

ORGANIZED BY THE CONSORCI DE LA ZONA FRANCA DE BARCELONA (CZFB), IT WILL BE HELD UNTIL JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Raquel Sánchez assures that the data support the recovery in Spain**

- The Minister of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda has chaired the opening ceremony of SIL 2022, one of the world's largest Logistics, Transport, Intralogistics and Supply Chain trade fairs, and the benchmark in Spain, the Mediterranean and Latin America.
- The inauguration has also been attended by **Jaume Collboni**, first deputy mayor of Barcelona City Council, **Pere Navarro**, special delegate of the State in the CZFB, **Isidre Gavín**, secretary of Territory and Mobility of the regional government of Catalonia (Generalitat de Catalunya) and **Guillermo Fernández Vara**, president of the regional government of Extremadura (Junta de Extremadura).

**Barcelona, May 31, 2022** – This afternoon has taken place the inauguration of the **22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Logistics Exhibition (SIL)**, one of the world's largest fairs of Logistics, Transport, Intralogistics and Supply Chain, and the benchmark in Spain, the Mediterranean and Latin America, organized by the **Consorti de la Zona Franca de Barcelona (CZFB)**, which will be held until June 2<sup>nd</sup> after two years of absence due to the context of the pandemic.

The opening ceremony, which has taken place at 5:00 p.m. in the Business *Transformation Stage* room, inside Hall 8 at the Montjuïc-Plaza España exhibition center of the Fira de Barcelona, has been presided over by **Raquel Sánchez**, Minister of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, who has showed her support for the event by assuring that ***"the data support the recovery in Spain, perhaps not at the pace we would like, but it is a robust recovery and there is room for optimism"***. On the other

hand, the minister has stressed that ***"the Government's commitment to Catalonia is firm and it is the community that is receiving the most investment from her ministry"***. Sánchez has been accompanied by **Jaume Collboni**, deputy mayor of Barcelona City Council; **Pere Navarro**, special delegate of the State to the CZFB; **Isidre Gavín**, secretary for Territory and Mobility of the regional government of Catalonia (Generalitat de Catalunya); and **Guillermo Fernández Vara**, president of the regional government of Extremadura (Junta de Extremadura). **Blanca Sorigué**, general director of CZFB and SIL, has also taken part in the inauguration.

During the inauguration ceremony, **Jaume Collboni** has wanted to emphasize that ***"placing Barcelona once again as the world's logistics capital is a sign of the city's vitality"***.

On the other hand, **Pere Navarro** has highlighted that ***"We are very excited to bring the key players in the industry back together and see each other's faces again. Logistics has always been a sector that has operated silently, without anyone wondering how things get to stores, restaurants or even their own home, but the pandemic has given a 180-degree turn to this situation, giving visibility to the weight that logistics has for the proper functioning of the economy and also putting in value its ability to transform to continue to operate and adapt to the circumstances."***

As for **Isidre Gavín**, he has reproached the minister for ***"the low execution of investment in Catalonia"***. Regarding the challenges of logistics, he has pointed out that ***"it can only be if it is sustainable and digital, there is no other option"***.

In addition, **Guillermo Fernández Vara**, the president of the regional government of Extremadura (Junta de Extremadura), this year's guest region, has stated that ***"we are determined to take advantage of the changes that have been taking place in the world in recent years, which have come hand in hand with logistics. What is really going to change the lives of our peoples is the connection of the Atlantic axis with the Mediterranean axis"***.

### **About the Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona**

The CZFB is a public company that is financed entirely by its own funds, such as the industrial leases of the Barcelona Free Trade Zone Industrial Park and its asset management. Although its main field of activity is the industrial estate and its customs free zone, it also promotes buildings, urban and industrial land, acts as a driving force for business transformation towards the 4.0 economy and organizes events of economic interest for Barcelona such as the SIL logistics show or the BMP real estate show, as well as major events of reference with an innovative format such as the Barcelona New Economy Week (BNEW) or the Barcelona Woman Acceleration Week (BWA).

Its plenary has representatives of the Spanish government, the Barcelona City Council, the Generalitat de Catalunya and the main economic entities of the city.