



SQM Participated in Lunch Offered to the Prince of Belgium

During His Royal Highness, the Prince Philippe of Belgium's official visit to Chile, the Chilean-Belgian Committee Setup Act was signed in order to expand bilateral economic relations between both nations.

A lunch was organized in honour of His Royal Highness, Prince Philippe of Belgium and his entourage, with the participation of more than 200 persons representing the Government and corporations from Chile and Belgium and the special participation of SQM executives, headed by the General Manager Patricio Contesse. The lunch to strengthen trade relations between both countries took place at Casona Santa Rosa de Apoquindo

The activity was organized by Sociedad de Fomento Fabril(SOFOFA) and the Chilean-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (Belgolux) for the signing of the Chilean-Belgian Committee Setup Act in the presence of the Prince of Belgium. The Committee will seek to strengthen bilateral economic relations between both countries.

Rafael Guilisasti, advisor and member of The SOFOFA Executive Committee, stated that "our relations in every area have continued to grow and strengthen. In the economic area, bilateral trade increased from US\$364 million in 2001 to more than US\$1.9 billion last year". With regards to investments, Guilisasti affirmed that Belgian capitals increased, during the same period, from US\$364 million to more than one billion, with a high concentration in the energy and industrial sectors.

His Royal Highness, Prince Philippe, thanked the hosts for this welcome and indicated that "Chile is one of the most stable open economies in South America and that Belgium considers it to be an important partner for future economic development. Entrepreneurs in my delegation watch the Chilean market with great interest; for them, this event aimed at establishing contact networks is very relevant. I am convinced that this economic mission will be fruitful and will strengthen the already existing relations between our countries", the Prince of Belgium added.

SQM was present in the ceremony represented by Patricio Contesse, who also participated in the signing of the Chilean-Belgian Committee Setup Act to strengthen bilateral economic relations between both nations.

It is necessary to highlight that our company office in Belgium, which centralizes the sales to Europe and to several Middle Eastern and Asian-Pacific countries, has intense commercial activity in addition to a large mercantile activity from the port of Antwerp that grows every year. SQM has been present in Belgium since 1933, exporting 598,000 tons in 2010.





From left to right

- Sr. Patricio Contesse, Gerente General SQM
- Sr. Juan Clavería, Gerente General GDF Suez
- SE Jos Chabert, Ministro de Estado
- SE Carlos Applegren, Embajador de Chile en Bélgica
- Sr. Rafael Guilisasti, Consejero SOFOFA
- SE Dirk Van Eeckhout, Embajador de Bélgica en Chile
- SAR el Príncipe Felipe de Bélgica
- Sr. Frederik Janssens, Presidente BELGOLUX
- Sr. Francisco de la Maza, Alcalde de Las Condes
- SE Jean-Claude Marcourt, Vice presidente y Ministro de Economía, PYMES, Comercio exterior, Nuevas Tecnologías y Educación Superior.
- Sr. Juan Eduardo Errázuriz, Presidente Sigdo Koppers