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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 245

President Medina says DR is dedicated to reducing 25% of polluting emissions before 2030

Madrid, Spain.-The President of the Dominican Republic, Danilo Medina, said Monday that the country is dedicated to meeting the goal of reducing pollutant emissions by 25% before 2030, based on the emissions recorded in 2010.

The Dominican Head of State made this statement in the framework of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP25), an event held in Madrid, Spain.

“We have accelerated the pace because we are determined to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. To achieve this, we have launched a series of initiatives, including the most ambitious reforestation program in the region”, Medina added during his intervention.

The president also said the country “moves forward with both its own resources and with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), in the reforestation of more than 48,000 hectares that will allow the river basins to be restored”.

The president also said that another priority of the Government is renewable energy. “That is why we have installed 604 megawatts in hydropower, solar and wind energy, equivalent to 25% of the country's energy matrix and we aim to reach 32% in the year 2023”.

At the opening of the Summit, heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to reducing emissions and move forward with decarbonization to combat the effects of climate change, while less developed countries called for more funding and cooperation.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 246

Dominican Republic meets Global Forum transparency standard

The Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes granted the Dominican Republic a “Widely Compliant” rating in the international standard for transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes.

According to a statement, the rating is the result of “great efforts” made by the Ministry of Finance and the General Directorate of Internal Revenues (DGII), institutions that were in charge of promoting legislative and administrative changes to correct the deficiencies identified in the last evaluation in 2016.

“With this important achievement, the Dominican Republic is positioned at levels of compliance similar to countries such as the United States, Canada, Spain, United Kingdom, Austria, Brazil, Germany and Costa Rica, among others”, said the statement.

The Minister of Finance, Donald Guerrero, expressed his satisfaction over the results of the assessment of the Dominican legal framework and “the effective work plan that highlights the determined political will of the Government to take steps in each evaluation”.

After this assessment, the country assumed the commitment to demonstrate the levels of the legislation’s effectiveness, which was recognized by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.

The report was discussed last October during the Peer Review Group meeting at the headquarters of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), based in Paris, France.

“The Dominican Republic has made significant progress in dealing with the deficiencies identified in its previous report published in 2016”, said the Global Forum, after encouraging the country to continue the improvements it has made to fulfill its commitment to implement the international standards for the fight against tax avoidance and evasion.

The Dominican official valued the public-private alliance that has enabled unanimous approval in the National Congress of fundamental laws for the development of the country, as well as the willingness of entrepreneurs to adapt to those laws.

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NEWS SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 247

IDB Lab signs agreement with Nature Power Foundation to develop sustainable community in DR

La Altagracia, Dominican Republic.- The IDB innovation laboratory, IDB Lab, will support the first community in a state of poverty that will operate with photovoltaic energy: “Nature Village”, a project that was born as an innovative initiative of the Dominican organization Nature Power Foundation and that will provide, for the first time, access to water, energy, improvements in housing and basic sanitation and will develop rural entrepreneurship opportunities for families in Sabana Yegua Viejo, located in the south of the Dominican Republic, in the Azua province.

The aforementioned project will be co-financed by the IDB Lab, through a non-reimbursable technical cooperation, with an investment close to one million dollars; this project, unique in its kind, seeks, at the same time, to close development gaps in the provision of basic services, and to develop an open data platform that will use Internet of Things (IoT).

Similarly, through sensors, it will provide key data and information to correlate socio-economic indicators, demographics, images and maps, which will make it possible to graph the entire intervention model, make comparisons - before and after -, and create future scenarios. This will allow to focus and make more efficient public and private investments in rural communities through consumption data and behavioral changes generated by the platform.

During the signing ceremony, Luis Alberto Moreno, IDB President, valued this project and congratulated the Nature Power Foundation team. “I see in this alliance the ability to replicate projects like this in more remote communities not only in the Dominican Republic, but also in Haiti, thanks to the fact that solar energy costs have dropped and can become main sources energy”, said Moreno.

