciénegas (Four Ponds) owes its name to the abundant springs that form extensive lagoons in the middle of the desert. These are the result of a sea that emerged millions of years ago at the same time as the Sierra Madre Oriental, and the folded and fractured marine rocks carved out the majority of its mountains and ridges. A visitor will marvel at these desert surroundings, with their abundance of white sands, blue pools, rivers of crystal clear water, marble walls, and vertical mountains. All of it creates a unique and breathtaking combination.



Tourists can also visit the vast areas of dunes that are formed by gypsum crystals, which make a constantly changing landscape as the crystals are moved by the wind.

Cuatro Ciénegas is one of those destinations that continually astounds visitors. From its unique and surprising natural areas, to its northern flavors and local wines, this destination has everything necessary for an unforgettable vacation.

Come to live a unique experience in one of Mexico's Pueblos Mágicos; visit Cuatro Cienegas!

For more information, please go to [Visit Mexico](#) and [México Desconocido](#).



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SIPINNA OFFICIAL AT “END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN” SEMINAR



Ambassador Gasca Pliego with the members of the Executive Board of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children.

Ambassador Gasca Pliego met with Mr. Ricardo Antonio Bucio Mújica, Executive Secretary of the National System for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents (SIPINNA) of Mexico's Ministry of the Interior, within the framework of the SIPINNA official's participation in the First-High Level End Violence Against Children Summit, an event held on February 14 and 15 and organized by the Government of Sweden in cooperation with the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the WePROTECT Global Partnership. The aim of this event, which was held at Münchenbryggeriet Convention Center, was to renew the commitment to end violence against children within the framework of the 2030 Agenda between political leaders and representatives of the United Nations, as well as govern-

ments, civil society and the private sector throughout the world.

Ambassador Gasca Pliego also attended the meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the Global Partnership that took place on February 13 at the facilities of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden, at which Mexico occupies a seat. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Elizabeth Dahlin, Secretary General of Save the Children Sweden, and was attended by the Minister for Children, Senior Citizens and Gender Equality, Åsa Regnér.

During the event, Dr. A.K. Shiv Kumar, Vice President of “Know Violence in Childhood,” presented the publication entitled “Ending Violence in Childhood: Global Report 2017.” In addition, Mrs. Kathleen Cravero, President of the Oak Foundation, shared some valuable insights on the subject. Also, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on violence against children, Ms. Marta Santos Pais, recognized Mexico for its leadership in searching for an end to this problem. The next meeting of the Coordinating Committee will be held within the framework of the next General Assembly of the United Nations.

The high-level summit was attended by 386 people from 67 countries, including Mexico, in order to seek joint and concrete solutions to protect minors from violence. The Mexican delegation was headed by Lic. Bucio Mújica of SIPINNA; he was accompanied by Mr. Christian Skoog, Representative of



Ambassador Gasca Pliego represented Mexico at the meeting of the Executive Board of the Global Alliance.

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UNICEF Mexico, Ms. Silvia Novoa Fernández, National Director of World Vision Mexico and Ms. Nancy Ramírez Hernández, Coordinator of Political Advocacy and International Issues of Save the Children Mexico. In addition, adolescent delegates Alfredo, from Culiacán, and Rogelio, from Acapulco, who came to the seminar with Save the Children Mexico, also participated.

In the opening speech of the event, the Prime Minister of Sweden, Stefan Löfven, called for expanding the rights of children. Among other comments, Mr. Löfven recalled that the main objective of the Summit is to present and promote effective solutions towards ending violence against children, but that leadership is needed. The Prime Minister therefore offered the leadership of Sweden, in coordination with that of other governments.

On February 14, Mr. Bucio participated in the seminar that was the focal point of the Global Partnership, and indicated that Mexico continues to work on the public and private agenda to guarantee the exercise of the rights of children and adolescents and eliminate all forms of violence through Mexico's Plan of Action.

In addition, the official held a bilateral meeting with the State Secretary to the Minister for Children, the Elderly and Gender Equality, Pernilla Baralt, on February 15 to discuss opportunities for cooperation on the issue, which is linked to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Mr. Bucio also participated in the workshop entitled “Using Data to Drive Change: Improving Violence Against Children Policy and Programmes,” whose aim was to discuss how countries can advance actions to achieve goal 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and other violence related targets.



