

MEXICO

THE SILVER GALLEON BULLETIN





SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR GERARDO LOZANO ARREDONDO

ALMOST seven months since I have arrived in this country, I consider myself most fortunate to experience and feel the cultural affinity existing between Mexico and the Philippines.

This is not a surprise because, for 250 years, our peoples once grew close and directly influenced each other thanks to the Acapulco-Manila Galleon trade route. Several events have happened since then and, in 2018, we are celebrating 65 years of the establishment of our two nations' formal diplomatic relations.



Over the years, bilateral dialogue has become more dynamic, with business and trade having experienced growth. For instance, Mexican investments in the country rose to almost \$6 billion thanks to companies like Cemex Holdings Philippines, Coca-Cola Femsa and Nutec. Complementary, Philippine companies like ICTSI Inc. and Integrated Micro Electronics have invested in Mexico \$450 million. However, our countries have not yet fully exploited mutually beneficial opportunities of political and economic cooperation.

I am confident that, in the coming years, our bilateral ties will grow stronger in the framework of relations with your country, leading to an increased interest of both of our peoples in our respective cultures. We are making this call to the Philippines to get to know Mexico and the strengths of our country. With a vibrant and diverse society, a mosaic of cultural expressions and values acquired by historical moments that defined Mexico and Mexicans, the leading role of our nation can be attested around the world.





COURTESY CALL TO THE SENATE PRESIDENT KOKO PIMENTEL III

On February 13, Ambassador Lozano and Senator Pimentel discussed the important framework that strengthens the relations between Mexico and the Philippines, which include historical and cultural heritage of both countries, experiences on natural disasters, issues on federalism and the Mexican federal system, as well as the pending bilateral agreements.



COURTESY CALL TO THE MAKATI CITY MAYOR, ABIGAIL S. BINAY

Last March 20, Ambassador shared insights on the important challenges and opportunities that both Mexico City and Makati are facing in terms of transportation, infrastructures, security, tourism, environmental protection and waste management. Apart from this, the Ambassador mentioned the particularities of the upcoming 2017-2018 Electoral Process in Mexico.



COURTESY CALL TO SENATOR RICHARD J. GORDON

The Ambassador had the opportunity to discuss with Senator Gordon - the chairmanship of the Blue Ribbon Committee and the Justice and Human Rights Committee of the Senate, the negotiation process of the Global Compact on Secure, Ordered and Regular Migration (GCM), that takes place within the framework of the UN.





OPENING OF THE MANILA BIENNALE 2018

Ambassador Gerardo Lozano launched the Mexican space “Ways of Solitude” in the first edition of the Manila Biennale, in a ceremony at Baluarte San Diego inside Intramuros.



Ways of Solitude is the proposal of three Mexican artists in this Manila Biennale. Dulce Chacon, Claudia Arozqueta and Rodrigo Azaola proposed a dialogue with history as the voice of Mexico to the Filipino people. The main art piece of the exhibition is “Vanitas Portus”, by Dulce Chacon, a two canvases drawing of 1.38 x 4.88 meters each, using carmine cochineal ink portraying the view of Manila and Acapulco, ports linked by the Galleon Trade Route 450 years ago.



73RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE FOR THE LIBERATION OF MANILA



Ambassador Gerardo Lozano offered a wreath in honor of the Mexican Air Force pilots of the “Escuadrón 201”, that fought bravely during the military operations for the freedom of Manila during World War II.

During the commemoration, Ambassador Lozano met with the Manila City Hall authorities, occasion in which he highlighted the ties of friendship that have prevailed for more than 450 years between Mexico and the Philippines.



BUSINESS AND INVESTMENTS

MEXICO AT THE WORLD BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EXPO



From March 14 to 18, the Embassy participated as a trade exhibitor in the Philippine World Building and Construction Exposition (WorldBex) for the first time. During the expo, the Embassy set up a booth where it showcased its promotional clips on Mexican architecture, presented tourism investment projects by FONATUR and distributed tourism promotional leaflets. The Embassy also teamed up with the Mexican companies Cemex Philippines and Interceramic China to promote the cement and tile industries of Mexico.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

