

Speech of the Ministry of Economy, Tatiana Clouthier Carrillo

Good afternoon, I am very pleased to be here. I greet everyone with great pleasure, I am not going to repeat the names of those who are here. I just want to thank you for being here today.

I want to address the most important people in this place and that is you, the workers. It excites me since we came here and since we have been negotiating for nearly a year and seeing how to generate conditions so that you can once again have work and well-being for you and your communities.

I am thankful and excited for being here today.

I would like to comment on some things that I think are important and I am going to put them in perspective, so you understand what it means that you are here today and, to also thank Government and the Canadian mine director's confidence, because we as a country, we are immersed in an international agreement called the Free Trade Agreement -formerly- now it is the T-MEC.

This international commitment could not be carried out if you were not here today and this has repercussions for all of Mexico. The United States is our number one trading partner. Most of the products generated by the state of Sinaloa -I come from a man who grew tomatoes, bell peppers, pumpkins... all of that was exported to the United States.

That export that was generated since then and that has been generated over many years in Sinaloa has allowed our products to reach the United States, Canada, and many parts of the world, thanks to what is now called T-MEC. And the T-MEC itself is called into question when we are not capable of creating conditions so that people have confidence in coming to invest in our country.

So, I greatly appreciate that you are generous, the workers, and that you can be here today to hear about the new growth plans for this company, growth plans to improve the conditions of the municipality of Cosalá and that this benefit will reach your families. How many here are from Cosalá? those from Cosala, raise your hand. From Durango, do we have people or not? We do not have people from Durango, so with more reason.

I used to come here as a child; I am 57 years old now. As a child, I used to come every Sunday or at least one Sunday a month at least, I came to the river, with my parents and family, and what we came to was to enjoy the beauty of this place. Over time I stopped coming. I came back 25 years ago. I haven't been back since. And when came 25 years ago, on Saturdays there was an impressive trade in the downtown core, where all the communities went down to buy food.

And I was told that this stopped 2 years ago and stopped because circumstances began to arise that made it impossible to find better job opportunities because COVID and other labor eventualities stopped the economy.

I believe that we must always seek the greater good and always, obviously, respect the rights of workers and respect the law. However, we also have to look to the horizon and say: the greater good versus the lesser good.

Darren said that it was very important for them to sign the CBA.

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I think that the company has always been interested in seeking that commitment, respecting what you [the workers] decide.

Part of the commitments of the T-MEC are related to the labor change that included the President of the Republic, this modification has been put on the table of the T-MEC so that the rights of workers are followed up and respected, so that be free to choose who represents you.

However, I call on something important: we must always think about how we do it and how other countries have done it when they decide to go on strike. The Japanese are a great example in the world for their great economic growth, despite being a small island with a very small population, despite having an impressive product per capita and income. It's that when they go on strike they unite to lower prices and screw up the company. Don't let them hear me, I'm talking to you.

What do I mean by this? We must always see what is best for us as a community, where we are winning and where we are losing. For Mexico and for the President of the Republic there is nothing more sacred than the rights of workers. Since he came to power, the first thing he achieved was an increase in the minimum wage for workers. At the border, it has increased to MXN\$214. We have approximately 90 pesos less in the rest of the country. Regardless of whether it is a lot or a little, what I mean is that the president has sought better conditions for the workers.

We cannot ignore that the commitment of this Government is to respect rights and we will continue to do the same and ensure that both the authorities and the companies comply with those commitments. However, it is a great honor for me to be here today and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for having a commitment to your community and your families.

I hope that just as this company comes today to invest here and make an announcement that investment will continue to grow, we can continue creating conditions where people say, I do want to come and invest in Mexico because it is possible. What we are told most when we go out to promote our country, what is recognized the most, is the great capacity of Mexican men and women to work.

I was very pleased to see a woman here representing the workers of the mine, this is something internationally recognized.

Do not let that the opportunity that Mexico has of continuing to grow to be lost, do not give wrong signs that we are not capable of dialogue, that we are not capable of finding solutions for the benefit of our communities and our families and, in this sense, I want to thank in a very special way to each of those who are here and those who are absent.

We are respectful and we will always seek that this company and any other comply with their labor obligations and comply with what they have to do and that your freedom of association rights are always respected.

And I am very grateful to our Canadian friends here -people think that when someone calls someone a friend it is because they have given something to them - and I call them friends because we have worked many hours looking for how to find a positive answer and the benefit of employment in this municipality.

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So, thank you Darren for this important investment that your company is making, for this announcement, and above all, for the confidence you have in our country so that it continues to grow, and that the economic recovery takes place.

I am very grateful to the Secretary of Economy of the state of Sinaloa, who from the moment he arrived the first thing he said was: How do we go about moving forward with the problems we have in the state of Sinaloa? That there are several, not just what we had here, and he said, how are we going to solve it? And in this, the mayor has played a preponderant role, and not without mentioning that the governor has obviously been the one who has given like the go ahead to be able to find solutions for the benefit of the state.

So, thank you, Mr. Governor, thank you to everyone who is here, and above all, thanks to you to the workers. Many thanks.

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San Rafael mine, Cosala, Sinaloa
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