The Mexican delegation at the End Violence Against Children Summit in Stockholm.



Ambassador Gasca Pliego with Mr. Ricardo Bucio Mújica of SIPINNA and Mr. Christian Skoog of UNICEF Mexico.



Mr. Bucio Mejía of SIPINNA with the adolescent delegates for UNICEF Mexico, Alfredo and Rogelio.

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GLOBAL VOICES SEMINAR AT KTH

On February 22, the Global Voices seminar was held at the Royal Institute of Technology, KTH, in Stockholm. This event was organized by KTH's Department of Communication and Languages in order to promote certain countries as a destination for exchange students. It was attended by representatives of the Embassies of Argentina, Colombia, Chile and Mexico, as well as by teachers from the KTH Institute, Latin American staff of the Swedish telecommunications company Ericsson, and exchange students.

This event had a large audience of students interested in travelling on student exchanges to our continent. The representatives of the invited Embassies shared relevant information regarding student exchanges, their respective political situations, the cost of living, places of interest for tourism, and gastronomy, among other topics. In addition, Dr. Carl Gustaf Jansson, Professor of Artificial Intelligence at KTH, shared some of his positive experiences in Latin America with the audience.

Finally, the attendees had the opportunity to approach the information booths that the participating countries had set up in



Third Secretary Lorelee Arias Vázquez at Mexico's stand during the Global Voices encounter in Stockholm.

order to answer questions and promote the increase of student exchanges.

The organizers of the event expressed their gratitude to the representatives of the Embassies and to the attending public. The event concluded with a Tango performance.

Third Secretary Lorelee Arias Vázquez speaking at the Global Voices encounter.

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MEXICO: EXPANDING MARKET FOR HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCE SEMINAR

On Thursday, February 15, the “Mexico- Strong Industrial Gateway and Expanding Market for Health & Life Science Seminar” was held at the Embassy of Mexico in Stockholm. This event was organized by the Embassy of Mexico through its Economic and Commercial Affairs Area, in coordination with the ProMéxico Stockholm office and the SweCare Foundation.

The objective of this event was to highlight business opportunities in the life sciences and health care sector in Mexico, since the subsectors of medical devices and pharmaceuticals are considered strategically promising for the attraction of Swedish investment to our country.

Ambassador Gasca Pliego began the seminar by making some opening remarks about the many strengths of our country in this sector to Swedish companies, as well as highlighting the fact that Mexico has now positioned itself as a key player in the global scene and a leader in Latin America. He also mentioned, among other things, that there are 12 free trade agreements that give Mexico access to 46 countries around the world.

Mrs. Maria Helling spoke on behalf of the Swecare Foundation, indicating that the institution she works for functions as a unique platform where academia, the private and the public sectors combine to promote the internationalization of Swedish companies in the health care and life sciences sector. She also expressed SweCare’s intention to carry out a commercial mission to Mexico in 2019.

Commercial Counsellor Carlos Pérez-Cirera participated on behalf of ProMéxico with a presentation on the general state of the health sector in Mexico and its regulatory framework. He offered an overview of industry indicators and production and consumption statistics in Mexico.



Ambassador Gasca Pliego with Carlos Pérez-Cirera, Commercial Counsellor of ProMéxico; Aldo Viggiano Austria, Head of Economic Affairs of the Embassy of Mexico; Mrs. Maria Helling, Executive Director of SweCare; and other SweCare officials in the company of representatives from several Swedish companies.



Ambassador Gasca Pliego with ProMéxico Commercial Counsellor Carlos Pérez-Cirera and attendees at the Health and Life Sciences Seminar on February 15.

Furthermore, Christian Kinch, Executive Director of the Swedish company Bactiguard, spoke about his positive experiences regarding his entry into the Mexican market, remarking that Mexico has a growing specialized workforce and low production costs. Also, he said that the investment that our country makes in infrastructure in this sector offers several opportunities to Swedish companies, given that there is an environment favorable to business and solid policies for the protection of intellectual property. Mr. Kinch concluded by recommending to the companies at the seminar to consider Mexico as the best option to enter the North American market.

