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Embassy of Colombia in the United States

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Contact: Olga Acosta

202-821-2792

Ambassador Pinzón Meets with Leading U.S. Ag and Tech Innovators in California

Washington, DC — Today, Colombian Ambassador to the United States Juan Carlos Pinzón concluded a weeklong visit to California, where he met with leading U.S. technology companies – from Google to Uber – and innovators in agricultural production. The Ambassador and business leaders discussed best practices in ag and tech and lessons Colombia can learn from the success of California’s leading industries.

“California is home to some of the United States’ most innovative companies, and there is much Colombia can learn to advance our own agribusiness and technology sectors,” said Ambassador Pinzón. “From seeing new technologies that make agricultural production more efficient, to touring the facilities of companies that are leading the ever-evolving global technology revolution, I gained insight into the many ways that investments in these sectors and expansion of bilateral partnerships will be key to Colombia’s economic growth and jobs of the future.”

Highlights from his visit include:

- Early in the week, the Ambassador visited Sequoia National Park, which was of particular interest given Colombia’s extensive network of national parks.
- On Tuesday, the Ambassador met with Representative Devin Nunes (R-CA), and on Wednesday, the two toured agricultural production facilities in the Congressman’s district. The tour included visits to Setton Pistachio, a family-owned and operated pistachio company in Terra Bella; LoBue Citrus, a company that specializes in growing, packing and exporting California citrus; and California Dairies in Visalia, which produces nine percent of U.S.-produced milk.
- On Thursday, Ambassador Pinzón headed to Silicon Valley for meetings with executives from Google, where he toured the Google campus.
- Today, the Ambassador toured and participated in meetings with representatives from Uber, Facebook, LinkedIn and next-generation cybersecurity company Palo Alto Networks.
- He also delivered remarks today at a lunch hosted by the Silicon Valley Forum, which centered on Colombia’s startup and innovation sector and how Silicon Valley and the government of Colombia can work together to help ensure the success of Colombia’s startups.

- The Ambassador also met today with officials from SRI International, a leading, independent research center, to discuss SRI's work in Latin America and advancing innovation, entrepreneurship and R&D modernization in Colombia.

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