



## **Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Canada**

*130 Albert Street, Suite 1605, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4, Canada*  
Tel.: (613) 569-9893 Fax: (613) 569-8673 E-mail: [info@ca.mirex.gob.do](mailto:info@ca.mirex.gob.do)  
[www.dominicanembassycanada.gob.do](http://www.dominicanembassycanada.gob.do)

# **COMPENDIUM OF NEWS SHEETS**

## **November 2019**

Numbers 231 - 244

- [231 - Foreign officials highlight the economic performance of the Dominican Republic](#)
- [232 - ECLAC projects growth of 3.4% in the value of Dominican exports in 2019](#)
- [233 - Dominicans break Guinness record dancing merengue](#)
- [234 - Valdez Albizu reports economy grew 5.1% in September](#)
- [235 - Dominican Republic participates in the 26th Annual FCCA Cruise Conference](#)
- [236 - IMF mentions Dominican Republic among countries with the best economic performance in 2019](#)
- [237 - Dominican Republic stands out in cocoa, cigars, distilled liquors and beaches at import fair in China](#)
- [238 - Dominican Republic wins award in Mexico as “Best destination abroad”](#)
- [239 - Dominican Republic assumes the presidency of OLADE](#)
- [240 - Valdez Albizu highlights Dominican macroeconomic performance in regional conference](#)
- [241 - Trade exchange between Brazil and the Dominican Republic reaches US \\$511.7 million in 2019](#)
- [242 - Dominican Embassy promotes inter-institutional dialogue on Eliminating Violence against Women](#)
- [243 - Juan Luis Guerra gets his second Latin Grammy for Best Tropical Album with “Literal”](#)
- [244 - Texas Rangers open modern academy with an investment of 12 million](#)



## NEWS SHEET

### EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 231

## Foreign officials highlight the economic performance of the Dominican Republic

Washington, DC. - The Ministry of Finance of the Dominican Republic was recognized for its “economic and financial achievements” made by the country and the growth projection that it presents in the medium and long term, during the 50th Meeting of the Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

At the meeting, which was held in Washington, DC, the finance ministers of Latin America stressed that the Dominican Republic, together with Panama and Bolivia, present the best economic outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean at the present time.

“We must be satisfied by the coordination that exists between monetary policy and fiscal policy. The correct administration of the economic policy in the Dominican Republic has allowed a healthy growth of the main macroeconomic indicators”, said Finance Minister Donald Guerrero Ortiz.

The statement made by the Finance Ministry indicates that the Meeting of the Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries is a meeting that seeks to create a constructive dialogue, under a regional perspective, between the monetary and financial entities of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The conference had several sessions to discuss the main challenges and opportunities that can be seen in the economic environment of the Latin American region.

Guerrero Ortiz said that the Dominican Republic has grown above 5% in the last 6 years, with social spending that has allowed it to reduce poverty from 39.7% to 22% because it is focused on the needs of the Dominican society.

During his participation in the panel on sustainable fiscal management, the official said that the country's short-term challenges are external in nature, mainly explained by the slowdown in the world economy, particularly in the United States and the Eurozone.

“We have a bill on public-private partnerships, with the support of the IDB and the consensus of the private sector, which will strengthen public investment mechanisms through an improvement in fiscal efficiency”, said the head of the governing body of public finances.

In the panel also participated: Rocío Tábora, Minister of Finance of Honduras; Nelson Fuentes, Minister of Finance of El Salvador, and Alejandro Gaytán from the Ministry of Finance of Mexico.

The delegation of the Dominican Republic that accompanied the Minister of Finance consisted of Carlos Pared Vidal, Executive Director of the country before the IDB; José Luis Actis, Cynthia Arias and Virginia Bello, as well as Julio Andújar and Brenda Villanueva, representing the Central Bank.

