

BRAZIL



Message from The Rt Hon David Cameron MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland estoring Britain's economic strength requires that we deal with the deficit and make our economy competitive. These are vital issues to focus on at home. But renewing Britain's place in a rapidly changing world economy needs a larger horizon too. Our economic future depends on rapidly expanding our trade with the fastest growing parts of the world.

That is why I have made it a personal priority to fly the flag for British business abroad and I am delighted to be taking a top flight British business delegation to Brazil. In the new world economy, Brazil's story is one of the most compelling of all. In recent months I have visited a number of fast-growing economies set to take their place among the biggest in the world. Brazil is already there. Not just an emerging economy but already the sixth largest, with natural, human and industrial resources that will ensure it's position as a key trading partner for decades to come. Indeed, São Paulo, just one of 27 states, has a bigger GDP than any Latin American country south of Mexico.

So this visit is long overdue. Almost two hundred years ago Britain was the number one European exporter to Latin America. But today our share of Brazil's imports is only 1.5 per cent, compared with 2.4 per cent for France and 6.7 per cent for Germany. This visit is a vital part of putting that right. Already UK exports to Brazil are up by more

RT HON DAVID CAMERON MP, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHEN IRELAND

than a quarter this year. And on this visit we will go further, not least by helping Brazil to develop its energy sector, and by building on the closest ever co-operation between two Olympic hosts to help Rio construct the venues and secure the legacy of its own World Cup and Olympic Games.

We also want to deepen our bilateral relations. Brazil is a key strategic partner for the United Kingdom and has the potential to be a very influential voice on the world stage, whether on working towards a solution in Syria or improving cyber security. We are also developing a strong partnership on development issues, boosting global efforts to tackle poverty and demonstrating that we are determined to help future generations to fulfil their potential.

Links between our people are growing, whether it is scientific collaboration between our researchers or teaching English to Brazilians. More than 10,000 fully-funded Brazilian students will come to study at UK universities under a new agreement signed this year, learning a great deal about life and culture here in Britain and establishing valuable new connections between our countries which can last a lifetime.

Over the past two years, 17 ministers have visited Brazil and I believe my visit can advance our fast-growing relationship further and deliver concrete outcomes that will improve the lives of both UK and Brazilian citizens.

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