



Embassy of Mexico
In New Zealand

Wellington, 20 April 2012

Hon. David Parker, MP
Parliament Building
Wellington

Dear Mr Parker,

Please allow me to convey to you a number of facts on the Mexican economy with a view to providing you with some additional information that might lead to a better and more complete understanding of the current state of affairs.

As you may be aware, this year Mexico has the privilege of assuming the annual Presidency of the G20, the most important international mechanism for dialogue at the economic level, comprised of the 20 most influential developed and emerging economies in the world. The Leaders Summit of 2012 will take place in July in Los Cabos. At this very moment, in Puerto Vallarta, the Economic Ministers' Meeting is taking place, with the first-time participation of New Zealand.

This place in the world has been won by Mexico not just through its being the 14th largest economy, with a population of 114 million and a land area of almost 2 million km², but also through the good performance of its economy over the past 20 years. In spite of numerous difficulties, crisis and the impact of having the most important economy in the world as a neighbour, the series of strategies promoted by successive Mexican Governments have succeeded bringing about the dramatic competitiveness of our economy, one of the main instruments for development and social wellbeing.

With more than 40 countries being signatories of Free Trade Agreements, Mexico has become one of the most open economies in the world. That gives us the necessary experience and market framework for our aspiration to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP).

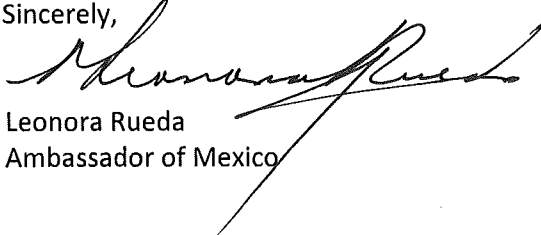
Furthermore, one of the strategies developed involves the promotion of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Today, Mexico is one of the largest recipients of FDI in the world, one of our main incentives being the highly developed infrastructure and a modern multimodal transportation system, including a vast network of commercial corridors, ports and airports, together with competitiveness and a highly qualified labour force. This is evidenced in strategic sectors such as aeronautics, telecommunications and biotechnology. This investment not only creates important number of jobs, but also improves the quality of life for millions of Mexicans. Long gone are the days when the "*maquiladoras*" (assembly plants) were the only intensive job creating resource!

Nowadays, for example, the Mexican aerospace industry ranks first in manufacturing investment in the world, with 33 billion US dollars between 1999 and 2009; investments greater than those of other major economies such as the USA, Russia, China or India. It is estimated that during the current year, the Mexican aerospace industry will export goods worth 4.5 billion US dollars. This industry opens up careers in technology and specialized education and allows for the integration of academies and

universities into the productive sector, thereby increasing research and development, productive chains based on the knowledge economy and high value-added products.

Honourable Mr Parker, I hope this information might be useful to you should you wish to make any other comments regarding the Mexican economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonora Rueda', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves back down.

Leonora Rueda
Ambassador of Mexico