



Brazilian Slovak
Chamber of Commerce

NEWSLETTER

2nd / 2020

BRAZILIAN- SLOVAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NEW BRAZILIAN OFFICIAL RESIDENCE IN SLOVAKIA HOSTS ITS FIRST EVENT WITH A BSCC MEETING

The Brazilian-Slovak Chamber of Commerce (BSCC) held its fifth ordinary meeting on 26 June 2020 at the Residence of the Brazilian Embassy in Bratislava. The meeting took place in the course of a working lunch offered by the Brazilian Ambassador to the members of the Chamber. It was a special occasion for the relations between Brazil and Slovakia as it was the first official event to be held in the new Residence. During the event, members were informed about recent developments in Brazil and in bilateral relations and they had the opportunity to exchange views about business opportunities and how BSCC can support their activities.



BSCC HOLDS SPECIAL SESSION WITH SECRETARY OF STATE JÁN ORAVEC

The Secretary of State I of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, PhDr. Ján Oravec, delivered a talk to the members of the Brazilian-Slovak Chamber of Commerce (BSCC) on 18 August 2020 at the Brazilian Residence in Bratislava.



Measures to support the economy during the pandemic and to boost bilateral ties were the main topics discussed.



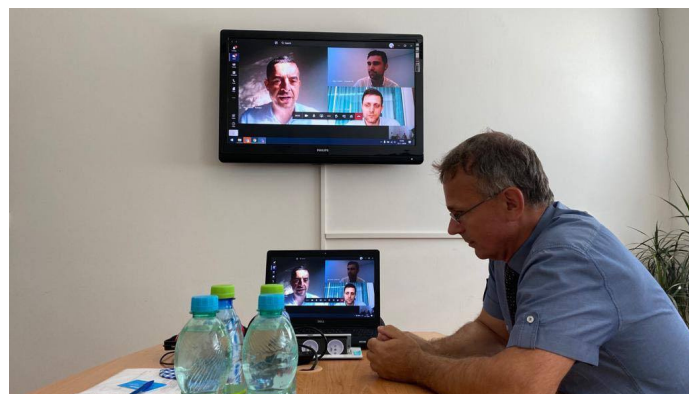
PhDr. Oravec was enthusiastic about the potential to be tapped in the economic relations between the Slovak Republic and Brazil. On the occasion, BSCC members and guests had the opportunity to raise specific questions of interest to the Slovak authority.



BSCC MEMBERS IN SPIŠSKÁ NOVÁ VES AND KOŠICE RECEIVE THE AMBASSADOR OF BRAZIL

Spišská Nová Ves has been a special place for Brazil in Slovakia for more than two decades, as the world leading compressor manufacturer Embraco arrived there in 1997. Since then, other three Brazilian companies – CRW, Rudolph Usinados and Microjuntas – have set up manufacturing facilities in Spišská Nová Ves.

As the host to one of the main Brazilian companies cluster in Central Europe, it comes as no surprise that Spišská Nová Ves has become in 2002 a sister city of Joinville, the highly industrialized birthplace of some of those companies, in the Brazilian state of Santa Catarina. The Brazilian Ambassador in Bratislava, Eduardo Gradilone, was glad to check the impressive premises of the factories and to learn from their directors about their successful investments in Slovakia and how they are coping with the current situation of the world economy.





The mayor of Spišská Nová Ves, Pavol Bečarik, gave a warm welcome to the Ambassador and his wife at the town hall.



As part of a trip to several sites in Eastern Slovakia, Ambassador Gradilone also spent a few days in Košice, where he visited BSCC member Eskada and had a meeting with mayor Jaroslav Polaček.

BSCC TAKES PART IN THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Brazil achieved its independence from Portugal on 7 September 1822. In order to celebrate the 198th anniversary of the country, the Brazilian Embassy in Bratislava hosted a garden party in the evening of 7 September 2020, where guests could taste Brazilian specialties like pão de queijo (baked cheese-based roll) or caipirinha (cachaça cocktail) in a perfect match with national rhythms like Bossa Nova played live during the sunset.



Ambassador Eduardo Gradilone and the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Ms. Ingrid Brocková, delivered their speeches highlighting that the event was also part of the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brazil and then Czechoslovakia. A commemorative stamp series, issued by the Brazilian postal service company Correios to celebrate the anniversary, was displayed at the event, featuring the Bratislava Castle "connected" to the Prague Castle by the Juscileno Kubitschek bridge in Brasília.



During the event, BSCC former president, Mr. Daniel Sajták (ESKADA), has also delivered a speech and has donated to the Embassy the latest pair of active speakers Eight I by STARK, with a technology recently developed in Slovakia and a customized design in the Brazilian flag colors. Other members of the Chamber also took part in the event and could promote their products made in Slovakia with ingredients imported from Brazil (like Coška Fajne's pão de queijo and Coffee Veronia's coffee).

IMF: BRAZIL SET TO RECORD THE BEST GDP PERFORMANCE IN 2020 AMONG MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIES

As the coronavirus pandemic hits economies hard all over the world, the latest “World Economic Outlook” report, published by the IMF last October, forecasts that Latin America should see its GDP declining by 8.1% in 2020, a similar slump as the one to be faced by the Eurozone, at -8.3%. But, just like in Europe, the intensity of the effects of the pandemic on the economies of the region will vary a lot from country to country. According to the report, among the biggest economies in Latin America, Brazil is set to suffer the least in terms of GDP growth, as shown in the following chart.

