



PR#083-22

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Cattle Export Witnessed by Members of Cabinet**

*Belmopan. March 23, 2022. 9:30 a.m.*

Members of Cabinet including Prime Minister Briceño attended a cattle export ceremony at Cacabix corral in Shipyard, Orange Walk District on March 22, 2022. SuKarne, a Mexican meat company, exported 266 head of cattle to Michoacan, Mexico.

The event was witnessed by Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño; Hon. Eamon Courtenay, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration; Hon. Jose Abelardo Mai, Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise; Hon. Christopher Coye, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment; and officials from various organizations and government departments including Commissioner of Police Chester Williams; Jeffery Reimer, Chairman of the Belize Livestock Producers Association, and members of the board; Henry Anderson, Chairman of the Development Finance Corporation, and members of the management team; and officials from the Ministry of Agriculture.

In their remarks, both Prime Minister Briceño and Minister Courtenay spoke about the economic rebound of the country and the role agriculture has played in that recovery. They also acknowledged the efforts of Minister Mai and the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture. Both referred to the role of the livestock sector in the economy and the significance of the regularization of trade with Mexico. For his part, Minister Mai emphasized that the industry brings jobs to hundreds of smallholder livestock farmers throughout the country and that the industry brought in more than \$49 million in economic contributions to the country last year.

Cattle exports to Mexico are expected to regularize on a weekly basis throughout the rest of the year as both Belize and Mexico continue to develop favorable agreements that will enable cattle from all over Belize to be exported to Mexico, and address issues such as tariffs and other restrictions related to exportation.

### **Ends**

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