



# OFFICE *of* INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS & DIPLOMACY



**His Excellency Mauro Vieira,  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative to the  
United States**

Mauro Luiz Iecker Vieira became Ambassador of Brazil to the United States on February 24, 2010, having previously served as Brazil's ambassador to Argentina since 2004

Ambassador Vieira also served in Washington before, from 1978 to 1982 as second secretary at the Brazilian Embassy, later holding diplomatic posts in Mexico, Uruguay and France. In 1989, he was an advisor to Ulysses Guimarães in an unsuccessful presidential bid. During the government of Jose Sarney, Ambassador Vieira was an assistant to Science and Technology Minister Renato Archer along with Celso Amorim, Brazil's current foreign minister. Ambassador Vieira went on to serve under Amorim at the Ministry of Social Security and as Amorim's cabinet chief at Itamaraty, Brazil's Ministry of External Relations.

Born February 15, 1951, Ambassador Vieira obtained a bachelor's degree in law from the Universidade Feder Fluminense in 1973. He also studied at the Instituto Rio Branco, the diplomatic academy of Brazil's Foreign Ministry, before entering the diplomatic corps in 1974. In addition, Ambassador Vieira earned certificates in English language study at the University of Michigan and Cambridge University, and studied French at the Université de Nancy in France.

Click [here](#) for more information on Ambassador Vieira's visit to Utah

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**this issue**

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## **WHO WE ARE**

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the International community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

## **CONTACT US**

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# INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BRAZIL



## Brazilian Flag History:

The Brazilian flag was inspired by the banner of the former Empire of Brazil (1822-1889). Before the current flag was adopted a flag very similar to that the United States was adopted in 1889, but only lasted 4 days before the President of Brazil opted to go with the current version of the flag.

## Brazilian Flag Meaning:

The green represents the forests of the country and the yellow represents its mineral wealth; the blue circle and stars, which replaced the coat of arms of the original flag, depict the sky over Rio de Janeiro on the morning of 15 November 1889—the day the Republic of Brazil was declared; the number of stars has changed with the creation of the new states and has risen from an original 21 to the current 27. The curved band spanning the blue disk is inscribed with the national motto "Ordem e Progresso," which means "Order and Progress."

Information taken from CIA World Factbook and wikipedia.org

- Brazil was named for the Pau Brasil tree, also known as Brazilwood. Previous to this name, it was known as the Ilha de Vera Cruz (Island of Real Cross) and Terra de Santu Cruz (Land of Holy Cross).
- As of 2007, Brazil has the second highest Christian population in the world with a reported 75% of the population being Roman Catholic.
- Brazilian women attained the right to vote in 1931, before women in Switzerland, France, and Italy.



- Brazil's Christ the Redeemer statue (pictured left), located in Rio de Janeiro, is one of the 7 wonders of the modern world.
- Brazil contains 25% of the world's rainforests.
- Brazil has the third largest road network on earth and the second highest number of airports in the world.
- Brazil has the greatest biodiversity of any country, and the most species of plants, freshwater fish, and mammals.
- Brazil is one of the fastest growing economies in the world today and currently has an average annual GDP growth rate of 5%.
- The Amazon river is second longest in the world, but is the largest river in the world in water volume.
- Brazil has won the soccer world cup five times, more than any other country.
- Brazilian coffee is reported to be the best in the world and is exported all over the globe.
- Brazil borders every country in South America except Chile and Ecuador.
- Brazil is the only Portuguese speaking country in the Americas.



The Information taken from celebratebrazil.com, brazil-travel.com, & lifestyle.iloveindia.com.