

Argentina**Banking****Banco Itaú Argentina gets a credit line to facilitate the import of Brazilian-made capital goods**

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Banco Itaú Argentina SA ("Banco Itaú Argentina") and the Brazilian National Development Bank ("BNDES") have joined to provide a credit line to Argentine importers, to facilitate the purchase of Brazilian-made capital goods. For the first time after the Argentine financial crisis of 2001, importers based in Argentina will have access to financing for their purchases of Brazilian goods. This credit line is only valid for purchases and imports of industrial, construction and infrastructure products, for the initial rough amount of US\$ 20,000,000.

The final objective of BNDES is to expand credit lines to Chile, Peru, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay. Banco Itaú Argentina was the first bank to obtain this line of credit.

Banco Itaú Argentina is part of Banco Itaú Unibanco, Latin America's largest private sector bank.

Horacio E. Beccar Varela (Partner), **Pablo Torretta** (Junior Partner) and **Germán Pennimpe** (Senior Associate) of *Estudio Beccar Varela* have acted as Banco Itaú Argentina's legal advisors, and **Facundo Castillo Videla** has acted as in-house counsel.

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