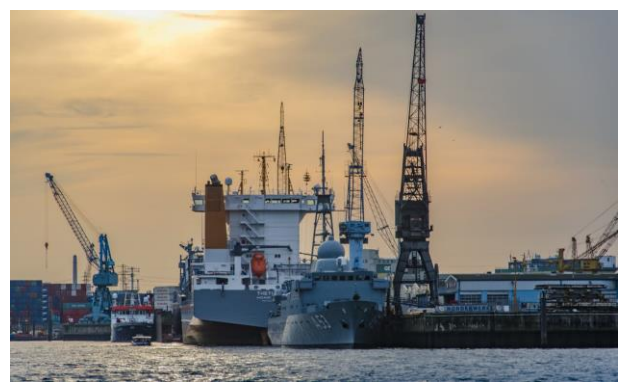
- In 2017, Mexico ranked as the 16th destination of Philippine exports, above India and Canada. *#MXandPHfacts*
- In the same year, the bilateral trade roused to \$2.5 billion USD. *#MXandPHfacts*

STRUCTURAL REFORMS



The #EnergyReform is spurring productive investments that have created 278,000 jobs in January and February of this year, making them the best first two months in #Mexico's history! bit.ly/2u4o4u4

MEXICAN PORTS



Mexico is doubling its port capacity to reflect its vision of multimodal connectivity and logistics. Mexico is working to have excellent port facilities since maritime transport is essential to trade and development. bit.ly/2Ehbzf4



MEXICO: A GLOBAL TOURISM POWER

In 2017, Mexico received **39.3** million tourists.    **\$21.3** billion USD.

World's most visited countries (2016)

France	82.6
United States	75.6
Spain	75.6
China	59.3
Italy	52.4
United Kingdom	35.8
Germany	35.6
Mexico	35.0
Thailand	32.6
Austria	28.1

Asia's most visited countries (2016)

China	59.3
Thailand	32.6
Malaysia	26.8
Hong Kong	26.6
Japan	24.0
South Korea	17.2
Macau	15.7
India	14.6
Singapore	12.9
Indonesia	12.0

In 2016, only surpassed by China, Mexico receives more tourists than any Asian country. It receives more than Indonesia, Singapore and India together, or South Korea and India jointly, or Japan and Singapore mixed.

VTXM TOURISM CAMPAIGN



The #ViajemosTodosPorMexico (Let's All Travel Through Mexico) campaign has been launched in the US for a market with a rising number of travelers coming to Mexico bit.ly/2pLGQsr

P O R M É X I C O



MEANWHILE IN MEXICO

NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



The OECD praised the progress made by Mexico's new international airport, especially its governance, public procurement practices, communication strategy, integrity and transparency. bit.ly/2D1TwNC

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES



There are 68 indigenous peoples in #Mexico, each with its own customs, traditions and languages, of which there are more than 360 dialects. 12 million indigenous Mexicans represent great human and cultural wealth. bit.ly/2GhvonN

EARTHQUAKE CATASTROPHE BOND



Did you know that Mexico's model for #CatastropheBonds has become an international benchmark? In November 2017, #Mexico received a 150 million USD payout . Learn more bit.ly/2Hcv4rl

CLEAN ENERGY



The three long-term auctions held as a result of #Mexico's #EnergyReform have had a very positive impact on solar and wind capacity bit.ly/2IUDhRy

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Thanks to the National Program for Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination against Women, PROIGUALDAD, together with the National Institute for Women, great strides have been made in mainstreaming and institutionalizing gender equality in Mexico. bit.ly/2Fsqofr

G20 AGRICULTURE



#Mexico attended the #G20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting in Argentina, where the focus was on sustainable soil management for a sustainable food future. bit.ly/2pqQJnm

LIVESTOCK



Livestock is one of the most productive activities in #Mexico and is practiced throughout almost the entire nation to provide food through the breeding, care and domestication of animals. bit.ly/2p0wz3c

FORESTS



More than 70% of Mexico's territory is potentially classified as forestland and the federal government is working to protect this natural heritage. bit.ly/2p4G968

HANNOVER MESSE



#Mexico is the first #LatinAmerican and first Spanish-speaking country to star as Partner Country at the #HannoverMesse trade show. Mexico will have the opportunity to showcase its strengths in technology, innovation and industry 4.0. bit.ly/2HvaDVH

COFFEE SECTOR



The coffee industry continues to make big strides in its recovery, as seen by the good production statistics of the last two years. bit.ly/2FwV1ol

AGAVE AND MEXICAL



Did you know that **Tequila and mezcal exports totaled \$1.389 billion USD in 2017?** About 200 species of agave in Mexico are used for both tequila and mezcal. Learn more bit.ly/2sqSfun

MEXICAN TOYS



Mexican toys are much more than just a fun time for kids. Their artistry and creativity are celebrated by museums. bit.ly/2FuRDJH

SRE

SECRETARÍA DE
RELACIONES EXTERIORES



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