

Luxembourg, March 20th, 2015.



Our Ref. TCA/EJE/MVI
Your Ref.

Subject: Countries seminar: Mexico and Colombia – 24th of April 2015

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to announce that the Chamber of Commerce of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, in close cooperation with the Embassies of Mexico and Colombia, Promexico, Procolombia and the Belgian Economic & Commercial Attachés will organise a countries seminar about Mexico and Colombia on Friday 24th of April 2015. The main purpose of this seminar is to let you discover the potential of these 2 Latin American markets in view of a multi-sectoral trade mission end of October 2015, with a focus on ecotechnologies, automotive, logistics, construction and ICT.

Mexico is the eleventh largest economy in the world (in 2014, the GDP (PPP) was 2 143 billions USD*) with a huge domestic market of 122.3 million inhabitants. For almost 30 years, the country has pursued a path towards greater economic openness (36% of the GDP), focused on the liberalisation of international trade and attracting investment flows. In the meantime, many government-owned companies have been privatised. Today, the country has an attractive business environment, legal stability, free trade agreements with more than fifty countries and competitive labor costs. Huge progress has been made to improve its macroeconomic environment and important structural reforms have been undertaken.

Colombia is the third largest economy, the most business-friendly and the leading reforming country in Latin America according to the Doing Business Report of the World Bank. The country is driven by the size of its domestic market of 47 million inhabitants, various natural resources (minerals, coffee, oil and coal in particular), and by the quality of the workforce. The growth forecasts for Colombia are solid and stable in the long term and are estimated at 4.3% for 2015. It is also one of the few countries in the region that has never been lacking or renegotiated its external debt. The re-election of President Santos in June 2014 ensures the continuity of the major projects launched as part of his first term.

This event will be enhanced by the presence of HE Juan José Gomez Camacho, Ambassador of Mexico and HE Rodrigo Rivera, Ambassador of Colombia. It is open to all sectors of activities. The program of the countries seminar will include presentations of the business opportunities for Luxembourg companies in both countries, tips on the cultural and business approach of both countries and testimonials of Luxembourg companies already active in the countries. Also, as part of the program, companies will have the possibilities to meet both Ambassadors and the Belgian Economic & Commercial Attaché for bilateral meetings, upon request.

Interested companies are kindly requested to duly complete the attached registration form and return it to Mrs. Viviane Hoor, fax: 42 39 39-822, e-mail: latinamerica@cc.lu, no later than **April 17, 2015**. Business meetings will be fixed on a first come, first served basis. For further information about this upcoming event, feel free to contact Mrs. Violaine Mathurin (Tel: 42 39 39-481).

Sincerely Yours,

Carlo Thelen
Director General

Attachments: Registration form; Draft program.

*Source: International Monetary Fund (2014)

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