

U.S. Undersecretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment visit

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Institutional Context

The High Level Economic Dialogue (HLED) between the United States and Mexico is a binational mechanism of dialogue created in 2013 by Presidents Barack Obama and Enrique Peña Nieto. This mechanism is directed at advancing economic and trade priorities to promote economic growth, job creation, and global competitiveness for Mexico and the United States.

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On February 28, 2022, the Chief Officer for North America, Roberto Velasco Álvarez, met with the Undersecretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment of the United States, José W. Fernández, at the Foreign Ministry. Among the main topics discussed were the strengthening of supply chains in the region, mainly in the semiconductor sector, the development of the pharmaceutical sector, as well as the regional preparation and response to future pandemics and border infrastructure. These three themes are part of the first pillar of the HLED: rebuilding together. In this sense, the Mexican delegation shared the interest of carrying out joint trade missions to strengthen ties with the private sector, prioritize the pharmaceutical sector at a bilateral level and redouble efforts to have a sustainable border.

The Mexican delegation was composed by Roberto Velasco, Chief Officer for North America; Farid Hannan, Director of Economic Affairs; Cristina Planter, Director for Canada and Trilateral Mechanisms; Pablo Gálvez, director of Border Affairs, and Daniel Alegre, Director of Institutional Affairs for North America.

On the American side, Undersecretary Fernández was accompanied by Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath, Head of Foreign Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico; Jennifer Davis, Minister-Counselor for Economic Affairs; Rodrigo Garza, Special Assistant to the undersecretary; Elena South, from the Office of Energy Resources, and Naomi Fellows, Counselor for Labor Affairs.

¹<https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/coinciden-mexico-y-estados-unidos-en-seguir-fortaleciendo-el-dialogo-economico-de-alto-nivel?idiom=es>