

MR. MEDINA, MR. DEMPSEY...

MR. TOWNBRIDGE...

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS...

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS EVENING TO WELCOME BBC LATIN AMERICA TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...

YOU COULD NOT HAVE CHOSEN A BETTER PLACE!

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S LOCATION HAS MADE US THE GATEWAY NOT ONLY TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, BUT INCREASINGLY, WE HAVE BECOME A GATEWAY TO EUROPE, AFRICA, AND BEYOND...

LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF THIS:

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT NOW RANKS AS ONE OF THE BUSIEST AIRPORTS IN THE NATION, HAVING ADDED OVER 20 NEW AIRLINES SINCE 2010.

AND JUST LAST WEEK, QATAR AIRWAYS STARTED FLYING FROM MIA, MAKING US THE ONLY QATAR AIRWAYS DESTINATION IN THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S.

THROUGH M.I.A., OUR COMMUNITY IS NOW CONNECTED TO 150 DESTINATIONS AROUND THE WORLD.

WE ARE ALSO A CROSSROADS OF COMMERCE AND CULTURE, ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE PLACES IN THE WORLD - WITH CLOSE TO 60% OF OUR POPULATION BEING FOREIGN BORN.

I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT AS WE CELEBRATE THE WORLD CUP, WE HAVE FANS FROM EVERY COUNTRY CHEERING FOR THEIR TEAMS - OR AT LEAST IT SEEMS THAT WAY!

MIAMI IS THE MEETING POINT FOR GOODS, SERVICES, AND PEOPLE, FLOWING BETWEEN THE US AND THE WORLD.

CULTURALLY, WHEN YOU LOOK AROUND OUR COMMUNITY YOU CAN SEE THIS...

WE ARE THE EPICENTER FOR HISPANIC AND LATIN AMERICA.

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE THE PULSE OF HISPANIC AMERICA, THE PULSE OF LATIN AMERICA, MIAMI IS WHERE YOU DO IT!

TODAY, BBC LATIN AMERICA JOINS THE ROSTER OF COMPANIES WHOSE LATIN AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS ARE BASED IN OUR COMMUNITY.

AND THE BBC IS A SPECIAL ORGANIZATION. YOU HAVE A LONG HISTORY OF BROADCASTING - THE WORLD'S OLDEST NATIONAL BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION.

THE BBC IS THE VOICE OF AN ENTIRE NATION. AND WE ARE GLAD THAT VOICE WILL NOW ORIGINATE FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...

WE WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS.

ON BEHALF OF THE OVER 2.6 MILLION RESIDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,

LET ME PRESENT THIS CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF YOUR WORLDWIDE LATIN AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS...

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE AND CONGRATULATIONS ONCE AGAIN!