THE DIALOGUE
Leadership for the Americas

Leadership for the Americas

ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

MANDARIN ORIENTAL, WASHINGTON, DC

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In a rapidly changing and complex world, the Inter-American Dialogue's fundamental mission endures: to convene leaders to build cooperation and foster democratic governance, prosperity, and social equity in the Americas. I want to express my gratitude for your support in moving this mission forward — and for joining us for this inaugural *Leadership for the Americas Awards Gala*.

The Dialogue strives to bring global leaders together to exchange views and seek consensus solutions for challenges facing the Western Hemisphere. For more than three decades, our wide network has engaged the best and most credible opinion makers and practitioners from diverse perspectives and backgrounds to generate ideas for constructive change.

When the Dialogue's first conference took place in 1982, our mission was important, but it is even more urgent today. It is vital that leaders from government, the private sector and civil society build a shared vision and cooperative approach to tackle a daunting agenda. Today our robust program cuts across the most important issues in the Americas: rule of law; education reform; energy and climate change; migration, remittances, and development; and our region's relationships with the rest of the world, including China.

The Dialogue has learned that, in pursuit of common ground with diverse sectors of society, effective leadership is critical. Our honorees and speakers this evening exemplify how leaders with vision and commitment can make a real difference for citizens in the Americas. Thank you again for joining us in recognizing their extraordinary contributions to peace, democracy, equity and prosperity.

The Dialogue's track record, credibility of our Board and members, and steadfast supporters like you make us well positioned to shape a more constructive debate and further enhance our already significant impact on the hemispheric agenda. Your ongoing support and engagement is crucial as we take up new challenges and pursue exciting opportunities together in the year ahead.

With much appreciation,

Michael Shifter

LETTER FROM THE DIALOGUE'S CO-CHAIRS

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DIALOGUE,

It is our sincere pleasure to welcome you to this special celebration of the Inter-American Dialogue's 2015 *Leadership for the Americas Awards Gala*.

We come together this evening not only to celebrate the terrific work the Dialogue has carried out over the past year, but importantly, to commemorate some of the most effective leaders fostering democratic governance, economic prosperity and social equity in the Americas – the three pillars of the Dialogue's mission, which has never been more important.

We greatly appreciate that so many of you have shared your time, talents, and resources to make this event possible. To our honored guests, former President Felipe González, Mr. Daniel Chávez Morán, His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick, Assistant Secretary Roberta Jacobson, Special Envoy Bernard Aronson, and our emcee, Ms. Maria Elena Salinas, we are deeply grateful for your being here.

The Dialogue's Gala Committee, named individually on the next page, deserve special recognition for achieving all they were asked to do, and more.

We also wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for the generous business and philanthropic sponsors of this evening's gala celebration, and the many of you who, by being here tonight, are showing support and helping strengthen the financial foundation for the Dialogue's continued success.

Inter-American relations will face challenges in the years ahead — along with opportunities for further progress. Your continued engagement is critical to the Dialogue's ability to seize the opportunities to make a difference. We are so pleased to have you accompany us in this important work, both tonight and in the years to come.

With appreciation,

Ernesto Zedillo
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GALA PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Ms. María Elena Salinas
Co-Anchor, *Noticiero Univision* and *Aquí y Ahora*

INVOCATION

His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick
Member, Inter-American Dialogue
Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Michael Shifter
President, Inter-American Dialogue

INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION OF *"PROGRAMMING FOR THE AMERICAS"* VIDEO

The Honorable L. Enrique García
Co-Vice Chair, Inter-American Dialogue
President, CAF – Development Bank of Latin America

INTRODUCTION

The Honorable Thomas F. McLarty, III
Co-Vice Chair, Inter-American Dialogue
Chairman and Co-Founder, McLarty Associates

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Honorable Bernard W. Aronson
Member, Inter-American Dialogue
US Special Envoy for the Colombian Peace Process
Founding Partner, ACON Investments LLC

INTRODUCTION

The Honorable Carla A. Hills
Co-Chair, Inter-American Dialogue
Chair and CEO, Hills & Co.

