


Memorandum



Date: January 28, 2022

To: Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: BCC Directive: Resolution No. 615-21 – International Sister Seaport Agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority

On June 16, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopted Resolution No. 615-21 directing the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to prepare a report regarding the negotiation and execution of the International Sister Seaport Agreement (Agreement) with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

On November 11, 2021, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, Chair of the Miami-Dade PortMiami and Environmental Resilience Committee, Port Director/CEO, Juan Kuryla and Deputy Port Director, Hydi Webb traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico to sign a Sister Seaport Agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority (Authority).

The visit provided an opportunity for high level dialogue with the Port Authority’s Executive Director, Joel A. Piza-Batiz and his executive team on ways the partnership will be mutually beneficial, particularly with cruise business relations. Additionally, Mr. Piza-Batiz provided a comprehensive tour of their port facilities and cruise terminals.

On November 12th, the Miami-Dade delegation was warmly welcomed by the Governor of Puerto Rico, the Honorable Pedro R. Pierluisi to his official residence where they discussed ways to strengthen the relationship between the two ports followed by the official signing ceremony. The Agreement was signed by Governor Pierluisi, Commissioner Sosa, Mr. Kuryla, and Mr. Piza-Batiz.

Outlined in the Agreement was the following: Both ports agreed to commit to the free and uninhibited exchange of information pertaining to the respective cargo and cruise industries; the exchange of historical statistical information pertaining to each port; planned seaport infrastructure developments, and general marketing research aimed at increasing cruise and cargo traffic at the respective ports. Both ports will study the possibility of creating the technical and financial means, by way of joint ventures or other business arrangements, to promote the traffic and port activities covered in the Agreement. Both ports will work toward the formation of technical working groups to exchange educational visits and act as goodwill ambassadors between the two ports. Both ports will, through their respective marketing process, promote opportunities for and the advantages of doing business at the Sister Seaports.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65, this report shall be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda.

Should you require additional information, please contact Hydi Webb, Seaport Interim Port Director at 305-347-4951.

c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
Jimmy Morales, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Mayor
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

Declaration

International Sister Seaports Agreement between Dante B. Fascell Port of Miami-Dade and Puerto Rico Ports Authority

On the 12th day of November, 2021, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, United States of America.

GATHERED:

ON BEHALF OF THE DANTE B. FASCELL PORT OF MIAMI-DADE: Mr. Juan Kuryla, Port Director/CEO

ON BEHALF OF THE PUERTO RICO PORTS AUTHORITY: Mr. Joel A. Pizá-Batiz, Executive Director

IN ASSEMBLY, for the purpose of signing a non-binding **International Sister Seaports Agreement** between the Dante B. Fascell Port of Miami-Dade and the Puerto Rico Ports Authority, under the following terms:

First. This agreement will officially link the Dante B. Fascell Port of Miami-Dade (Port of Miami), Florida (U.S.A.) and the Puerto Rico Ports Authority through an International Sister Seaports Agreement.

Second. Both the Port of Miami, through its Director and duly elected officials, *i.e.*, the Mayor and Commissioners, and the Puerto Rico Ports Authority, through its Director or its authorized representative must execute the International Sister Seaports Agreement.

Third. Both ports will commit to the free and uninhibited exchange of information pertaining to: the cargo and cruise industries in each port; historical statistical information pertaining to each; planned seaport infrastructure developments, and; general marketing research, aimed at increasing cruise and cargo traffic at both ports.

Fourth. Both ports will study the possibility of creating the technical and financial means, by way of joint ventures or other business arrangements, to promote the traffic and port activities covered in this document.

Fifth. Both ports will work toward the formation of technical working groups to exchange educational visits and act as goodwill ambassadors between the two ports.

Sixth. Both ports will, through its normal promotional process, promote the relationship and advantages of doing business at the Sister Seaports.

Seventh. Both ports will consider their participation in a bi-annual Sister Seaports Convention, to be held in Miami-Dade County, and agrees to actively participate in this activity. This bi-annual Sister Seaports Convention will highlight the affiliated Sister Seaports, and the accomplishments of each as a result of the program.

Eighth. Through the mutual agreement of both Sister Seaports, additional areas of cooperation and partnering may be spelled out as a part of the Sister Seaports Agreement.

The parties consider of the utmost interest the creation of a working group, made up of a limited number of representatives from each party, for the express purpose of putting into practice the intentions of this Agreement.

In conformity, signed in the city and on the date indicated.



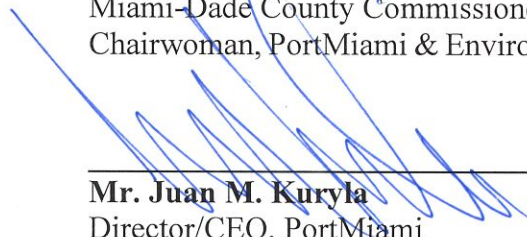
Honorable Pedro R. Pierluisi
Governor of Puerto Rico



Honorable Rebeca Sosa
Miami-Dade County Commissioner
Chairwoman, PortMiami & Environmental Resilience Committee



Mr. Joel A. Pizá-Batiz
Executive Director
Puerto Rico Ports Authority



Mr. Juan M. Kuryla
Director/CEO, PortMiami

