

From: [Pervazova, Iana](#)
To: [Pervazova, Iana](#)
Subject: Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs Meets with Key International Stakeholders on Official Visit to New York
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Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs Meets with Key International Stakeholders on Official Visit to New York

June 9, 2021, Panama City, Panama: Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs Erika Mouynes recently visited New York City on an official trip to meet with key international stakeholders at the United Nations, International Organization for Migration, Council of the Americas, Pfizer and New York University.

On June 1, Minister Mouynes [spoke](#) at the United Nations High-Level Debate on the Ocean and Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water, where she highlighted that on June 8, World Oceans Day, Panama achieved an outstanding 30% protection of underwater areas, in compliance with international climate change agreements. Also on June 1, she had a private meeting with the International Organization for Migration to discuss the ongoing humanitarian crisis at the Colombia-Panama border and how the international community can come together to find solutions.

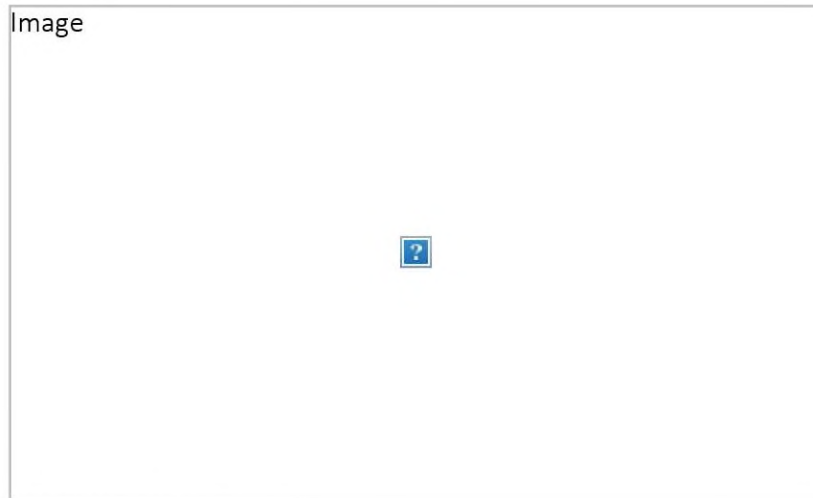
"We are the only country in the world to provide food, shelter and medical attention to migrants who arrive in and pass through Panama as part of our humanitarian approach to migration, in addition to applying biometric measurements to identify them. Our ongoing partnership with the countries of arrival and our regional partners, including the U.S., are key to bettering our collective understanding and management of migrant flows so we can provide them with the support to make their journey as safe as possible," said Mouynes.



Credit: Matthew Carasella

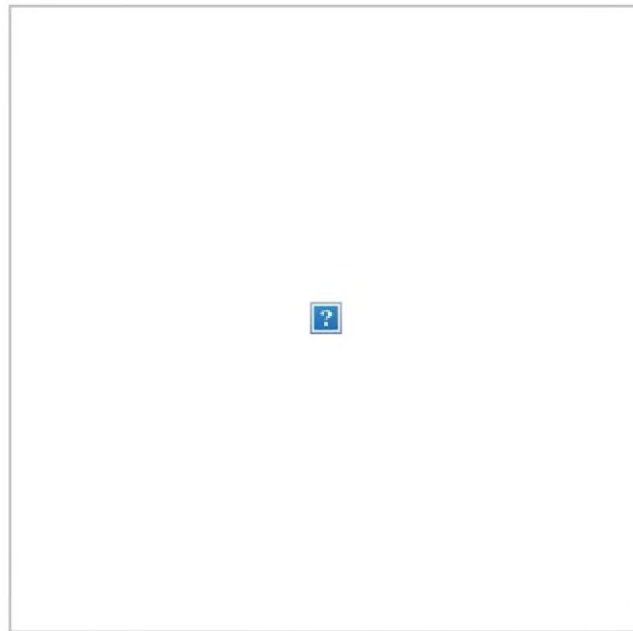
On June 2, the pharmaceutical company Pfizer, the primary supplier of COVID-19 vaccines for Panama, hosted Minister Mouynes for meetings to discuss the logistics of delivering five million doses during the third quarter of the year. While discussing Panama's vaccination progress, Minister Mouynes said, "Our mass vaccination will take place between July and September, by which we expect to be one of the first countries in Latin America to reach herd immunity. However, it is crucial that we address COVID-19 on a global scale and not individually – until everyone around the world is vaccinated, we will not be able to move to a post-pandemic way of life."

On June 3, Minister Mouynes joined the Council of the Americas for a private conference and personal meeting with Susan Segal, the organization's CEO, on the topic of Panama's role as a regional leader across trade, digital, gender and sustainability. She also met with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to discuss how Panama is working to support the UN's multilateral goals in the region and globally, with a special focus on gender equality and climate change.



Credit: Matthew Carasella

On the same day, Minister Mouynes met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives and current 76th President of the United Nations General Assembly Abdulla Shahid to discuss the two countries' bilateral partnership and the role of their nations on the multilateral stage. They also discussed the mechanisms to mitigate COVID-19's health and economic impact in their respective countries, identifying shared lessons.



Credit: Government of Panama

Also on June 3, she was also hosted by New York University for an alumni event to discuss her path to becoming Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs since attending NYU's School of Law and Stern School of Business, her vision for Panama's foreign policy and the country's commitment to gender equality.

This material is distributed by Edelman on behalf of the government of Panama. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

iana pervazova
senior account executive, international affairs
1875 Eye Street, NW, Suite 900 | Washington, D.C. 20006

