

U.S. AND DOMINICAN TIES:

The U.S. has a strong interest in a democratic, stable, and economically healthy Dominican Republic. The country's standing is the largest Caribbean economy, and is the second-largest country in terms of population and land mass. DR has a large bilateral trade with the United States, and its proximity to the United States and other smaller Caribbean nations make the Dominican Republic an important partner in hemispheric affairs. The U.S. embassy estimates that 85,000 U.S. citizens live in the Dominican Republic; many are dual nationals, while more than 1.4 million Dominicans reside in the United States, mostly in the metropolitan Northeast.

U.S. relations with the Dominican Republic are excellent, and the U.S. has been an outspoken supporter of the country's democratic and economic development. The Dominican Government has been supportive of many U.S. initiatives in the United Nations and related agencies. The two governments cooperate in the fight against the traffic in illegal substances. The Dominican Republic has worked closely with U.S. law enforcement officials on issues such as extraditions of fugitives, reducing illegal migration, and the return of stolen cars to the United States.

The United States supports the current administration's efforts to improve Dominican competitiveness, increase foreign private investment, fight corruption, and modernize the tax system. Bilateral trade is important to both countries, and U.S. firms, mostly manufacturers of apparel, footwear, and light electronics, account for much of the foreign private investment in the Dominican Republic.

20 Advantages to investing and/ or living in the Dominican Republic.

- 1) Great Quality of life, a good place to live and raise a family
- 2) Geographically located near major trade markets in the center of the Americas with several international airports
- 3) Only 2 _ hour flight from Miami to Punta Cana
- 4) Politically stable and improving daily
- 5) Fastest growing economy in the Caribbean with an impressive Domestic product and expansive export
- 6) Preferential trade agreements established and signed with the U.S., Europe, Central America and other Caribbean countries
- 7) Less red tape in regulations and policies allowing more free enterprise
- 8) Affordable local non-skilled labor force ready & willing to learn
- 9) Tons of Entrepreneurship and investment opportunities
- 10) Positive attitude towards foreigners and foreign investment

- 11) Affordable property, still growing in value
- 12) Little or no property taxes on the first \$150,000 (varies with purchase)
- 13) Telecommunication readily available throughout the country
- 14) Ease of various forms of transportation everywhere
- 15) Largest tourism in the Caribbean
- 16) Low crime rate because the country thrives on tourism
- 17) A true melting pot with little racial tensions
- 18) Great weather with the most beautiful beaches in the world
- 20) Laid back living (especially if you speak Spanish)
- 21) Lots to do including: White water rafting, whale watching, cave exploring, water sports, kite surfing, parasailing, boating, deep sea fishing, beaching, snorkeling, scuba diving, night clubs, Casinos, shopping (name brand companies) golfing, city and local tours, horseback riding, zip lining, ATV's, safaris, water parks... this list goes on and on...