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Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
Minnesota Public Benefit Corporation / Annual Benefit Report
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 304A



Read the instructions before completing this form
Must be filed by March 31
Filing Fee: \$55 for expedited service in-person, \$35 if submitted by mail

The Annual Benefit Report covers the 12 month period ending on December 31 of the previous year.
Notice: Failure to file this form by March 31 of this year will result in the revocation of the corporation's public benefit status without further notice from the Secretary of State, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 304A.301

1. Corporate Name: (Required) **TRADE CENTER OF THE AMERICAS GBC**

2. The public benefit corporation's board of directors has reviewed and approved this report.

3. In the field below, enter the information required by section 304A.301 subd. 2 or 3 for the period covered by this report, (see instructions for further information): Note: Use additional sheets if needed. (Required)

SEE ATTACHMENT:

The Trade Center of the Americas's mission is to foster economic growth by providing trade and investment opportunities to women & minority owned companies, startups and medium and small organization across North, Central and South America. (SEE ATTACHMENT)

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am the chief executive officer of this public benefit corporation. I further certify that I have signed this document no more than 30 days before the document is delivered to the secretary of state for filing, and that this document is current when signed. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Silvia Ontaneda

Signature of Public Benefit Corporation's Chief Executive Officer

04/28/21

Date (Must be dated within 30 days before the report is delivered to the Secretary of State for Filing)

Email Address for Official Notices

Enter an email address to which the Secretary of State can forward official notices required by law and other notices:

silvia@tradecamericas.com

Check here to have your email address excluded from requests for bulk data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.

List a name and daytime phone number of a person who can be contacted about this form:

Silvia Ontaneda **6514880412**

Contact Name

Phone Number

Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.

Does this entity own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed?

Yes No

Silvia Ontaneda 04/28/21

Trade Center of The Americas General Public Benefit Corporation

Mission

The Trade Center of the Americas is a minority, immigrant woman owned general public benefit corporation that promotes sustainable and inclusive economic growth by fostering international trade and investment opportunities for women and minority owned businesses, small and medium size companies and startups across North, Central and South America.

In order to make our business model sustainable, a percentage of our profits are allocated to support women owned startups and women entrepreneurs.

Vision

In partnership with the Minnesota business community, our vision is to become leaders on bridging the geographical and cultural gaps between the Midwest and the rest of the Americas and vice versa. At the Trade Center of the Americas we aim to connect our members by developing business opportunities through establishing personable business connections across the regions, based on trust, transparency and accountability.

We leverage our cross cultural and trade expertise in order to increase the to help build an inclusive and sustainable trade and investment ecosystem.

Values

The TCA's values are integrity, diversity and inclusion, sustainability and innovation. It was established on the principles of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals:

- #1 End poverty in all its forms
- #2 Zero Hunger
- #5 Gender Equality
- #8 Decent Work & Economic Growth
- #17 Partnerships for the Goals

Summary :

The Trade Center of the Americas was established in April 2020. Despite the challenges of COVID and not being able to secure investors, during 2020 we were able to accomplish many milestones. So far we have established the relationship and promoted our business model, based on transparency and accountability standards, in 10 countries in Latin America. We have also been able to successfully:

- a. Provided pro-bono assistance to ten communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon Jungle who are producing organic guayusa tea. They learned about the legal procedures and certificates that the US markets require for exporting their products. They are ready to commercialize the organic guayusa in the US.
- b. Provide pro-bono assistance to Ecuadorian organic quinoa producers.
- c. Provide free trainings to Peruvian and Ecuadorian from the fishery and the ag area exporters to development internal policies based on transparency and accountability. For example, we provided them with the guidelines established by international law in order to report any irregularities in local government trade officials (for example: requests for bribes, etc.).

- d. Establish the relationship with chambers of commerce, trade associations, trade representatives, business and government leaders
- e. Establish partnerships with Minnesota organizations to establish the TCA as part of a Minnesota initiative to become a leader on trade and investment across the Americas in alignment with United Nations SDGs (<https://news.un.org/en/story/2015/12/519172-sustainable-development-goals-kick-start-new-year>)
- f. Seeking investors and/or business partners to develop this business model
- g. Promote the Minnesota's business culture of commitment with corporate responsibility standards as well as the TCA's values in alignment with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Why the AMERICAS (North, Central and South America)?

- Global expansion can provide supply chain diversification, a richer talent pool, access to countless new markets, and profitable business opportunities.
- A region that shares similar cultural and political values
- The Comunidad Andina de Naciones (The Andean Community of Nations), made up of Bolivia, Chile (Associate), Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, is one of the safest trade blocs in the world. The United States is their largest trade partner responsible for half of their total trade.
- With a combined population of 140 million, the Andean Region (Bolivia, Chile (Associate), Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) offers fast-growing markets and excellent business opportunities in South America.
- According to Forbes, overall Latin American GDP is expected to grow by 2.6 percent in 2021, particularly due to strong economies in Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, and Argentina. Latin America's strong growth could lead to outstanding business expansion opportunities.
- Through the diversification of trade opportunities, the TCA seeks to provide new market alternatives for Minnesota companies based on corporate social responsibility and sustainable development practices
- Provide opportunities for the members and associated of Chambers of Commerce, Greater MPS, Business Partnership, and other organizations to learn from the unlimited potential of doing business with these countries with the participation of representatives from the InterAmerican Bank, World Bank and Comunidad Andina de Fomento.

Report made by:

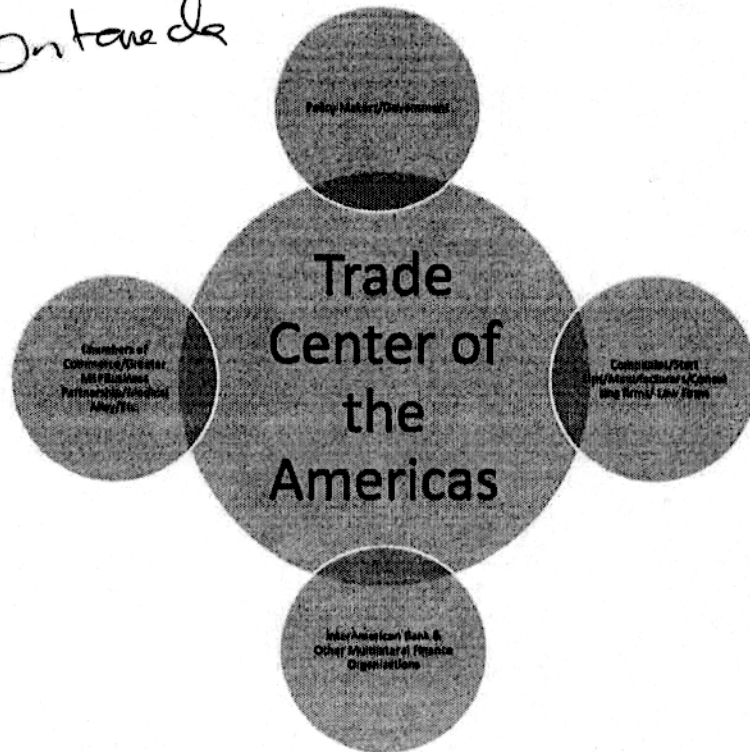
Silvia Ontaneda

04/28/21

Trade Center of the Americas GBC

The organizations that did the assessment of the Trade Center of the Americas were Social Enterprise Impact and Ecotone Analytics.

• Report by:
Silvia Ontarede





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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
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Steve Simon

Steve Simon
Secretary of State