*Published on October 22, 2019, by the newspaper Diario Libre (www.Diariolibre.com)*



## NEWS SHEET

### EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 232

#### **ECLAC projects growth of 3.4% in the value of Dominican exports in 2019**

According to the most recent ECLAC report on foreign trade, a 3.4% growth in export value is projected for the Dominican Republic for 2019, with an increase in price of (1.6%) and a volume increment of (1.8%).

This occurs when the agency shows that until June of this year, 12 of the 19 countries for which information is available, recorded decreases in export value, and the rest showed a slowdown.

“The imports performance was similar. Only Guatemala, Mexico and the Dominican Republic registered increases - though moderate - in their exports and imports of goods”, says the ECLAC report published Tuesday at a press conference held in Mexico, which was broadcasted live.

The study “International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2019”, indicates that for the Caribbean economies, an export value increase of 3.7% is projected, as a result of the volume expansion (4.7%) and the drop in prices.

It indicates that in 13 of the 16 Caribbean countries on which information is available, increases in export value are projected, mainly driven by volume expansion. “Six countries explain most of the favorable evolution of the export sector: Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago”, the document said.

ECLAC also emphasizes that the Dominican Republic, which accounted for 34% of the total exported by the Caribbean in 2018, is favored by the rise in some of the prices of its export products; mainly, gold, cigars, ferronickel and jewelry items.

The report states that the greatest expansion will occur in the case of agricultural and mining exports, whose value would increase by 10% and 5%, respectively.

Likewise, the report, posted online on Tuesday, highlights that among agricultural exports, the increase in bananas and avocados and, among mining companies, those of gold and ferronickel would stand out.

And in that sense, among the products of the industrial free zones, the exports of cigars and electrical products will counteract the contraction of the clothing and medical equipment industries, which, until June 2019, registered decreases of 0.8% and 6.5%, respectively, according to the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic.

*Published on October 29, 2019, by the newspaper Diario libre (www.diariolibre.com)*

---

130 Albert Street, Suite 1605 Ottawa, ON K1P 5G4, Canada, Phone: 613-569-9893, Fax: 613-569-8673

Website: [www.dominicanembassycanada.gob.do](http://www.dominicanembassycanada.gob.do) e-mail: [info@ca.mirex.gob.do](mailto:info@ca.mirex.gob.do)



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 233

### **Dominicans break Guinness record dancing merengue**

Santo Domingo.- Dressed in colorful clothes, under a fine drizzle in the Plaza España of Santo Domingo and with the joy of a Sunday afternoon at the rhythm of the 'Merengón' by Joseíto Mateo, 427 Dominican couples broke a Guinness record dancing merengue in a synchronized way.

The male dancers, dressed in white t-shirts and jeans, and the females with blue skirts and red and white decorations, achieved the goal and snatched the record from Russia, a country that had held it since 2013 and brought the mark 'where it belongs', to the Country of origin of this music genre, the Dominican Republic.

It was a couple of years ago when art producer Alberto Zayas realized that in June 2013, 330 couples from the Buena Vista Social Club dance academy had achieved the record by dancing this Dominican music at the Lenin Stadium in the city of Khabarovsk, in the far east of Russia, on the border with China.

“Then I said wow, what is a Russian doing with a record that belongs to us as Dominicans?”, Zayas said in an interview with Efe and that was when the project called “un récord p'al merengue” was born, because he concluded that a 'country brand' event had to be held where the “dominicanidad” was shown and was the protagonist.

His initial goal was to summon 350 dance couples, 20 more than the Russians, but “thank God and the unity of an entire country, many good people” managed to surpass the figure and we got more than 800 volunteers, mostly members of schools and dance academies of several Dominican cities.

Following a choreography rehearsed for months, these couples danced exactly 5 minutes with 18 seconds to the rhythm of the classic 'Merengón' of the King of Merengue, Joseíto Mateo, in a version performed by artists Miriam Cruz, Elvis Crespo and Manny Cruz.

The Guinness organization demands that the dancers do a synchronized choreography for a minimum of five minutes, wearing the same costumes and similar footwear in color.

To validate the record, it is required the presence of a witness with dancing knowledge, independent supervisors for each group of 25 couples, as well as two experts in timing.

