

Economic & Commercial Report for the week ending 19th April, 2019

1. News analysis related to Trade

Peru:

i. Grape exports grew 25.8% in 2018 (*El Comercio: 10/04/2019*) - Peruvian exports of fresh grapes totaled \$ 816.4 million at the end of 2018, an amount higher by 25.8% compared to the previous year, according to a report from the Business Research Center (CIE) of PeruCámaras. The main destination market for national exports of grapes was the United States with US \$ 302.5 million, a 37% share of the total exports. It is followed by the Netherlands with US \$ 143.8 million (17.6% share). Hong Kong with US \$ 80.1 million (9.8%) and the United Kingdom with US \$ 55.6 million (6.8%).

ii. Ica led investments in the first two months (*El Peruano: 15/04/2019*) - According to the National Mining, Petroleum and Energy Society, the Ica region was the one that attracted the most mining investment during the first two months, US\$ 145.3 million dollars. Only in February, it registered an investment of US\$ 92.8 million dollars. This is due to the construction of Mina Justa by the company Marcobre.

Bolivia:

iii. The real quinoa of Bolivia looks for its denomination of origin before the world (*La Jornada: 11/04/2019*) - Producers of real quinoa in the southern highlands of Bolivia seek to achieve the registration of the denomination of origin of this "grain of gold" in the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). 40 percent of real quinoa is for export to Europe, a market that demands quality, so that registration could help open up more markets.

iv. Installation project of the lithium industrialization complex until 2024 in Oruro (*La Prensa: 12/04/2019*) – The Vice Minister of High Energy Technologies, Alberto Echazú, estimated that up to 2024 the lithium industrialization complex would be installed in the Coipasa salt flat, in the department of Oruro. He explained that in about four months will be signed the constitution of the joint venture that will be in charge of the implementation of the industrial complex; In addition, the feasibility project will be ready in December this year and the construction of the first potassium sulphate plant is expected to begin in 2020. The Bolivian State Lithium Deposits (YLB) and the Chinese company TBEA Baocheng, signed on February 6 a preliminary letter for the construction of five industrialization plants in the salt pans of Coipasa (Oruro) and Pastos Grandes (Potosí). He said that the investment in Coipasa will reach more than 1,300 million dollars with an investment percentage of 51 percent of the Bolivian State and the rest by the Chinese company, which will be a partner.

v. The export of gold grows by 9.5%; India is the main customer (*El Deber: 14/04/2019*) - According to the Regional Federation of Gold Cooperatives of La Paz (Ferreo), 98% of the gold export comes from the cooperatives with close to 70% located in La Paz. India is the main destination for the national offer. In 2018, 22,420 gross kilos were exported with a value of US \$ 720.4 million and, together with the Arab Emirates, which demanded 11,011 gross kilos (US \$ 360.3 million) are the places that demand the most the Bolivian gold. For this bimonthly period, according to the data of the IBCE, again India is the main destination of the national gold because until February and 4,710 gross kilograms

were exported (in 2018 it was 3,649 kilograms for the similar period) which meant a value of US\$ 150.7 million, while in the similar period of 2018 the amount was \$ 119.2 million.

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