

A review of the leading news on Nicaragua
News from 28 August to 1 September 2023



▶ **Nicaragua and the People's Republic of China sign Free Trade Agreement**



▶ **Venezuela's Vice Minister of Anti-blockade Policies highlights his country's ongoing fight against foreign meddling**



▶ **These are the products that will be exported to and imported from China**



▶ **Nicaragua keeps giant African snail situation under sanitary control**



▶ **National Technological Institute committed to Nicaragua's educational transformation**



Nicaragua and the People's Republic of China sign Free Trade Agreement

On Wednesday, 30 August 2023, during a virtual ceremony, the Republic of Nicaragua and the People's Republic of China made history with the signing of a Free Trade Agreement, FTA, which will allow for a better and greater commercial and economic exchange between both nations.

Nicaragua was represented by Compañero Laureano Ortega Murillo, Presidential Advisor for the Promotion of Investment, Trade and International Cooperation; Iván Acosta, Minister of Finance and Credit; and Jesús Bermúdez, Minister of Development, Industry and Commerce. The Chinese delegation was headed by Mr. Wang Wentao, head of Chinese Trade.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce of Nicaragua, Mr. Jesus Bermudez, explained that through this agreement 91.4% of everything Nicaragua exports to the world will have tariff preferences to be exported to China, of which 71% will have immediate access.

Baskets have been negotiated that include tariff elimination between 5, 10 and 15 years, with textile products, automotive harnesses, beef and beef offal, fish, shrimp, lobster, sea cucumber, peanuts, rum, beer, vaccines, sausages, chocolates, jellies, fruit pastes, fruit juices, salt, leather, candles, coal, hammocks, wood, paper, and cardboard, among others.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[Nicaragua y la República Popular China firman Tratado de Libre Comercio \(el19digital.com\)](https://el19digital.com/nicaragua-y-la-republica-popular-china-firman-tratado-de-libre-comercio)



Venezuela's Vice Minister of Anti-blockade Policies highlights his country's ongoing fight against foreign meddling

On Thursday morning, 31 August, the Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann House of Sovereignty of UNAN-Managua held a conference entitled "Case of Venezuela: From Blockade to Sovereign Recovery", facilitated by Compañero William Alfredo Castillo Bollé, Vice Minister of Anti-Blockade Policies of Venezuela.

In attendance were the Venezuelan ambassador in Nicaragua, Mr. José Francisco Javier Arrué de Pablo and the first secretaries, Ansonith Albano and Arlenin Aguillón, as well as diplomats from the Republic of Cuba and students and professors.

Dr. Luis Alfredo Lobato Blanco, Vice Rector General of UNAN-Managua and Director of the House of Sovereignty, welcomed all those who participated both in person and virtually. According to the academic, Venezuela has been the victim of a constant blockade by the US empire, expressed in various actions that harm its development. "With the struggle of the peoples the blockade will be defeated, unity is fundamental. Our solidarity with the Bolivarian people of Venezuela," said the Vice Rector.

During his lecture, Compañero Castillo Bollé recalled the history of Venezuela's struggle against foreign interference and referred to the imposition of unilateral coercive measures whose magnitude constitute an unprecedented crime in history, measures which have impaired the quality of life, human rights and economic growth. "Venezuela has been illegally and criminally attacked by measures dictated by the United States, the European Union and other countries", he expressed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[Viceministro de Políticas Antibloqueo de Venezuela destaca la constante lucha de su país contra la injerencia - UNAN-Managua](#)



These are the products that will be exported to and imported from China

Compañero Jesús Bermúdez, head of MIFIC [Ministry of Development, Industry and Commerce of Nicaragua], announced that 91.4% of everything Nicaragua currently exports worldwide was granted tariff preferences for export to China, of which 71% enjoys immediate access: That is, Nicaragua will be able to export, as soon as the FTA enters into force, at a 0% tariff.

Bermúdez also informed that baskets were also negotiated that will be dismantled in 5, 10 and 15 years. In the immediate access basket, which is at 0%, includes the following products: textiles, automotive harnesses, beef and beef offal, fish, shrimp, lobster, sea cucumber, peanuts, rum, beer, beef, sausages, chocolates, jellies, fruit pastes, fruit juices, salt, leather, candles, coal, hammocks, wood, paper and cardboard, among others.

Bermúdez indicated that an example of what remained in the basket to be tax-deductible for 5 years, upon entry into force of the FTA, is fish fillet, whey, flowers, nutmeg, fish preparations, powdered flour and fish offal, petroleum oil, ethers, alcohols, coloring material of vegetable origin, sacks, prepared bovine leather, wooden frames and boxes, basketry articles, leather footwear, among others.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[Estos son los productos que se exportarán e importarán desde China \(el19digital.com\)](http://el19digital.com)



Nicaragua keeps giant African snail situation under sanitary control

The Authorities of the Institute of Agricultural Protection and Health (known by its acronym in Spanish, IPSA) gave a presentation on the generalities, characteristics and preventive measures taken against the Giant African Snail, making it clear that the situation remains "under sanitary control".

The IPSA, through the Phytosanitary Surveillance System, informed that it intercepted in a zoo-breeding farm the Giant African snail (*Achatina fulica*), which was illegally introduced into the country.

However, they said that "we must clarify reports that are appearing in the media, alerts that do not correspond to the authoritative nature of the case. Media reports are beginning to spread fear... as if the Giant African Snail has spread throughout the national territory", said Ricardo Somorriba, IPSA's Executive Director.

He indicated "We are working. The situation is under sanitary control, and we are working according to the guidelines of President Daniel Ortega".

IPSA, after the appearance of this species, mobilized technical teams, notified President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Vice President Rosario Murillo, who gave instructions to activate a sanitary alert.

"In this sense we need to clarify that a complex series of tasks are being carried out with the Ministry of Health, Sinapred, municipal governments, political forces, the Army and the Police, within the framework of health protection and implementing the sanitary barriers that we use to do so", said Somarriba.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[Nicaragua mantiene bajo control sanitario situación del caracol gigante africano \(el19digital.com\)](http://el19digital.com)



National Technological Institute committed to Nicaragua's educational transformation

Throughout the country, the process of educational transformation undertaken by INATEC is evident and has as its protagonists thousands of young people in the countryside and the city, who have decided to pursue technical and technological education that impacts local and national development in all areas.

Loyda Barreda, executive director of National Technological Institute-INATEC, detailed how technical education programs are progressing, noting that to date we have met 62% of our goal of serving 490,000 students this year.

"This year, we have been addressing programs aimed at people from specific sectors. Through the Productive Vocation Program, we are attending to high school students providing distance learning in the countryside to make complementary courses available. These are programs to strengthen and enhance their productive vocation related to agricultural activities," Barreda said.

Among these, she highlighted the Comandante Carlos Program, aimed at public servants, to develop skills to better serve people with disabilities. This program is expected to serve 22 thousand public servants this year. "We have already reached more than 3 thousand civil servants from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, and now we are going to move forward with civil servants from the Ministry of the Interior", said Barreda.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[Tecnológico Nacional comprometido con la transformación educativa de Nicaragua \(el19digital.com\)](http://el19digital.com)

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