In that sense, merengue brought together hundreds of strangers who danced to the beat of a rhythm whose origin is a subject of debate. Numerous pictures were taken and shared on social networks, paying homage to the history of the national rhythm, which supports the joy of a whole nation.

*Published on November 3, 2019, by the Diario Libre newspaper ([www.diariolibre.com](http://www.diariolibre.com))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 234

### **Valdez Albizu reports economy grew 5.1% in September**

The Governor of the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (BCRD) reported that in September the real economic activity registered a year-on-year growth of 5.1%, after having reached 4.8% in the month of August.

Mr. Héctor Valdez Albizu said that in this way, during the first nine months of the year the gross domestic product (GDP) reached a year-on-year growth of 4.8%, the highest in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In this performance, the activities with the highest incidence during the first nine months of the year were: Financial Services (8.8%), Construction (8.5%), Energy and Water (7.9%), Other Services Activities (6.9%), Transportation (5.2%), Real Estate Activities (5.0%) and Agriculture (4.2%).

Regarding the Hotels, Bars and Restaurants activity, it should be noted that despite the difficulties that tourism has gone through, as a result of a negative media campaign in international media, the Dominican Republic registered a positive year-on-year growth of 1.0% in January-September 2019 within this industry.

Valdez Albizu highlighted the positive effect expansive monetary measures have had, making it possible to boost private credit in national currency, which has increased by DOP \$55,586.8 million since June to date. Of this amount, DOP \$25,197.6 million, equivalent to 73.3% of the total released, correspond to legal reserve resources, while DOP \$30,389.2 million come from funds available for loans from financial intermediaries.

In annual terms, credit for the private sector in national currency has grown by around 11.0% to date, said the Governor of the Central Bank.

*Published on October 23, 2019, by the newspaper El Nuevo Diario ([www.elnuevodiario.com](http://www.elnuevodiario.com))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 235

### **Dominican Republic participates in the 26th Annual FCCA Cruise Conference**

The eminent growth the cruise industry has had in the Dominican Republic is the result of promoting the destination and the active participation in the different scenarios of the world; in that sense, the country will be participating in the 26th Florida Caribbean Cruise Association Conference –FCCA.

The aforementioned meeting will take place from October 21 to 25 at the San Juan Convention Center, Puerto Rico, where more than 20 member cruise lines of the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) will be participating.

About the event, Orfila Salazar, Director of the Cruise Department of the Ministry of Tourism (MITUR), said it is an excellent opportunity that will seek to further strengthen the country's leadership in the cruise industry, which last year registered 1,357,969 visitors.

With 498 cruises visiting different ports, Quisqueya received 1,008,177 passengers and 349,792 crew members, led by Puerto Plata with the arrival of 700,216 visitors, followed by La Romana with a total of 458,465.

Between January-September of 2019, a total of 347 cruises arrived at our ports, receiving 785,999 passengers and 267,925 crew members for a total of 1,053,924 visitors, for an increase of 108,131 visitors, compared to the same period of 2018

The FCCA is a nonprofit commercial organization composed of 21 member cruise lines, operating about 200 vessels in Florida, the Caribbean and Latin America.

The objective of the FCCA is to provide a discussion forum on tourism development, ports, security and other cruise industry issues

*Published on October 20, 2019, by the newspaper El Nuevo Diario ([www.elnuevodiario.com](http://www.elnuevodiario.com))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 236

### **IMF mentions Dominican Republic among countries with the best economic performance in 2019**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted on Tuesday that Latin America and the Caribbean will experience economic growth of just 0.2% during 2019, a significant reduction from the 1.4% expansion it had projected in April.

The Fund attributed the trend towards lower growth than expected in the two largest economies in the region, Brazil and Mexico, to the Argentine crisis and the grave Venezuelan depression, whose domestic product will contract this year by a third.

The IMF projected that Latin America will bounce back and grow 1.8% next year. During 2018, the expansion had been 1%, according to the AP news agency published on Tuesday.

