

*President of Brazil holds
meetings with international
delegations on first day in office*

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?Bolivian President Luis Arce was one of many leaders meeting with his Brazilian counterpart

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Brasilia, January 2 (RHC)-- The president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, reported Monday that during the day he had meetings with some 17 international delegations that came to the country to participate in the inauguration ceremony, held the day before.

After attending the inauguration, senior officials from several nations have met with the Brazilian president at the Itamaraty Palace. "Let's work for Brazil to have the role it deserves in the world", expressed the 77-year-old leader on his Twitter account.

Among the dignitaries who have exchanged with Lula are those of Argentina, Alberto Fernández; of Angola, Joao Laurenço; of Ecuador, Guillermo Lasso; of Bolivia, Luis Arce; of Chile, Gabriel Boric; of Colombia, Gustavo Petro, among other nations.

"I had an extraordinary bilateral meeting with the new president of Brazil", said Alberto Fernandez about the meeting with the Brazilian leader.

For his part, the Bolivian dignitary, Luis Arce, pointed out that among the issues discussed in their exchange were border issues, gas, electric energy, investment and trade.

Likewise, Colombian President Gustavo Petro said that his meeting with Lula dealt with the issue of agreeing to save the Amazon rainforest for the good of humanity, as well as a change in anti-drug policy.

In addition, the Brazilian president held a meeting with the King of Spain, Felipe VI, with whom he discussed relations between the two countries and between Europe and Latin America.

The Brazilian president also spoke with the vice presidents of China, Wang Qishan and Cuba, Salvador Valdés Mesa; the president of the Council of Ministers of Peru, Luis Alberto Otárola Peñaranda and the president of the National Assembly of Venezuela, Jorge Rodríguez.

"I received from the Vice President of China, Wang Qishan, a letter from President Xi Jinping with his greetings and his willingness to expand cooperation. China is our largest trading partner and we can further expand relations between our countries," Lula informed.

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