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STATE OF THE NORDIC REGION 2018 REPORT



Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström speaking at the State of the Nordic Region 2018 Report.

On February 8, Ambassador Gasca Pliego attended the launch of the new biannual report called the “State of the Nordic Region 2018” by the Council of Ministers of the Nordic Countries, produced by the Nordregio research institute, and presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers of the Nordic Countries, Dagfinn Høybråten, and the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Nordic Cooperation, Margot Wallström. Mayor Irene Svenonius of the Stockholm County Council also participated in the event.

Secretary General Høybråten noted that this report combines knowledge and information that provides an overview of the development of the Nordic region and

contributes to the design of new policies. He also indicated that it documents success stories and challenges in important areas of society such as design, technology and smart cities, among others.

For her part, Minister Wallström said that the Nordic Region represents the twelfth largest economy in the world, with a rapidly growing population and a labor market that receives worldwide praise, as well as a solid social welfare system. She noted the fact that the publication describes Stockholm as the “most dynamic and innovative region in the North,” followed by Copenhagen and Oslo, according to its Regional Potential Index. Minister Wallström added that the statistics of the publication show Sweden is a solid and attractive economy for foreign investment, as well as having the highest employment rate within the EU.

Among other factors, the report offered a look at Nordic values; that is, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, along with Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Åland. It also listed the Regional Index of Potential 2018 by Nordregio, which classifies the 74 administrative regions of the Nordic countries, with Stockholm occupying the first place. In addition, the report presents a series of data and figures from the region that show the current state of basic socioeconomic indicators, such as its demography, economy, labor force and education, and analyzes the latest advances in the Nordic bio-economy, the current state of Nordic digitalisation and developments in health and wellbeing issues, as well as in culture and the arts.

To read the complete 2018 State of the Nordic Region Report, please visit this [link](#).



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MEETING WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL AGENDA

On February 28, Ambassador Gasca Pliego held a meeting with Ms. Inger Buxton, Deputy Director of the Department for the Global Agenda of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, in order to follow up on her visit to Mexico in February. They discussed various topics, including:

- The 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which will be held from March 12 to 23 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The theme for this year is “Challenges and opportunities in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.”
- The creation of the Global Center of Excellence in Gender Statistics (CEEG) of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) in Mexico was discussed in collaboration with UN Women in order to promote the production, availability, accessibility and use of data, among other topics. In this regard, Ms. Buxton congratulated Mexico for its leadership in the matter.
- The visit to Sweden by Ms. Lorena Cruz Sánchez, President of the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES), to participate in the international forum on Gender Equality (<http://genderequalworld.com/>), which will be held from April 15 to 17 at the facilities of the Swedish Agency for Development and Cooperation (SIDA) and at the Norra Latin Convention Center in this city.
- The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration was addressed, with emphasis on the initial draft that was presented on February 5, 2018 by the Representatives of Mexico and Switzerland in their capacity as co-facilitators.
- Regarding environmental issues, the Ambassador and Ms. Buxton discussed the fact that Sweden will lead, along with Nicaragua, the presidency of the “Green Climate Fund” (GCF). This is a joint initiative by the governments of Fiji and Sweden to promote the Conference on Oceans held at the UN headquarters in New York from June 5 to 9, 2017.
- In addition, the “Global Deal, Together for Decent Work and Inclusive Growth” was discussed. Ms. Buxton held meeting with Ambassador Martha Ortiz de Rosas Gómez, Head of International Affairs of Mexico’s Ministry of Labor and Social Prevention (STPS). She indicated that the STPS will follow up on the issue in coordination with the Mexican and Swedish governments.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Deputy Director Buxton thanked the Ambassador for his initiative to follow up on the issues addressed during her visit to Mexico, and thanked the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in addition to the Ministry of Labor and Social Prevention, for the productive meetings held to discuss issues of common interest between both countries and improve cooperation relations.



Ambassador Gasca Pliego with Deputy Director Inger Buxton at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden.

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DIPLOMATIC FORUM ON THE SWEDISH ELECTORAL SYSTEM

On February 7 Ambassador Gasca Pliego attended a seminar on the Swedish Electoral System led by the Swedish Electoral Authority official Emma Sjöblom and organized by the Diplomatic Forum of the University of Uppsala. This event was held at the international press room of the Government of Sweden for the diplomatic community of this country.