The Fund said that it was due to difficulties experienced by the mining sector that the Brazilian economy growth will only be 0.9% this year, a substantial reduction from 1.2% of the forecast issued in April.

The IMF chief economist, Gita Gopinath, said at a press conference that Brazil has shown progress with its pension system reform but debt levels remain high. "We have to do more. We expect the situation to improve if policy uncertainty continues decreasing and more reforms thrive", he said. Brazil grew 1.1% in 2018.

Mexico will expand just 0.4% in 2019 due to a slowdown in investment and private consumption as a result of the uncertainty generated by the government of Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Argentina will contract 3.1%, even more than the 2.5% negative growth experienced during 2018. The IMF expects inflation to climb to 54.4% this year and to fall slightly to 51% in 2020.

In addition to Argentina and Venezuela, the other nations of the region that will close 2019 with negative growth are Nicaragua (5%), Barbados (0.1%), and Ecuador (0.5%), whose President Lenín Moreno was forced to repeal economic reforms that he had agreed with the IMF after street protests that paralyzed the country for 10 days.

The countries with the best performance this year will be Dominica (9.4%), Dominican Republic (5%), Guyana (4.4%) and Panama (4.3%).

This year, the region would be far behind with respect to the global economy. The IMF estimates that the trade dispute between the United States and China will keep global growth at 3% this year, a decline from the 3.6% reached in 2018.

*Published on October 15, 2019, by the newspaper El Nuevo Diario ([www.elnuevodiario.com](http://www.elnuevodiario.com))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 237

### **Dominican Republic stands out in cocoa, cigars, distilled liquors and beaches at import fair in China**

The splendor of the Latin American and Caribbean culture, as well as its natural wealth and varied product portfolio, were on display in the national pavilions of the second International Import Exhibition of China, which opened Tuesday in Shanghai, the country's eastern metropolis. A total of 12 countries from the region have spaces in the event, including two guests of honor: Peru and Jamaica.

On the other hand, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Dominican Republic and Uruguay have their national pavilions. The pavilions of Peru and Jamaica have special places reserved in the exhibition hall, opening a door to the rich geography and cuisine of the Andean country, as well as to the paradisiacal Caribbean island.

In the Peruvian stand stands out its portfolio of traditional food products such as avocado, grapes and “pisco”, as well as the so-called “superfoods” of high nutritional value such as quinoa and sacha inchi. Jamaica, meanwhile, shows its rums and blue mountain coffee, which adds to a variety of offers of seafood that surrounds the Caribbean island.

El Salvador, a country that established its diplomatic relations with China last year, arrives in Shanghai with a sample of its best coffee and its pavilion has open doors for investors interested in the Central American nation.

“In El Salvador there is a high product quality that we would love for the Chinese people to know”, Salvador Gómez Góchez, President of the Export and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA), told Xinhua. Among the variety of first-class agricultural products offered by El Salvador, there are honey, sugar and tropical fruits, Gómez Góchez believes that Salvadoran cocoa has the best potential to enter the Chinese market.

The president of PROESA highlights the possibilities that have been opened since the establishment of diplomatic ties and believes that as “as we continue to build trust between the two nations, Salvadoran products may have a greater presence”.

The Dominican Republic pavilion stands out in terms of cocoa samples, beautiful beaches, quality cigars and high purity distilled liquors.

The CEO and founder of the liquor company based in Santo Domingo J&J Spirits, Jack Astacio, proudly displays at this stand bottles of “Mamajuana”, a traditional Dominican drink made with rum and flavored with herbs and other beneficial products for the health.

The product arrived in China for the first time in March this year through a Chinese partner in Chengdu, but Astacio expects the CIIE to help expand the sales of this beverage on a larger scale.