In addition to the support from the IDB Lab, “Nature Village” has the support of the German Embassy in the Dominican Republic and the Canadian Embassy; as well as the Fundación para el Desarrollo de Azua, San Juan y Elías Piña (FUNDASEP); Asociación de Fomento de Empresas de Energía Renovables (ASOFER), which brings together private companies that will participate through their partners in the transfer of knowledge. Also participating is the City Council of Padre las Casas in the Province of Azua, the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INDRHI), National Institute of Drinking Water and Sewerage (INAPA), the Ministry of Agriculture, CODOPESCA and the Rural Electrification Unit (UERS), which will validate the model to improve the design of future implementations in rural areas.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 248

Dominican Republic's potential to exploit the orange economy is underlined

Santo Domingo.- The country has all the elements to transform the orange economy, a name that defines the cultural and creative industries, into an engine of economic development, as stated by the Director of the Telecommunications Development Fund, Neil Checo.

He stated in the opening speech of "Silicon Valley Connection" that the Dominican Republic counts with great opportunities associated with the exponential progress of telecommunications, which demand a huge amount of original and innovative content. The event is sponsored by the Dominican Institute of Telecommunications (INDOTEL) to reduce the gap between the local entrepreneurship ecosystem and the area of high technological incidence.

Concerning the industry 4.0 or fourth industrial revolution, also addressed in the activity, Checo explained that it is a new era that makes a quantitative and qualitative leap in the organization and management of value chains.

"This new stage is committed to greater automation, connectivity and globalization. We see that the interrelation between different areas, such as products, processes and business models, has penetrated the industrial world, bringing with it the IoT (internet of things) and the world of Big Data and Analytics", he said.

In the workshops and presentations, held at the Centro INDOTEL, María Claudia López Sorzano, from the Ministry of Culture of Bogotá, spoke about the orange economy as a development pillar; Andrés Bernal, from Palo Alto, explained how to build a scalable startup entrepreneurship in the orange economy.

Meanwhile, Julio García, from Innovation Strategist, addressed industry 4.0: new technologies applied to local environments; and biotechnologist Cristal Mixcan Martínez, the founder of Livo Guilherme Freire, and Tuto Assad, Vitau's CEO, spoke on a panel about their careers as entrepreneurs.

The speakers were open to dialogue and the exchange of ideas, and interacted with the attendees.

In that creative industry there are professionals from a wide variety of areas ranging from writers, designers and actors, to academics, engineers, programmers or architects, among many others. All of them are part of the Orange Economy and, therefore, helping to strengthen these professions is also the way to strengthen this industry.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 249

The newspaper USA Today highlights why tourists should visit Dominican Republic

The newspaper USA Today highlighted on Wednesday that the Dominican Republic is a safe place for tourists and gave several reasons why US citizens should visit the country.

USA Today indicates that vacationers who still hesitate to travel to Punta Cana should not turn their backs on the country, since it has much more to offer than Punta Cana.

The newspaper highlights the “Ciudad Colonial” as one of the options to visit. This historic area of Santo Domingo has restaurants and outdoor cafés, museums and many historic buildings.

In addition, it mentions in its list of places to visit, the beaches of Puerto Plata and Sosúa, “which are reemerging in recent years because of the investments made in these areas”. But there is also the famous Puerto Plata aerial tramway that offers a trip to Mount Isabel de Torres.

Another of the cities that USA Today recommends to visit is Santiago and highlights its central location and know how cigars are made. Another tourist attraction mentioned by the newspaper is the “Pico Duarte” which can be climbed by visitors.

Likewise, another place that stands out within the article is the Samaná Peninsula which, it says, is very popular among European vacationers looking for Caribbean vibes. It also draws attention to the observations of humpback whales that can be seen on site during the corresponding season.

As for the south, it distinguishes the ecosystem of Lake Enriquillo with its salt water, where crocodiles can be observed in their natural habitat.

In the end, the paper regrets that travelers were afraid to travel to the Dominican Republic.