REMARKS

The Honorable Roberta S. Jacobson
US Assistant Secretary of State for
Western Hemisphere Affairs

DINNER

Music by Barrio Andalusí

Presentation of the 2015 Distinguished Leadership for the Americas Awards

TO

Mr. Daniel Chávez Morán

Member, Inter-American Dialogue's President's Leadership Council
Founder, Grupo Vidanta and Fundación Vidanta

PRESENTED BY

His Excellency Ricardo Lagos

Chair Emeritus, Inter-American Dialogue
Former President of Chile

AND TO

The Honorable Felipe González

Former President of the Government of Spain

PRESENTED BY

His Excellency Ernesto Zedillo

Co-Chair, Inter-American Dialogue
Former President of Mexico

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Ms. Carla Dirlikov

Mezzo-Soprano
Founder and Artistic Director, El Camino Project

MENU

FIRST COURSE

Arugula, Frisee
Balsamic, Mushroom Carpaccio, Shaved Manchego
White Truffle Vinaigrette

ENTRÉE COURSE

Grilled Beef Tenderloin
Saffron Risotto Cake, Asparagus, Carrots, Patty Pan Squash, Oven-Dried Tomato
Smoked Tomato Demi-Glaze

DESSERT COURSE

Chocolate Bouchon
Chantilly Semifreddo, Cherry Essence

DINNER WINES

Garnacha , Las Rocas, Calatayud, Spain 2012
Sauvignon Blanc, Veramonte, Casablanca Valley, Chile, 2013

SPECIALTY COCKTAIL

Pear Nectar and Tequila Cocktail
Tequila, Pear Nectar, Cinnamon, and Vanilla Extract

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MUSIC AND VIDEO

Barrio Andalusí

Guillermo-Juan Christie, Guitar and Lute
Jon Seligman, Frame Drums and Percussion

Magee McIlvaine

Videographer

Carla Dirlikov

Mezzo-Soprano

Mezzo-soprano Carla Dirlikov is founder and artistic director of the El Camino Project, which aims to research, preserve, and educate the public about Latin American music and culture. She has performed at leading concert venues around the world, including the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Guangzhou Opera House, the Royal Opera of Wallonia, and Mexico's and China's National Centers for the Performing Arts. A dual US and Mexican citizen and proud daughter of a Bulgarian father and Mexican mother, Dirlikov serves as cultural envoy of the US Department of State and as a member of the President's Committee for the Arts and the Humanities' Turnaround Arts Initiative. Please visit www.carladirlikov.com or www.elcaminoproject.com for more information.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

María Elena Salinas

Co-Anchor, *Noticiero Univision* and *Aquí y Ahora*

Widely recognized as the "voice of Hispanic America," María Elena Salinas is the multi-Emmy Award-winning co-anchor of Univision's *Noticiero Univision* (with Jorge Ramos) and *Aquí y Ahora*. She has been on the front lines of breaking news for more than thirty years, covering elections, insurgencies, and natural disasters around the world. Salinas' reputation as a serious, objective, and trustworthy journalist has earned her interviews with every US president since Jimmy Carter as well as Latin American heads of state, influential newsmakers, and prominent media personalities. In 2007, Salinas made history by co-hosting both the first ever Democratic and Republican candidate presidential forums in Spanish on the Univision Network.

An iconic presence in Hispanic media with an international following of millions of viewers, Salinas has used her visibility to advocate for and empower the Latino community. She is the official spokesperson for *Ya Es Hora*, a national civic engagement campaign which has been recognized with a Peabody Award for helping motivate Hispanics to participate in US political dialogue. Her most recent prime-time special, *Entre el abandono y el rechazo*, explored the dramatic exodus of Central American children to the US and received numerous prestigious journalistic accolades, including a Peabody Award, a Walter Cronkite Award, and a Gracie Award. In 2000, Salinas launched a scholarship in her name to be awarded to a Hispanic journalism student interested in pursuing a career in Spanish-language media. She is one of the founding members of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and sits on the board of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the International Women's Media Foundation.

Salinas has been featured as one of the most influential Hispanics in the United States in several publications including Hispanic Magazine, *People En Español*, and *PODER*, and was named one of the "Top 15 Most Influential Hispanics" among Latino voters in a poll conducted by Hispanic Voter Trends.

