



Creating links with the private sector is indispensable to strengthen the bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States

- *In a meeting with partners from the **AMERICAN CHAMBER/MEXICO**, **Ambassador Martha Bárcena** emphasized that Mexico is, and will continue to be, a safe place for investment.*
- ***AMCHAM's** binational business community strengthens its commitment to continue being a trusted agent that contributes to Mexico's development and to make of Mexico and the United States a successful pairing.*

Mexico City, January 8, 2019

The binational business community of the **AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MEXICO** met today with Mexico's Ambassador to the United States, **Martha Elena Federica Bárcena Coqui**, who was confirmed by the Senate on December 21 and will present her credentials to president Donald Trump this Friday, January 11.

During the meeting, Ambassador Bárcena outlined Mexican foreign policy priorities in the context of the bilateral relationship: cooperating with all of society's actors, in particular stronger links with the private sectors of both countries; a new immigration policy that emphasizes collaboration; spark social development as part of that strategy; border security; strengthening trade and investment; ratification of the USMCA (United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement); recognition of the richness and contributions of Mexicans living in the United States; highlighting Mexico's cultural might and its value as either the top or one of the top two trading partners of 29 of the 50 states of the United States of America.

“For the binational **AMCHAM** business community, addressing key issues of the national agenda is a priority, such as (i) mounting a common front in defense



of the rule of law and the security of American investments in Mexico, which generate jobs and investment that translate into the well-being of millions of Mexicans and their families; (ii) guarantee the free flow of trade at the border; (iii) encourage the ratification of the USMCA in a timely manner; and (iv) safeguard the continuity of cooperation mechanisms between Mexico and the United States in matters of security and combating piracy, among others," emphasized the President of the Chamber, **Monica Flores Barragán**.

Ambassador Bárcena stressed that it is particularly important to fight the negative connotations that exist in the bilateral relationship, particularly with regard to trade and the situation at the border, with reliable information and through cooperation with the private sector. "The border is a dynamic zone, full of opportunities for innovation, employment and economic development for both parties. Hopefully, these realities will guide the relationship between Mexico and the United States."

Furthermore, she explained that the new government's efforts to attract foreign investment will be focused on strengthening MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and their integration into value chains, as well as combating the inequalities that exist in the country.

"Mexico is and will remain a reliable country for investment. The government of President López Obrador will respect the rule of law, combat corruption, seek to reduce inequalities, increase purchasing power through national development and foment a better prepared workforce with the aim of strengthening the domestic market and stimulate growth."

Finally, the Ambassador recognized the value of American companies established in Mexico as support agents that drive Mexico's social and economic development, strengthen the bilateral relationship with their counterparts and allies in the United States and, in particular, contribute to the ratification of the USMCA.



The **AMCHAM** community recognizes the outstanding career of Ambassador Bárcena and reiterates its commitment to (i) maintaining a constructive dialogue with the authorities and the private sector in the United States, (ii) continuing to be a trusted agent to make Mexico and the United States a successful pairing and (iii) contributing to Mexico's well-being by generating more than 2.5 million direct jobs in the formal economy; creating better conditions for investment and business growth; developing talent; and investing in innovation and infrastructure.

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The **AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MEXICO** was founded in 1917 as an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization affiliated with two of the most active and important business organizations in the world: the United States Chamber of Commerce (USCC) and the Association of American Chambers of Commerce of Latin America and the Caribbean (AACCLA).

As of today, the 1,450 companies grouped together in AmCham/Mexico represent 21% of national GDP, 20% of private investment and generate 2.5 million direct jobs in the formal economy along with more than 6 million indirect jobs, contributing significantly to Mexico's economic and social development while strengthening the bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States. One of its priorities is to contribute positively to public policies and the binational business environment, as well as to fortify the rule of law, particularly regarding issues that affect competitiveness, the business environment and the operational security of businesses throughout the country.

More information at: <http://www.amcham.org.mx/>

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