Election Authority

During the event, Ms. Sjöblom explained to the diplomats how Swedish elections function and how the Election Authority regulates and oversees them. She also offered details of several aspects of the electoral process in Sweden.

Swedish elections are held on the second Sunday of September every four years, which means that they will be held on September 9 this year. The official added that the Swedish electoral system is based on universal and equal suffrage, and that elections are free, secret and direct.

Ms. Sjöblom stressed that all Swedish citizens aged 18 and over on the day of the elections who have a registered address in Sweden or who have applied for registration in the electoral census have the right to vote. In addition, she mentioned that Swedish citizens living abroad are entitled to vote by mail or at Swedish diplomatic missions.

The official commented that the reception of votes is completely transparent and open to scrutiny. Regarding the vote count during the night of the election, she commented that the vote is first tallied for the Parliament, followed by the Municipal Councils, ending with the Provincial Councils. She added that the results are recorded and made directly available to the media and the public through the Swedish Electoral Authority website.

For more information on the Swedish Electoral Authority, please visit this [link](#).

To see this year's voting schedule for Sweden, please click [here](#).



Photo from a polling station in Sweden. Photo credit: Claes Grundsten/Scanpix Bildhuset via <https://www.informationsverige.se/>



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CONCURSO DE DIBUJO INFANTIL “ÉSTE ES MI MÉXICO” 2018



The Institute of Mexicans Abroad (IME) extends an invitation to children of Mexican origin or of any nationality, as well as those who have returned to Mexico, to participate in the XXII edition of the Children's Drawing Contest “This is My Mexico” with the theme: “This is My Mexico: Its history, its Traditions, its Gastronomy, its Beaches, and its Music.”

With this XXII edition of the contest, we are celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad.

It is very important that the participants include the [registration form](#), with all the information requested, as well as information on how they made the drawing. This aspect will be evaluated with a special score by the jury, which is composed of artists, representatives of civil society and specialists in children's art.

The deadline for the reception of drawings is May 31, 2018.

More information [here](#).



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¡VOTA DESDE EL EXTRANJERO!



Desde el mes de agosto de 2016 es posible tramitar la Credencial para Votar desde el Exterior (CPVE) que expide el Instituto Nacional Electoral (INE) en la Embajada de México en Estocolmo, Suecia. Con la obtención de la Credencial para Votar a través de la Embajada, tu domicilio quedará registrado en el extranjero, por lo que no podrás votar en México. Además, la Credencial para Votar te servirá como identificación oficial en México.

Tú podrás ejercer tu voto desde el exterior para Presidente y/o Gobernador de aquellos Estados que tengan la opción del voto en el exterior.

- a. Si ya cuentas con una Credencial para Votar vigente expedida en México deberás manifestar tu intención de votar y quedar inscrito en la Lista Nominal de Electores Residentes en el Extranjero (LNERE) Para mayor información sobre el procedimiento a seguir, ingresa a www.votoextranjero.mx
- b. Si tramitaste tu CPVE entre febrero de 2016 y el 31 de agosto de 2017, deberás cubrir un paso adicional para corroborar tu intención de voto y ser incluido en la Lista Nominal, mismo que puede realizarse a través del portal www.ine.org.mx
- c. Si apenas la vas a tramitar, lo puedes hacer [siguiendo estos pasos](#).

En caso de cualquier duda, favor de escribir a consulado@embamex.se



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Ahora puedes consultar e imprimir la copia certificada de tu acta de nacimiento desde internet. Es válida impresa en hoja blanca tamaño carta ante cualquier gobierno y autoridad municipal, estatal y federal.

Solo pagarás los derechos que cada gobierno estatal definió.

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Si al consultar tu acta de nacimiento se indica que **no se encuentra disponible**, se debe a que tu documento no ha sido capturado en la Base de Datos Nacional del Registro Civil. En ese caso, debes **acudir al registro civil** donde fuiste registrado mientras es capturada en la Base de Datos.

Para más información, consulta la página oficial [aquí](#).



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