INVOCATION

Theodore Cardinal McCarrick

Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC

Theodore Cardinal McCarrick is archbishop emeritus of Washington, DC. He is a member of the board of Catholic Relief Services and serves on the Pontifical Councils for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples and for Latin America. McCarrick has advocated for human rights around the world, including in Cuba and Central America, and has led initiatives to meet the needs of immigrants, particularly in the Latino community. In 2000, President Bill Clinton presented him with the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights. He has been a member of the Inter-American Dialogue since 2004.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Bernard W. Aronson

US Special Envoy to the Colombian Peace Process

Bernard Aronson was named US special envoy for the Colombian peace process by President Barack Obama in February 2015. He served as assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs from 1989 to 1993, a Democrat serving in the Republican administration of President George H. W. Bush. He previously served as deputy assistant to President Jimmy Carter in the Office of the Chief of Staff. Aronson is a founding partner of ACON Investments LLC. He has been a member of the Inter-American Dialogue since 1997.

REMARKS

Roberta S. Jacobson

US Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs

Roberta Jacobson was sworn in as assistant secretary of state for Western Hemisphere affairs in March 2012. She had previously served as acting assistant secretary since July 2011.

A career civil servant, Jacobson has focused on Latin America for 20 years. From December 2010 until July 2011, she was principal deputy assistant secretary for Western Hemisphere affairs, with responsibility for regional political and economic issues, management and personnel, and regional security issues. Prior posts and assignments include deputy assistant secretary for Canada, Mexico, and NAFTA, director of the Office of Mexican Affairs, deputy chief of mission at the US Embassy in Lima, director of the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, and coordinator for Cuban affairs.

Jacobson entered the State Department in 1986 as a Presidential Management Intern and was assigned to the National Security Council. She then began her career with the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, working directly for the assistant secretary, first as a special assistant then as an executive assistant.

In June 2015, President Barack Obama nominated Jacobson US ambassador to Mexico. Her confirmation is pending Congressional approval.

PRESENTERS

Ernesto Zedillo

Former President of Mexico
Co-Chair, Inter-American Dialogue

Ricardo Lagos

Former President of Chile
Chair Emeritus, Inter-American Dialogue

“Daniel Chávez Morán deserves recognition for his philanthropic investments in support of work that furthers the Dialogue’s values and mission.”

– **Michael Shifter**
President, Inter-American Dialogue

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIALOGUE IS PLEASED TO PRESENT ITS

2015 DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS AWARD

TO

Daniel Chávez Morán

Founder, Grupo Vidanta & Fundación Vidanta

Daniel Chávez Morán has been a leading visionary in the Mexico tourism industry for more than 40 years. Now retired, Chávez Morán founded Grupo Vidanta in 1974 after developing his first hotel, Paraíso Mazatlán, and grew the company to include expert practices in design, development, construction, and operation for many of Mexico and Latin America's top luxury beach resorts, mega resorts, and hotels. Under Chávez Morán's leadership, Grupo Vidanta diversified an influence in tourism infrastructure to include the largest collection of golf courses operated in Mexico, construction and sale of more than 2,000 vacation homes, and the first privately built and owned airport in Mexico, the Mar de Cortés International Airport in Puerto Peñasco. President Enrique Peña Nieto recently recognized Grupo Vidanta as a leading tourism group in Mexico. In 2013, Forbes named Chávez Morán one of the 12 most powerful investors in tourism in Mexico. He is consistently ranked by CNN among the 100 most influential businessmen in the country.

Guided by a vision to bring luxury vacation dreams to life, Chávez Morán has forged strong partnerships with worldwide leaders in experiential tourism including Cirque du Soleil, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman. Today, Grupo Vidanta owns and operates more than 25 award-winning hotels and resorts in Nuevo Vallarta, Riviera Maya, Los Cabos, Acapulco, Puerto Peñasco, Puerto Vallarta, and Mazatlán. The company is consistently recognized among the most revered employers in Latin America. In 2015, Grupo Vidanta was ranked the No. 1 hospitality brand to work for in Mexico by the Great Place to Work Institute.

Commitment to philanthropy is a major component of Grupo Vidanta's mission to inspire generations of happiness. Chávez Morán founded and leads two foundations: Fundación Vidanta, which promotes culture and fights poverty by awarding financial resources to individuals and organizations each year, and Fundación Delia Morán, which promotes educational opportunities in Nayarit and operates a free school and after-school programs for children.

"Felipe González's tireless, effective, and ongoing public service and commitment to democracy in Latin America have provided extraordinary leadership and an example for the region."

– **Ernesto Zedillo**
Former President of Mexico and Co-Chair, Inter-American Dialogue

"For half a century, and to this day, Felipe González has been a defender of democratic principles—in his own country and beyond. In Chile, his intervention in 1977 helped pave the way back to democracy."