In the middle of this year, tourism in the Dominican Republic was affected by information about several American tourists who died from unknown causes. However, later the autopsies and toxicological reports made by the FBI concluded that those tourists died from natural causes, confirming what was said by the Dominican authorities.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 250

The IDB has approved US \$1.8 billion in projects for the Dominican Republic

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved projects for the Dominican Republic, according to an estimate made yesterday, for the amount of 1.8 billion dollars, of which half is in execution and 800 million await approval from the National Congress or the signing of contracts by the Ministry of Finance.

Out of the 800 million that are being worked on (which are under execution) there is a third that remains to be disbursed. It means that just over 500 million have been disbursed and another 300 million still remains - more or less - for disbursement, for sectors such as agriculture, energy and education.

These are resources that have been directed towards the strengthening of diverse activities, listed yesterday, both by Miguel Coronado Hunter, representative of the IDB Group in the Dominican Republic, and by several officials of the institution that were interviewed at the "Almuerzo Semanal de Multimedia del Caribe".

Those executives are Gilles Damais, IDB Chief of Operations; Joaquín Zentner, Country Economist, and Patricia Reinoso, Communications Consultant.

The IDB has a strategy with which it works in a timely manner and it is designed to cover the period from 2017-2020. It has an operational plan, based on the Government's financial needs, that precisely takes into account the fact that the Government has a budget that must be financed and there the IDB intervenes with the approval of loans to complement those needs.

But in an expanded manner, the multilateral agency has been accompanying the implementation of the National Development Strategy 2030. Among the programs that are a priority for the IDB are those aimed at reducing poverty and support the human capital of the country, those focused on public policies and the strengthening of democracy, equalities in opportunities and gender issues, the electricity sector, the improvement of the "Ciudad Colonial" (which comes rather from 2016), a budget support program and a professionalization program on taxation and revenues collection, which covers Internal Revenue (DGII) and Customs (DGA).

In electricity matters, it is specifically accompanied in the improvement of the distribution network, especially with an approach to reduce the losses arising from inefficiencies within the electricity distribution companies (Edesur, Edenorte and EdeEste), with an involvement approved last year by the IDB for almost US \$155 million. It is an operation that was signed this year, but it has not been sent to Congress, said Coronado Hunter in the interview.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 251

Bachata: UNESCO declares the music genre an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

The bachata was consecrated. The rhythm was inscribed on Wednesday in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The high honor comes after going through a bittersweet process of social discrimination, crude lyrics at one stage, final acceptance within the middle class, and the incursion of artists from other genres such as Juan Luis Guerra until reaching the present times in which musicians like Romeo Santos merged the traditional sound with other musical elements assimilated by the new generations to give it another dimension.

The XIV Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO, while meeting in Bogotá, decided to register the music genre on its list because it considers that “bachata music and dance are native cultural expressions always present in the celebrations of the communities or in social gatherings”.

“As a general norm, the lyrics of the bachata genre express deep and visceral feelings of love, passion and nostalgia. The word ‘bachata’ is supposed to be of African origin and initially it was not used to designate a specific music genre, but rather a lively gathering or party”, said UNESCO.

This genre—arising from the fusion of the bolero with other Afro-American rhythms such as the Cuban son, the chachachá and the merengue—requires a musical group with one or two guitars, a double bass and a set of percussion instruments that includes bongos, maracas and güira. “The musical rhythm of bachata has a four-beat pace and one of the musicians usually acts as the lead singer. Bachata dance is as passionate as it is the music. Based on an eight-bar rhythm, one dances with a partner with sensual movements of the hips”, stated UNESCO added.

The paternity of the native rhythm is attributed to José Manuel Calderón when he recorded the song “Condena” on May 30, 1962.

Among its most popular singers are Luis Segura, Leonardo Paniagua, Juan Luis Guerra, Anthony Santos, Luis Vargas, Frank Reyes, Raulín Rodríguez, Yóskar Sarante, Ramón Torres, Zacarías Ferreira, Elvis Martínez, Romeo Santos and many more.