*Published on November 6, 2019, by the newspaper Listín Diario ([www.listindiario.com](http://www.listindiario.com))*





## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 238

### **Dominican Republic wins award in Mexico as “Best destination abroad”**

Dominican tourism continues to reap success and recognition internationally. On this occasion, it won, in the Mexican capital, the “Best Destination Abroad” award, during the twenty-third “Recognition for Quality” gala organized by the magazine Convenciones Latinoamérica.

The Dominican Republic won such recognition as a result of a nationwide survey in which meeting planners (conference and convention organizers and conventions companies), specialized tourism providers, associations and chambers of commerce participated.

According to the statement from the Ministry of Tourism (MITUR), the parameters of the election were: ease of operation, cleanliness and safety standards, diversity of the hotel industry, support structure in operations, staff friendliness, and assessment of airports and roads infrastructure.

Carolina Pérez, director of the Office of Tourism Promotion (OPT) of the Dominican Republic in Mexico, said that this award consolidates the image of the Caribbean country as a global destination, which contributes to honor the work of professionals in the Dominican tourism industry and renews confidence in the potential of the Mexican market.

She added: “The Dominican Republic is a safe stock in terms of providing services to the business / corporate sector and we hope that bilateral, public or private alliances made between our countries continue to reap success”.

*Published on November 5, 2019, by the newspaper Diario Libre ([www.diariolibre.com](http://www.diariolibre.com))*



## NEWS SHEET

### EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 239

## **Dominican Republic assumes the presidency of OLADE**

The Minister of Energy and Mines of the Dominican Republic, Antonio Isa Conde, assumed the Presidency of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) at the 49th Meeting of Ministers held in Lima, Peru.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, the Dominican Minister highlighted the country's commitment to support the OLADE initiative that seeks to accelerate the region's energy transition through the promotion of renewable energy sources and the improvement of energy planning systems by strengthening and harmonizing Energy information systems.

“We intend to strengthen the leadership of OLADE as a support body for member countries in their plans and projects, so that they can count on the technical assistance and cooperation necessary for the sustainable development of the industry,” he said.

Isa Conde said that one of OLADE's priority objectives is that all people have access to efficient and sustainable energy, no matter how remote is the communities in which they reside, and considered that access to energy is essential for the development of countries.

In the Dominican Republic, the electrical coverage is 97%, which has been possible due to the facilities of renewable energies, such as mini hydroelectric plants and photovoltaic systems, since with these systems you can reach remote places where it would be very expensive to take the main electricity networks to.

“We are aware that we must accelerate the transition to systems with low dependence on fossil fuels, and this includes the transport industry and the challenges of electric mobility”, he stated.

Prior to the Meeting of Ministers - which is the highest governance body and authority of the organization - a Board of Experts held a meeting to define the national vision that have served as the basis for reaching a regional strategy that unifies the positions of OLADE's member countries. The forty-ninth Meeting of Ministers is held within the framework of the fourth edition of Energy Week and the Sun World 2019, a conference and exhibition of renewable energies of a global nature.

OLADE is an intergovernmental public organization, established on November 2, 1973, by signing the Lima Convention. It is a cooperation, coordination and advisory body that seeks the integration, protection, conservation, rational use, commercialization and defense of the energy resources of the Region. The Meeting of Ministers aims to formulate the Organization's policy in accordance with the objectives set forth in the Lima Convention.

Its member countries are: in South America, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela; in the Caribbean, Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago; and in Central and North America, Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama.

*Published on November 14, 2019, by El Nuevo Diario ([www.elnuevodiario.com.do](http://www.elnuevodiario.com.do))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 240

### **Valdez Albizu highlights Dominican macroeconomic performance in regional conference**

The Governor of the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (BCRD), Héctor Valdez Albizu, highlighted on Thursday the country's recent macroeconomic performance in the current challenging international environment, and how monetary easing measures contribute to a recovery of economic activity.

According to a statement, Valdez Albizu said the country's economic activity registered a year-on-year growth of 5.1% in September, and 4.8% in January-September, expecting a 5% growth at the end of 2019.

He indicated that this dynamism of economic activity has been achieved in an environment of price stability, and it has been reflected in the creation of more than 156 thousand new jobs between June 2018 and June 2019.

