

# *Argentina and Botswana Explore Stronger Ties and Cooperation*

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Buenos Aires, September 18 (Xinhua-RHC) -- Argentinian Foreign Minister Hector Timerman met his Botswanan counterpart, Phandu Skelemani, in Buenos Aires on Wednesday and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation.

During their meeting, Timerman thanked "Botswana's support on the question of the Malvinas Islands and its recent vote at the United Nations General Assembly in favor of establishing a legal framework for restructuring foreign debt," the Argentine Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Developing nations have been campaigning for more power within the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other key global financial agencies traditionally dominated by the United States and its European allies.

The two top diplomats also discussed potential areas of cooperation, especially in agriculture, cattle ranching, industrial development, tourism and sports, and signed a memorandum of understanding to promote political dialogue between the two countries.

Skelemani is due to meet with other Argentine officials during the visit, including Agriculture Minister Carlos Casamiquela, Tourism Minister Carlos Meyer, Industry Minister Debora Giorgi, and Sports Secretary Carlos Espinola.

The two countries share common economic activities especially in the agricultural sector. Botswana is trying to revive its once thriving beef industry and may learn something from the South Americans.

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