



**A longstanding commitment to the present and future of Bladex**



**Gonzalo Menéndez Duque**

Mr. Gonzalo Menéndez Duque played an important role in Bladex's history since 1990. He joined the Bank's Board of Directors as a director and served as its Chairman in two different terms, from 1995 to 1998 and from 2002 until his passing on June 29, 2019.

During these 29 years, he dedicated his talent, business leadership and vast knowledge to decisively contribute to the growth and development of Bladex, always committed to preserving the Bank's vision to be recognized as a leading financial institution in supporting trade and regional integration across Latin America.

As Chairman of the Bank's Board of Directors, he strongly supported the various programs aimed at boosting the Panamanian economy and strengthening links between trade associations of Chile and Panama. In recognition of these efforts, the Panamanian government conferred him with the Vasco Núñez de Balboa medal of honor with the rank of "Grand Officer" in 2000.

As a member of the Council of Fundación Crece Latinoamérica, the foundation through which Bladex carries out its social responsibility initiatives, he made significant contributions in the execution of the projects and programs aiming at providing and boosting educational and comprehensive training opportunities to vulnerable children and youth in the communities where the Bank operates.

His valuable contributions both in the corporate and social fields constitute a great legacy for Latin America.

**Successful syndication of a senior unsecured term loan facility for Unifin**

In June, a US\$220,625,000 3-year senior unsecured syndicated loan for Unifin Financiera, S.A.B. de C.V. (Unifin) was successfully closed.

This transaction constitutes the third international syndicated facility led by Bladex for the Company, which attracted commitments from 17 financial institutions from Central and Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and the United States, several of which represent new banking relationships for Unifin.

Oversubscription allowed the Company to upsize the facility amount to US\$220,625,000 from its original target of US\$150,000,000.

Bladex acted as Joint Lead Arranger and Joint Bookrunner together with Nomura Securities International, Inc., and shall act as the Administrative Agent for the Facility.

**Bladex and the China Development Bank (CDB) sign agreement**



**From Bladex (left to right): Jorge Luis Real and Eduardo Vivone, Executive VPs; Gabriel Tolchinsky, CEO. From China Development Bank: Ping Yan and Wei Jingyuan; and Patricio Mainardi, Bladex VP**

In order to explore financing opportunities for projects in Latin America, executives from Bladex and CDB held meetings at our Headquarters in Panama. This resulted in both financial institutions signing a cooperation agreement on May 21 as a starting point to jointly develop new business opportunities in Latin America.

**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**Fundación Crece Latinoamérica sponsors "One Laptop per Child" program**



With the aim of providing students and teachers at La Misericordia multi-grade school in the community of El Bale, province of Veraguas, with a technological tool to close the digital gap and ensure significant improvements in the teaching-learning process, Fundación Crece Latinoamérica in partnership with Pro Niñez delivered on June 21 one XO computer to each child attending the school.

The program includes training for teachers and classroom support, as well as regular performance measurement, particularly in the areas of literacy and math. Initial beneficiaries include 25 students with a projected growth to 50 students and two teachers. Indirect beneficiaries are the children's parents and siblings, who will be able to access the equipment the children may take home.

**The scholarship program promoted by Bladex's Volunteer Committee benefits 100 CEMP students**



**Representatives from the Volunteer Committee present to Sister Rubiela Asprilla, CEMP Director, the contribution for the 2019 scholarships**

An important complement to the social programs implemented by Fundación Crece Latinoamérica is the valuable participation of the Bank's Volunteer Committee. Initiatives focused on providing educational opportunities include the scholarship program, which this year benefits 100 students at the Marie Poussepin Educational Center (CEMP), built by the Bank and which serves a student body of over 700 children and youth from sectors at social risk in Panama City.

