Jorge Fernando Quiroga was born May 5, 1960 in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Quiroga began his political career when he joined the Acción Democrática Nacionalista (ADN) party. In 1989, he became Under-Secretary of Public Investment and International Cooperation at the Ministry of Planning; and in 1992, he became Minister of Finance.

In 1998, at age 37, he was elected Vice President of Bolivia under President Hugo Banzer, making him the youngest Vice President in the country’s history. He succeeded Banzer as President in 2001, serving until August 2002.

Quiroga is a 1981 graduate of Texas A&M University, where he earned his undergraduate degree in industrial engineering. He is the first Aggie to become a head of state. He also earned a master's degree in business administration from St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas.

Upon completing his studies, Mr. Quiroga worked in the private sector for IBM in Austin, Texas. In 1988, he returned to Bolivia where he worked for Mintec, a Bolivian mining company. He later became Vice-president of Projects and Investment at the Merchant Bank of Bolivia.

He has received the World Leader of Tomorrow Award from the World Economic Forum, and has served as governor for the World Bank, Andean Development Corporation, International Finance Corporation, and the International Monetary Fund.