



Your Excellencies

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good evening everyone.

My warm welcome to the Gala Dinner 2018 -Personality of the Year Awards.

I would like to start by greeting the three Awardees:

Luiz Seabra, Guilherme Leal and Pedro Passos, chairmen of Natura.

Congratulations and thank you all for being here tonight.

We are proud to host you at this event organized by the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain, with the invaluable support of the Embassy of Brazil in London.

Let me share with you some of the important goals the Brazilian Chamber has achieved so far this year. We are nearly at the end of 2018 and I can tell you that our agenda this year has covered strategic topics that are very important for the Bilateral trade relations between Brazil and the UK.

We had a comprehensive programme promoting Environmental, Social and Governance initiatives, highlighting the potential for Brazilian Companies to access the Green Finance Market.

Having the City of London as a Financial Center in excellence, various stakeholders from Brazil have visited London and have had productive meetings with Intermediaries and Final Investors. It has been a very good opportunity to showcase Brazil.

In 2017, the issue of Global Green Bond Market totalled USD 160 bi. To give you an idea, according to FEBRABAN, the Green Economy in Brazil was valued at USD 14 billion in the same period. And the Green Bonds USD 2.5 billion. From this, there is room to increase the participation of Brazil in the Global Green Bond Market. We estimate that the Global Green Bond Market in 2018 will reach USD 210 billion.

We will continue cooperating with our partners at the Brazilian Embassy and the Foreign Office to raise the profile of the Brazilian market in the Global Green Economy.



Other sectors that we have been covering are Oil and Gas, Agribusiness, Insurance and Reinsurance, Infrastructure, Bilateral Trade and Innovation. Without a shadow of a doubt, all these topics are relevant to our Members and we will continue dedicating resources to promote business in these areas.

Looking ahead, we have new chapters both for Brazil and the UK. But the focus will remain the same: to strengthen our bilateral trade relations.

The role of a Chamber of Commerce, amongst other responsibilities, is to promote business opportunities, to raise the voice of the membership and to exchange market intelligence.

We feel inspired when we see concrete Direct Investments flowing beyond borders.

Talking about Direct Investments, this is all about why we are here tonight. To award three Entrepreneurs from the Cosmetics Industry who have projected Brazil not only in the UK, but globally.

We could not think of a better occasion to celebrate the links between Brazil and the UK.

We have a new Ambassador, your Excellence Fred Arruda, to whom we wish a fruitful and productive mandate.

I am sure you are all fully aware of the programme for the evening, but I would like to emphasise our gratitude to Minister Eduardo Refinetti Guardia and the Chief Economics Commentator from the FT Martin Wolf for being here tonight to address our business community in London.

A business community full of energy and determined to contribute for a prosperous relationship between Brazil and the UK.

The menu tonight is 100% Brazilian flavour.

I hope you will enjoy it.

Thank you.

Sérgio Gullo

Chairman