– **Ricardo Lagos**
Former President of Chile and Chair Emeritus, Inter-American Dialogue

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIALOGUE IS PLEASED TO PRESENT ITS

2015 DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS AWARD

TO

Felipe González

Former President of the Government of Spain

Felipe González served as President of the Government of Spain from 1982 to 1996. His administration presided over an era of unprecedented growth; the modernization of the country's education, healthcare, and social security systems; and its successful integration into the European Union. Since leaving office, González has been an active champion of democracy in the Americas and throughout the world.

González entered politics in 1962 as a member of the Socialist Youths of Seville and became a member of the Socialist Labor Party of Spain (PSOE) in 1964. Ten years later, he was appointed secretary general of the party at the Congreso de Suresnes in France. González was elected to the Spanish Parliament for Madrid in 1977 and became vice president of Socialist International the following year, a position he held until 1999. In 1982, the PSOE gained a majority in Parliament and González was elected president of the government, where he served three consecutive terms.

González was special representative of the EU to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1998 and currently chairs the World Progressive Commission of the Socialist International. He is also a member of the Circle of Montevideo, Club of Madrid, InterAction Council, and Shimon Peres International Council for Peace.

González has published several books analyzing the main trends in European development and the international political landscape. He has received many awards, among them the Charlemagne Prize for his distinguished service on behalf of European unification and the Great Golden Cross for Merit by the Republic of Austria.

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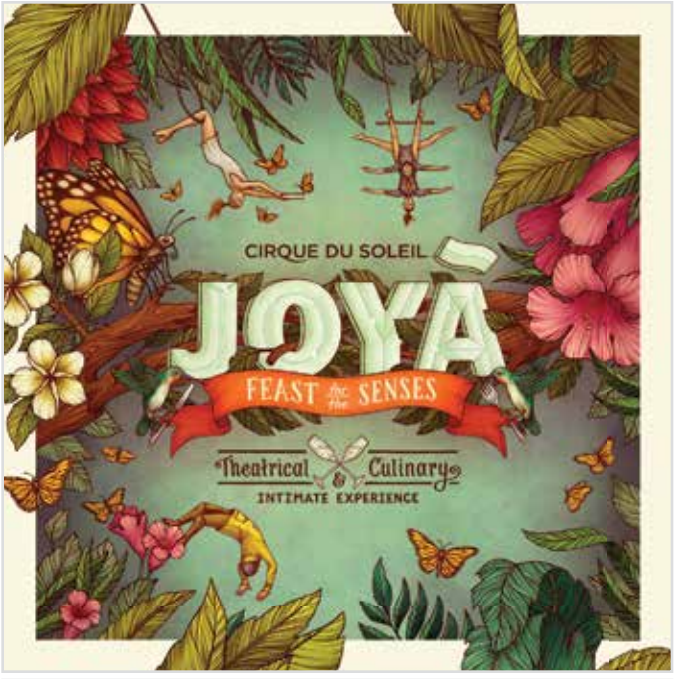

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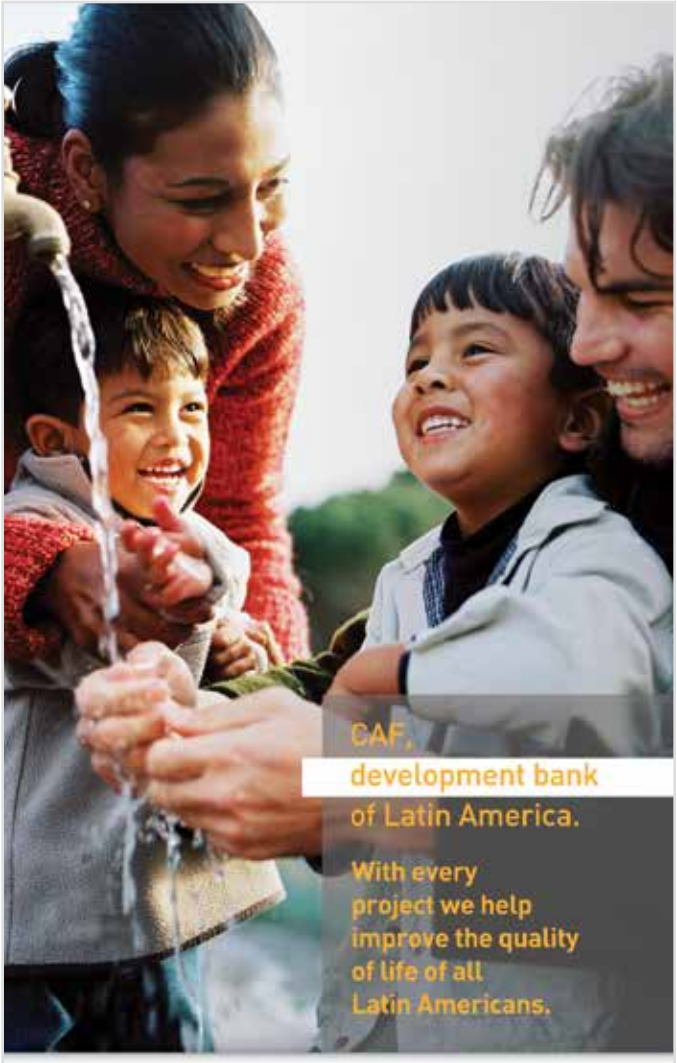

