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ASIA EDITION

China-based BGI Genomics opens new clinical laboratory at Uruguay

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Cutting-edge facility to serve as a beacon for preventive medicine in Latin America



China-headquartered BGI Genomics, a global leader in integrated precision medicine solutions, has established a new clinical laboratory at Uruguay's Parque de las Ciencias free trade zone. This facility is poised to become a regional hub, advancing preventive medicine across Latin America and utilising advanced technology to facilitate early disease diagnosis.

The inauguration was attended by Omar Paganini, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Elisa Facio, Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining; and Karina Rando, Minister of Public Health, along with other national and departmental dignitaries. Dr Yin Ye, CEO of BGI Group, the parent company of BGI Genomics, was also in attendance.

This laboratory, the first of its kind in the region, specialises in precision medicine applications. It is 1,000 square meters and dedicated exclusively to the company's operations.

This facility boasts a Huo-Yan Air Laboratory equipped with seven cabins that cover the entire genetic testing process: sample handling, extraction, sequencing, analysis, quality control, and report generation. The facility also features an advanced heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system and unique design elements to prevent contamination between cabins.

Currently, the laboratory employs Uruguayan technicians specialising in biochemistry and biotechnology. These technicians are supported by application experts from China who are providing training on the latest technology used by BGI Genomics.