For this achievement, a special thanks must be given to the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to UNESCO, José Antonio Rodríguez, who promoted the initiative until the end.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 252

Dominican Republic has the most diverse energy matrix in Central America and the Caribbean

The Dominican Republic has the most diverse energy generation matrix in Central America and the insular Caribbean Region, reaching 3,702.8 megawatts of installed capacity by 2019, coming from 11 different generation sources, of which 22% comes from renewable sources, said the Dominican Electricity Corporation (CDEEE) in a press release.

The press release stresses that the CDEEE-Renewable program, which promotes renewable energy, seeks to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, reduce energy prices to consumers and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, the main causes of global warming.

According to the institution's communication, the information was provided by Omar Ramírez Tejada, Environmental Advisor to the Executive Branch and Coordinator of the CDEEE Renewable Program, within the context of the event "Facilitating the planning and financing of renewable energy projects in Developing Island States", organized by IRENA and AOSIS, which was held in Madrid, Spain, within the framework of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP25). In the event, Ramírez Tejada had a dissertation on behalf of the Delegation of the Dominican Republic.

"The first and most important measure of climate policy adopted by the government of President Danilo Medina was to align the National Development Strategy and the contribution determined at the national level with the national strategic planning of the electricity sector", said Ramírez Tejada.

He noted that the electricity sector is the largest source of greenhouse gases within the emission matrix, with 32% of total emissions.

Thus, it is critical to prioritize renewable energy as a matter of foreign and national investment with financial institutions, such as national and foreign banks established in the Dominican Republic.

Ramírez said that, at present, photovoltaic, wind and biomass projects are being completed through the CDEEE-Renewable Program, completing by 2020 the development of 609 megawatts of renewable energy corresponding to 7 wind, 3 solar and biomass parks that would represent a reduction of 501,077.91 tons of greenhouse gas emissions, an important contribution of the Dominican Republic in compliance with the Paris Agreement.

He explained that as a result of the frequent impacts on the population and natural ecosystems that meteorological phenomena generate in the Caribbean, in the last 10 years the Dominican Government is building a sustainable development agenda seeking to incorporate adaptation to climate change as a transversal policy within the National Development Strategy 2030 and its relation to the other transversal policies.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 253

Mining exports grew 43% in eight years

Santo Domingo.- From 2010 to 2018, exports from the mining industry grew 43%, according to statements offered this morning by the President of the Round Table of the Commonwealth Countries in the Dominican Republic, Fernando González Nicolás.

González said that last year alone, exports for this concept amounted to US \$1.66 billion, with India and Canada as the main destinations, with USD \$663 million and USD \$584 million, respectively.

During his opening remarks at the 2nd annual seminar “Potencial brindan los 53 países de la Mancomunidad a la República Dominicana”, González explained that currently, in addition to mining exports, the Commonwealth countries are those who lead foreign investment in the Dominican Republic with a prominent presence in other important industries of the national economy, such as banking, alcoholic beverages, among other items.

“If we understand that mining is vital for the economic development of the country, then we should reinforce the support we provide to this activity, creating the conditions for its development in a responsible manner and supporting the promotion of sustainable business investment”, he said.

He argued that concerning the mining bill currently being reviewed in the National Congress, experts should be heard and investors should be taken into consideration in order to ensure that in the end the project becomes a law that makes the country competitive internationally and that can attract the investments that mining needs for the development of the Dominican Republic.

About the seminar

The objective of this seminar was to identify new export markets, sources of investment and financing in the countries that make up the Commonwealth and learn about non-traditional business opportunities for the Dominican Republic.

During the event, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Miguel Vargas received a plaque from the Round Table of the Commonwealth Countries in the Dominican Republic in recognition for “his tireless and effective management with tangible results in the promotion of our exports and in the sponsorship of new foreign investments, which translates into development and prosperity for the Dominican people”.

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NEWS SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 254

Dominican Republic expands its medical technology manufacturing exports

During the past few years the Dominican Republic has become one of the leading providers of medical devices in the United States. It has positioned itself as the Latin American country with the highest export value of medical and surgical instruments worldwide. This year it aims to expand its exports of medical technology at a rate of 7%.