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We applaud Inter-American Dialogue which has engaged its network of global leaders to foster democratic governance, prosperity, and social equity in Latin America and the Caribbean. Thanks to all of the volunteers who contribute their time and energy to support this important work.

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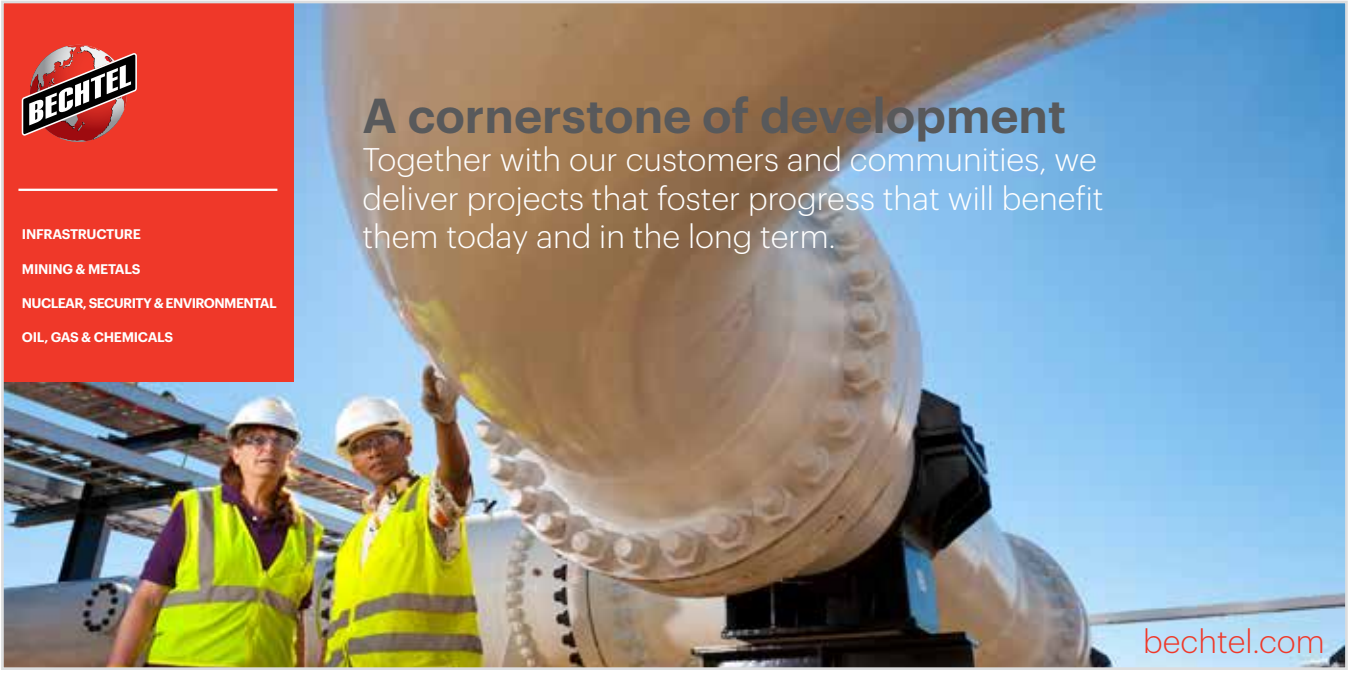

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