

## World Economic Forum on Latin America to Open with Record Number of Participants

26 April 2011

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- Record number of over 700 top-level participants take part in 2011 World Economic Forum on Latin America
- Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff to open the meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 28 April 2011
- Theme: “Laying the Foundation for a Latin American Decade”
- More information is available at [www.weforum.org/latinamerica2011](http://www.weforum.org/latinamerica2011)

**Rio de Janeiro, Brazil --** The World Economic Forum on Latin America will open this week in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with a record number of over 700 top regional and global leaders participating. With the support of the Government of the State of Rio de Janeiro, the meeting will take place from 27 to 29 April and will convene leaders from business, government, academia, civil society and the media, from over 45 countries.

**Dilma Rousseff**, President of Brazil, will open this year’s World Economic Forum on Latin America, held under the theme “Laying the Foundation for a Latin American Decade”. The programme is designed to develop insights on the priorities of the region’s agenda and is built on three thematic pillars: 1) Strengthen Regional and International Governance; 2) Enhance Innovation and Productivity for Equitable Growth; and 3) Promote Effective Partnerships for Sustainable Development.

The full programme is available [here](#).

“Latin America has emerged economically and politically on the global stage in past years. By holding the World Economic Forum on Latin America in Brazil, we will be in a country that exemplifies the dynamism of this region,” said **Marisol Argueta de Barillas**, Senior Director, Head of Latin America, World Economic Forum. “The positive resonance among our participants to this meeting demonstrates the confidence that the international business community has in Brazil and in the region as a whole.”

The Co-Chairs of the meeting reflect the international character of the participants: **Frederico Fleury Curado**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Embraer - Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica, Brazil; **Orit Gadiesh**, Chairman, Bain & Company, USA; Member of the Foundation Board of the World Economic Forum; **Luis A. Moreno**, President, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington DC; **Vikram Pandit**, Chief Executive Officer, Citi, USA; and **Sir Martin Sorrell**, Chief Executive Officer, WPP, United Kingdom.

Heads of state and other international public figures participating in this year’s meeting include **Leonel Fernández**, President of the Dominican Republic; **Kamla Persad-Bissessar**, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago; **Freundel Stuart**, Prime Minister of Barbados; **Bruno Ferrari Garcia de Alba**, Secretary of the Economy of Mexico; **Enrique V. Iglesias**, Secretary-General, SEGIB Secretaría General Iberoamericana, Spain; **Felipe Kast Sommerhoff**

, Minister of Planning and Cooperation of Chile; **José Miguel Insulza**, Secretary-General, Organization of American States (OAS), Washington DC; **Diego Molano Vega**, Minister of Information Technology and Communications of Colombia; and **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry of India; Member of Parliament, India.

Strong representation by the new Government of Brazil and Brazilian policy-makers includes **Antonio De Aguiar Patriota**, Minister of External Relations of Brazil; **Geraldo Alckmin Filho**, Governor of São Paulo; **Sérgio de Oliveira Cabral Santos Filho**, Governor of Rio de Janeiro; **Luciano Coutinho**, President, Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES); **Jorge Hage Sobrinho**, Minister of State, Office of the Comptroller General of Brazil (CGU); **Humberto Luiz Ribeiro**, National Secretary of Commerce and Services (SCS), Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade of Brazil; **Henrique Meirelles**, Adviser, Olympic Public Authority, Brazil; **Heloisa Menezes**, Secretary, Production Development, Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade, Brazil; **Aloizio Mercadante**, Minister of Science and Technology of Brazil; **Eduardo da Costa Paes**, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro; and **Izabella Teixeira**, Minister of Environment of Brazil.

Click [here](#) for an abridged list of participants.

For more information about the meeting, please visit the Forum's website at <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-latin-america-2011>

## Notes to Editors

Everything about this year's World Economic Forum on Latin America: <http://wef.ch/rio2011>

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