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By Mike Knowles

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Fedefruta chief set for big challenges

New president Juan Carolus Brown Bauzá commits to pushing for law protecting Chilean fruit exports during strikes



Juan Carolus Brown Bauzá

The Chilean fruit producers' federation Fedefruta has confirmed the appointment of Juan Carolus Brown Bauzá as its new president for the period 2014-16.

Brown, who takes over from Cristián Allendes, is head of Brown Group, which produces table grapes for export in Chile's Aconcagua region, as well as growing nuts and operating a fruit nursery.

He is also president of the Biofrutales consortium, which develops new grape varieties.

Commenting on his appointment, Brown said: "As an industry we live in very interesting times as far as addressing agriculture's major issues with the authorities. We have to seize the opportunity.

"Our sector is listened to in this country and our efforts should focus

on promoting dialogue with stakeholders to tackle our biggest challenges."

He added: "But we also have some urgent points to address and, among other things, we should continue to push for a law to protect perishable products during strikes."