Governor Valdez Albizu also referred to policies aimed at improving human capital implemented in recent years in the country, "which have contributed to a significant improvement" in social indicators, observing a significant decrease in poverty from 39.7% in 2012 to 22.8% in 2018.

The official participated as host in the 16th Regional Conference of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, organized by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the 287th Meeting of the Central American Monetary Council (CMCA) and the 8th Joint Meeting of the CMCA and the Central American Council of Superintendents of Banks, Insurance and other financial institutions, which features the participation of the Ministries of Finance of the region.

The meetings are being held at the tourist pole of Punta Cana, province of La Altagracia, since last Wednesday the 13th and will culminate this Friday, November 15.

Valdez Albizu concluded by expressing that the meeting offers the ideal scenario for exchanging experiences, aiming at greater economic and financial integration, strengthening the ties of collaboration between countries and the search for common solutions to definitively solve the most pressing problems of the region.

During this conference, various economic issues were discussed, such as regional and global economic perspectives, the impact of dollarization and exchange policy implications, the efficiency of fiscal incentives from an international perspective, and Fintechs solutions for transfers of remittances, among other important issues.

*Published on November 14, 2019, by Diario Libre ([www.diariolibre.com](http://www.diariolibre.com))*



## NEWS SHEET

### EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 241

### **Trade exchange between Brazil and the Dominican Republic reaches US \$511.7 million in 2019**

The trade exchange between the Dominican Republic and Brazil amounts to 511,756, 076 dollars in the first nine months of this year.

This was reported by the new president of the Brazilian Dominican Chamber of Commerce, Angelo Viro, who reported that a wide range of Dominican products were exported to Brazil between January and September 2019, including: pharmaceutical products, copper and manufacturing products, wood pulp, optical instruments and devices; also, photographic and cinematographic items, clothing and clothing accessories, skins and leather, machinery and equipment, electrical equipment, lead, among others.

While goods such as iron and steel castings, cereals, automobiles, tractors, parts and accessories, ceramic products, plastics and pharmaceutical products, among others, were imported from Brazil.

Ángelo Viro offered the information when he assumed the Presidency of the Board of Directors of the Brazilian Dominican Chamber of Commerce for the period 2020-2022, in a ceremony that was attended by business leaders, diplomats and trade union representatives headed by the Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil Clemente Baena Soares. In this event, he announced that the Brazilian Dominican Chamber of Commerce will promote the inclusion of the Dominican Republic into the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) to expand its international trade and financial technical assistance for development projects.

He added that the Dominican Republic will be able to take advantage of a series of favorable incentives and concessions for regional trade that comprises more than US \$500 million in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Cuba, Panama and Nicaragua.

*Published on November 14, 2019, by Diario Libre (www.diariolibre.com.)*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 242

### **Dominican Embassy promotes inter-institutional dialogue on Eliminating Violence against Women**

The Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Canada launched a dialogue that seeks to promote the Elimination of Violence against Women from an inter-institutional framework by coordinating a First Reflection Meeting, held at the Senate of Canada Building, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The opening remarks were given by the Dominican Ambassador Pedro Vergés Ciman, the Ambassadors of Paraguay and Ecuador, Inés Martínez Valinotti and Diego Stacey, respectively, and the Canadian Senator Rosa Gálvez, who also participated as a speaker during the seminar.

Ambassador Vergés reminded that just 20 years ago the General Assembly of the United Nations, at its meeting on December 17, 1999, decided to designate November 25 (the day the Mirabal sisters were murdered) as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, “taking as a precedent the project presented on October 28, 1999, by the Dominican Republic, with the co-sponsorship of 96 countries, including Canada, Ecuador and Paraguay, present here”.