A strong system of free trade zones and proximity to the United States, as well as a high level of English language proficiency and understanding of American culture, have played a key role in turning the country into another regional center for medical technology companies, along with Costa Rica and Mexico, the other two key players in this industry within the region.

“This understanding of American culture has served as the lever that has been attracting more and more growth to the medical technology industry, bringing more volume to create more production lines in the Dominican Republic”, explained Tulio Martí, Advisor to the medical device cluster of the Dominican Association of Free Zones (Adozona), to BioWorld MedTech.

The country focuses on training engineers to support the growing operations of medical technology in the free trade zones, annually the country's universities graduate around 6,000 engineers. “There is already a certification program for medical devices that is available in the engineering field for university students, so they can immerse themselves in the field of medical devices”, Adozona's Executive Vice President José Manuel Torres told BioWorld.

Many of the engineers that the country is training plan to get jobs in multinational companies that carry out manufacturing operations in the Dominican Republic. Potential employers include Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic plc, B. Braun Medical, Cardinal Health Inc., Ecolab Inc. and Cosmed Group, a company that has found new sterilization marketing opportunities in the medical technology industry in the Republic Dominican

There are currently 32 manufacturers of medical devices and pharmaceutical products that operate under the free zone system in the country. They generate more than 24,000 direct jobs, with an accumulated investment of US \$1.36 billion. According to Adozona data, this represents 400% more than the investment registered for the medical technology industry in 2008.

The free zone system is designed to attract more investment from the industry, while offering tax exemptions for up to 15 years for medical technology manufacturing companies, with the option of renewing stable contracts for another 15 years. “There is a very attractive cost structure and also an important logistics capacity”, Torres said.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 255

New project “Foreign Investment Barometer” is announced for 2020

Santo Domingo.- The Export and Investment Center of the Dominican Republic (CEI-RD) held the first “Grand Investor Gala”, awarding a recognition medal to the more than one hundred foreign capital companies established in the country.

The Director of CEI-RD, Marius de León, took the opportunity to announce the implementation, for 2020, of a new project titled: The Foreign Investment Barometer (BIE-CEI-RD), a tool that will allow constant consultation to measure satisfaction, meet the expectations, recommendations and needs of the sector.

“In the Dominican Government, we have assumed the goal with a strong commitment, following the vision of President Danilo Medina, on the implementation of policies to attract strategic investments in the key sectors for the development of the country, which aim to generate changes in production patterns, and greater sustainable consumption”, said Marius De León.

In his speech, De León made reference to the investors’ confidence in the country due to economic performance, and stressed that the Dominican Republic is the leader in receiving foreign direct investment in the Caribbean, with 45% of the total investment of the region, and second in Central America, with 18.5% for the year 2018.

In addition to recognizing the 54 companies that were at the event, a recognition medal was given to Luisa Fernández, Director of the National Free Zones Council, for her career and achievements in the area.

The Governor of the Central Bank, Héctor Valdez Albizu, was also recognized “for his admirable work directing the country’s monetary policy”, as well as the Minister of Foreign Affairs Miguel Vargas Maldonado for his “proactive support” in the development of an inter-institutional agenda: CEIRD-MIREX, which has allowed the execution, “with high levels of efficiency, of the country’s promotion efforts to attract foreign investment and expand exports, as well as other initiatives that positively impact the positioning of the Dominican Republic in the market International”.

The event held at the Convention Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was attended by the Minister of Industry, Commerce and SMEs, Nelson Toca Simó; the Governor of the Central Bank, Héctor Valdez Albizu; and other senior officials. Along with them were also present businessmen, diplomats and special guests.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 256

Tourism industry has been the biggest beneficiary of foreign investment

The Governor of the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (BCRD), Héctor Valdez Albizu, said that despite the challenging international environment, the tourism industry has been the biggest beneficiary of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the country in recent years.

He stressed that only in the area from Puerto Plata to Samaná there are 12 foreign capital projects registered in the last three years, with a total investment of US \$223 million.

