B2O AT DAVOS

World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland.

B2O Activities:

25/1:
- Global Apprenticeship Network Breakfast
- Women 20 Breakfast at Casa Argentina

24/1:
- Minister’s Breakfast at Casa Argentina
- B2O Round Table at Casa Argentina

The B2O present at World Economic Forum (WEF)

In line with the guidelines set by the World Economic Forum (WEF) agenda for 2018, Daniel Funes de Rioja, B2O Chair, emphasized the importance of a unified business sector to face the current challenges of global governance in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic development.

The B2O agenda for January 25 began with the breakfast organized by the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN) where world leaders such as Shea Gopaul (Executive Director, GAN), Alexander Acosta (Secretary of Labor of the State Department of the United States), Daniel Funes de Rioja (B2O Chair), among other world leaders discussed skills, jobs and youth.

Following, the B2O Chair was part of a Women 20 (W20) breakfast meeting, in a panel formed by Juliana Awada, (Argentina’s First Lady), Andrea Grobocopatel (W20 Co-Chair), Chetna Gala Sinha (Founder of Mann Deshi Foundation) and Julie Teigland (Regional Manager Partner at EY). Daniel Funes de Rioja said that the cooperation between the B2O & W20 is especially significant to address a cross-cutting issue such as enhancing the participation of women in the labour market.

“Apprenticeships are a great tool to get the right skills needed by the labour market”

“B2O & W20 must work together to improve female entrepreneurship and female labour market participation”

-Daniel Funes de Rioja
B20 Round-Table at Casa Argentina

Following a side event developed by the government at Casa Argentina on January 24, 2018 in Davos, Switzerland, which included the participation of the Minister of Treasury, Nicolas Dujovne; Daniel Funes de Rioja, B20 Chair, hosted a presentation of the B20. The B20 event was Casa Argentina, within the framework of the WEF that this year had the special attraction of convening the G20 agenda.

The event, which was attended by 50 business community leaders from around the world, included the participation of Eduardo Elsztain (Grupo IRSA CEO, Banco Hipotecario President and Financing for Growth and Infrastructure Chair), Marcelo Mindlin (Pampa Energía CEO), Victor Dosoretz (CACS Director), Martin Eurnekian (Director at Corporacion America), Flavia Alves (Facebook, Global Public Policy International Institutions Lead). Also joining the meeting was Andrea Grobocopatel, W20 Co-Chair.

In this framework, the B20 Chair, presented the structure of the B20, the working groups, their leaders and the sherpas who will be leading the process. He stressed that the 8 groups will address fundamental issues that make the future of the global economy and that seek to respond to the many challenges facing the world today such as: foster a plan and inclusive technological revolution, promote access to education for everyone, construct a fair and balanced international trade system, develop infrastructure projects, adaptation strategies for tackling climate impact, crack down corruption.
In an increasingly globalized and connected world, Daniel Funes de Rioja held that it is essential to promote interaction between the business sector, civil society and the government at the international level, in order to achieve a unified framework to deal with the world’s most pressing challenges.

For that matter, he expressed his willingness to work together with the G20 and the rest of the engagement groups to strengthen a bond that has already been developed thanks to the willingness of the Argentine government to work with all the voices in the process.

The B20 Chair highlighted the cooperation offered by Germany before and after the handover underlining the importance of continuity in these processes. At the same time, he expressed the desire to work on the recommendations that the different task forces made in the past and indicated that B20 Argentina is working with Japan in the framework of the Troika of the G20, and is intended to leave a fruitful agenda.

“We are strongly committed to developing solid and realistic policy recommendations that will be taken up and implemented by the G20”

-Daniel Funes de Rioja

“The process started very well because the applications to the Argentine cycle exceeded one thousand four hundred businessmen interested in participating.”

-Daniel Funes de Rioja
The B20 structure is composed of a “HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY CAUCUS”, an Advisory Board of top business leaders of the most influential companies in the world of the G20 countries. The main focus of the Caucus is advocacy to maximize the G20 adherence to the B20 policy recommendations.

Likewise, in order to provide a space for participation to local businessmen and SMEs, a BUSINESS LEADERS FORUM, was constituted to represent both the regional and sectoral diversity of the Argentine economy. It’s outreach will provide a substantial contribution in the domestic advocacy process.

Eduardo Elsztain emphasized the importance of the B20 as a consolidated space of representation of interests, concrete policy proposals, and expertise and as a generator of an intra-business dialogue with its own perspective on current problems.

Marcelo Mindlin agreed with Mr. Elsztain’s words, and assured that there is a necessity of both developing and developed countries, of investments that foster the access to the resources that are needed for economic growth. Furthermore, he held that investments are key to boost the new opportunities that modern technology offers for energetic development.

For his part, Victor Dosoretz highlighted the importance of the B20 cycle in Argentina to promote dialogue between businessmen and the chambers that are organizing this process. He also said there is a global need to improve access to the markets of small and medium enterprises.

Finally, Funes de Rioja added that the relevance of the B20 as an engagement group is increasing and that this is related to the growing involvement of the private sector and their interest to be part of this process.
The B20 Secretariat received more than 1400 applications from businessmen and entities interested in participating in this cycle. On February 1st, the results of the applications and the calendar of activities will be announced.

The B20 Argentina Secretariat would like to especially thank the Argentine Government (Argentine Investment and trade promotion agency, Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers and G20 Technical Unit) for proving the space in Casa Argentina at Davos for this event.

Among the network partners of this process, we would like to mention in particular the International Organization of Employers (IOE), the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN) the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Accenture, which actively collaborated for the presence of the B20 in Davos.