



Lateinamerikanische Handelskammer in der Schweiz
Cámara de Comercio Latinoamericana en Suiza
Câmara de Comércio Latino-Americana na Suíça
Chambre de Commerce Latino-Américane en Suisse

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

with Keynote Speaker Walter B. Kielholz

Chairman of the Board of Directors of [Swiss Re](#)

June 30, 2016 at Haus zum Rüden, Zürich

The Latin American Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland ([LATCAM](#)) held its annual general meeting on June 30, 2016, in Zurich. It welcomed Walter B. Kielholz, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Swiss Re, as keynote speaker with a presentation on “Risk and (Re)insurance in Latin America.



Walter B. Kielholz (l), Chairman of the Board of Directors of Swiss Re, and Dr. Richard Friedl (r), President [Latcam](#)

Walter B. Kielholz, Chairman [Swiss Re](#) characterized Latin America's economic landscape as a multi-speed economic growth in which two broad groups of economies stand out with different macroeconomic fundamentals, Mercosur (Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Uruguay) with flat-to-negative economic growth and double-digit inflation, and Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru) with slow but stable growth, lower and contained inflation. Economic growth for the entire region is foreseen at a moderate 1.9% in the period 2015 – 2020 and 2.9% in the period 2020 – 2025. In the long run, strong macroeconomic fundamentals (institutional quality, sound policy frameworks, trade openness, diversified industrial bases, etc.) could sustain growth.

Mr. Kielholz also made reference that Latin America generated USD 158 billion of insurance premiums in 2015, up 4.6% in real terms and representing 3.5% of the global insurance market (USD 4.6 trillion). Commercial insurance premiums between 2016 and 2025 are forecasted to grow by 4.9% per year in real terms, from USD 32 billion to USD 55 billion by 2025. He pointed to the property protection gap in uninsured earthquake losses of 90% in Mexico, Chile, Peru and Brazil, and 85% in Ecuador, Colombia, and Uruguay. In the event of an EQ event the affected economy could therefore be severely damaged for a long period time due to missing means for reconstruction.



Minister Philippe Nell, SECO

Government representatives from Latin America and Switzerland, including Ambassadors of Peru, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Minister Philippe Nell, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and Catherine Scharf, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, were among the guests.



The Chamber's President, Dr. Richard A. Friedl (c), presented the Chamber's Annual Report 2015, where he gave a brief overview of some of the key developments in Latin America's economic landscape and reviewed Latcam's activities and operations in 2015. He informed that Claudio Boettcher (r), Zurich Insurance had been appointed by the board as the new Treasurer of [Latcam](#), replacing Joaquín Fischer (l) whom the board had appointed as new Managing Director.

Annual conferences such as the Latin American Day, the Mexican Forum and the Brazil Forum, as well as upcoming seminars on Peru, Colombia and Argentina attest to the Chamber's important role as a platform for relationship-building between Switzerland and Latin America.

Photo Gallery of the networking