He said that at the national level there are currently 33 projects in execution for a total value of US \$885 million.

He also explained that of those projects, 30 are new hotel projects, which together with the extensions of existing ones are estimated to add 13,000 rooms to the country's portfolio, according to local press.

The Governor of the Central Bank spoke in these terms during his participation in the inauguration of the Grand Investor Gala 2019, held last Tuesday, December 3, at the convention center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MIREX) in Santo Domingo.

Valdez Albizu highlighted the progress in legal matters registered in the Dominican Republic, among which he cited the Law on Promotion of Tourism Development, the Law on Unfair Trade Practices and Safeguard Measures, the Law on Competitiveness and Industrial Innovation, the Law on Defense of Competition and the Law on the Promotion of Cinematographic Activities.

Published on December 6, 2019, by the tourist newspaper Arecoa (www.arecoa.com)



NEWS SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 257

Dominican Republic and France come together to face climate change and promote social development

Santo Domingo.- The signing of the letter of intent is part of the government initiatives to reduce 25 percent of the country's emissions by 2030 and its efforts to implement cleaner and more resilient economic practices

Representatives of the Dominican Government, the Sur Futuro Foundation, and the French Development Agency (AFD) signed a letter of intent on Monday to strengthen resilience and climate adaptation, ensure the sustainable use of natural resources and promote the social development of the populations near the Yaque del Sur River Basin.

The meeting, led by the Vice President of the Dominican Republic and Coordinator of the Social Policy Cabinet (GCPS), Dr. Margarita Cedeño, brought together the key development players in the country, who reaffirmed their commitment to facing the problem of climate change.

The event, held in the Salón Verde of the Palacio Nacional (Presidential Palace), joins the will of President Danilo Medina to fulfill the commitments of the Paris Agreement, to reduce 25 percent of the country's emissions by 2030 and its efforts to implement cleaner and more resilient economic practices, as noted during their participation at the opening ceremony of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change, COP25, held in Madrid on December 2.

The participation of the Sur Futuro Foundation, which represents all the players within the Yaque del Sur basin, was fundamental to identify their main needs and form the alliance to face the socio-economic, environmental and climatic challenges of the region, and respond with concrete actions.

The Government, through the GCPS, has multiple strategies for overcoming poverty and is currently committed to increasing resilience at different levels and through different institutions.

For its part, the Director of the AFD in the Dominican Republic, Sandra Kassab, highlighted the strong coordination between Dominican institutions and the efforts made to face the climate emergency that directly benefit the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Adapt'Action is a tool designed by AFD to help 15 eligible countries and regional organizations (the Dominican Republic included) to implement commitments that promote more resilient development in relation to the effects of climate change.

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NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

No. 258

Dominican Republic still leads on tourist arrivals according to global ranking

Regarding tourism, the Dominican Republic continues to be a leader not only in the Caribbean, but also in Central America and other destinations, according to the world ranking of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), which says a lot about the hospitality industry concerning the projections of the thriving sector of the economy.

“Our positioning in the regional and global tourism scenario explains why we remain on the radar of organizations that are looking for new tropical climate destinations to expand their presence in the important and lucrative global tourism industry”, stated Paola Rainieri, President of the Dominican Association of Hotels and Tourism (ASONAHORES).

The world ranking of the UNWTO indicates that among 220 destinations, the Dominican Republic ranked fourth, 50th in terms of tourist arrivals and 41st in terms of revenue generated by those visitors. Likewise, in the Central American region, with 37 destinations evaluated, the UNWTO indicates that the Dominican Republic ranks first in terms of arrivals, foreign currency income and world-class hotel portfolio. In 2018, while announcing the data, Paola Rainieri said the Dominican Republic attracted 25% of the tourists who visited the Caribbean, 17% of LAC tourism and 24% of the Caribbean, only surpassed by Mexico. From 2000-2018, the hotel rooms went from 51,000 to more than 79,000 units and by June 2019 they exceeded 81,000, resulting in the largest number within Central America and the Caribbean.

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