EMERGING MARKET AND DEVELOPING ECONOMIES: REAL GDP (ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE) LARGEST LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIES

1. BRAZIL	-5.8
2. CHILE	-6.0
3. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	-6.0
4. COLOMBIA	-8.2
5. MEXICO	-9.0
6. ECUADOR	-11.0
7. ARGENTINA	-11.8
8. PERU	-13.9
9. VENEZUELA	-25.0

Some Brazilian analysts link this stronger resilience of the economy to the “emergency assistance” program that was implemented from April to September. During that period, 126 million people (60% of the Brazilian population) have benefitted from a monthly direct cash transfer which equals 60% of the minimum wage (or 120%, in the case of families headed by a woman).

As a result, retail sales and real estate constructions have boomed once movement restrictions related to the pandemic were lifted. There’s even been a decline in the national poverty rate compared to previous years. Based on the latest sectorial figures, the Brazilian Government estimates that GDP should decline 4.7% in 2020 and post a strong recovery next year.

RECOMMENDED EVENT IN BRAZIL

BRASIL INVESTMENT FORUM 2021

The Brasil Investment Forum 2021 (BIF) is the largest event for foreign investment in Latin America organized by Apex-Brasil, the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) and the Brazilian Federal Government and will take place in São Paulo.

BIF will bring together federal, state and local government authorities and executives from large companies from Brazil and the world, among others. The Forum will highlight investment opportunities in strategic sectors such as agribusiness, energy, infrastructure, health, innovation, health and technology, among others.

(MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 2021)

ONLINE PARTICIPATION POSSIBLE

<https://www.brasilinvestmentforum.com/en/principal-2/>

This year BIF will be held in a hybrid mode, offering the possibility of participation in person and online.

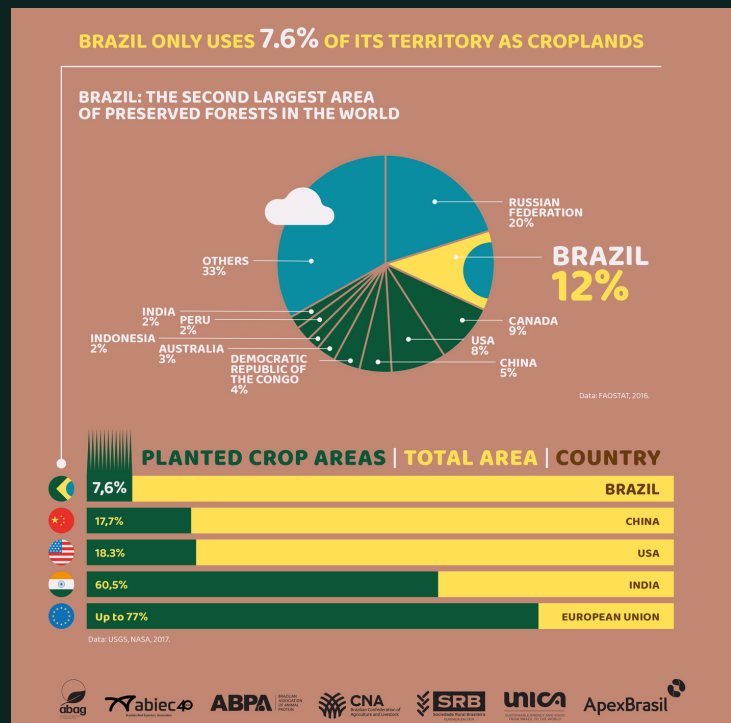
DID YOU KNOW THAT...

BRAZIL HAS THE SECOND LARGEST AREA OF PRESERVED FORESTS IN THE WORLD?

Around 66% of the Brazilian territory is covered by original native vegetation, while agribusiness occupies about 30% of the territory (7.6% for agriculture and 22% for livestock), a proportion that is much lower than in European countries. Among the 10 largest countries in the world, Brazil is the one with most territory legally bound to be preserved: 24.2% of its surface is made up of protected areas (13.8% as indigenous lands; 10.4% as conservation units). Other countries' average is 10.9% of their territories. It's also noteworthy that, in Brazil, protected areas are inhabited and rich in biodiversity, unlike many other large countries, where such areas usually encompasses deserts or polar or extremely mountainous regions.

The Brazilian Forestry Code (approved in 2012) requires that, in the Amazon, 80% of the original native vegetation in properties should be preserved (in other regions of Brazil the required percentage is 20% or 35%). It is the only country in the world where the landowner receives no financial compensation for preservation. That's one of the reasons why 70% of the deforestation in the Amazon occurs out of farms, i.e. in public and vacant areas, as a result of illegal activities such as wood theft.

BRAZIL
ONLY USES 7.6%
OF ITS TERRITORY
AS CROPLANDS.



THE PRODUCTIVITY OF
BRAZILIAN LIVESTOCK
HAS BEEN GROWING
YEAR BY YEAR WHILE
THE AREA OCCUPIED
BY PASTURE HAS
BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY
DECREASING.

BRAZILIAN-SLOVAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP



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VICE-CHAIRMAN: LEVY CAMPOS (CRW SLOVAKIA, S.R.O.)

MEMBER-AT-LARGE / EX-OFFICIO MEMBER: EMBASSY OF BRAZIL IN BRATISLAVA

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CRW SLOVAKIA, S.R.O.

DANUBE CAPITAL ADVISORS

DANUBE CAPITAL ADVISORS,
S.R.O.



EMBRACO SLOVAKIA S.R.O.



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