In the communication sent to the media, the Dominican diplomat reaffirmed the commitment of President Danilo Medina in relation to this problem, which is being addressed through various programs such as the workshops “Formadores en buen trato familiar y de género” (Trainers in good behavior towards family and women) of the Office of the First Lady, the empowerment of women through “Banca Solidaria” (Credit for low income citizens), the democratization of public purchases and more equitable laws regarding property titling, in addition to the initiatives carried out by the Attorney General Office through the National Plan against Gender Violence.

The Seminar on Eliminating Violence against Women, First Reflection Meeting, was moderated by Lisane Thirsk, Deputy Director for Gender Equality and Communications at ParlAmericas, and had a team of speakers composed by the Honourable Rosa Gálvez, Senator of Canada; Anita Vandenberg, Member of Parliament; Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); Julia Maciel González, Vice-Chair of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), and Monique Forster, community leader on gender, social integration and women's empowerment issues.

*Published on November 24, 2019, by the newspaper El Día ([www.eldia.com.do](http://www.eldia.com.do))*



## NEWS SHEET EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 243

### **Juan Luis Guerra gets his second Latin Grammy for Best Tropical Album with “Literal”**

Juan Luis Guerra continues to celebrate the success of his album “Literal”, which won in the category of “Best Tropical Album” at the 20th Latin Grammy Awards, held tonight in Las Vegas.

Hours before, in the previous celebration, he obtained the first award of the night in the category “Best tropical song” with his single “Kitipún”.

This disputed category featured the following artists, including Vicente García, Ilegales and Milly Quezada:

“Barrios de mi tierra (canciones de Rubén Blades)” - Iván Barrios, “Candela” - Vicente García, “Literal” - Juan Luis Guerra, “Tropicalia” - Ilegales and “Milly & Company” - Milly Quezada.

Juan Luis Guerra thanked God, the Dominican Republic and his team, and shared his prize with his countrymen. “Milly, Vicente, Ilegales, thanks for being here with me”, he said.

With the album “Literal”, Juan Luis Guerra continues his tour through great international stages.

Other Dominicans nominated tonight are Pavel Núñez and Waddys Jáquez.

The beginning of the Latin Grammy had a musical performance dedicated to the songs that were milestones during the 20 years of the awards. Milly Quezada and Olga Tañón opened the stage to the rhythm of “Carnaval” by the “Queen of Salsa”, Celia Cruz.

In addition, Carlos Rivera, Reik and Leonel García jointed their voices to sing “Querida”. Natalia Jiménez, Caliber 50 and Prince Royce sang “Secreto de amor”, while Draco Rosa, Fito Páez and Beto Cuevas sang “Musica ligera”.

*Published on November 14, 2019, by Diario Libre (www.diariolibre.com.)*



## NEWS SHEET

### EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN CANADA

---

No. 244

## **Texas Rangers open modern academy with an investment of 12 million**

More than 12 million dollars is the investment amount the Texas Rangers allocated for the construction of the most modern and sophisticated baseball academy in the Dominican Republic. A space designed not only to train, but also to ensure the well-being and integral development of the players who aspire to reach the Major Leagues.

For many years, the Texas Rangers have placed special emphasis on signing young Dominican and Latin American talent, which has resulted in a long history of great baseball players.

The activity was attended by the President of the Dominican Republic, Danilo Medina Sánchez, the Ambassador of the United States, Robin S. Bernstein, and the Minister of Sports, Danilo Díaz Vizcaíno, as well as the former baseball players Adrian Beltré, Bartolo Colón, Nelson Cruz and Nomar Mazara.

In an area of almost six hectares, the new academy has two fully equipped baseball fields, which are complemented by a midfield for daily training; a batting area of more than a thousand square meters, gym, massage room, duplex bedrooms with air conditioning and modern rooms with audiovisual system to allow players to receive their academic classes with the best tools.

In this complex, the 96 players who stay per season not only receive physical training, but also English classes, personal improvement coaching, social work and academic programs.

The Rangers team allied with Buckner International, a nonprofit institution that works to help children, families and older adults in vulnerable situations, both in the United States and in other countries.

*Published on November 15, 2019, by Diario Libre (www.diariolibre.com.)*