

**Joint Communiqué of the United States – Peru Environmental Affairs
Council**

February 17, 2010
Washington, D.C.

The Governments of the United States and Peru convened today the first meeting of the United States – Peru Environmental Affairs Council (EAC) in Washington, DC.

The EAC was chaired by Dr. Willem H. Brakel, Acting Director of the Office of Environmental Policy, Bureau of Oceans, International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; Mara Burr, Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative for Environment and Natural Resources; and Ernesto Guevara, Legal Adviser on Trade and Environment, from the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism.

U.S. Government participants in the meeting included officials of the U.S. Department of State, the Office of the United States Trade Representative and the U.S. Forest Service. Peruvian participants included officials of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism, the Ministry of Environment and the Supervisory Entity over Forestry Issues (OSINFOR).

The EAC reviewed progress that Peru and the United States have made in ensuring effective implementation of, and compliance with, the obligations under the Environment Chapter of the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (USPTPA). The primary focus of the discussions concerned the progress of implementation of the Annex on Forest Sector Governance. Peru and the United States began developing an approach to monitor implementation of, and

compliance with, USPTPA environmental obligations. The EAC also discussed implementation of the United States-Peru Environmental Cooperation Agreement.

The EAC held a public session for non-governmental organizations and other interested stakeholders. Representatives of the Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee (TEPAC), one of USTR's advisory committees, discussed their experiences in providing advice on trade and environmental policies. This session also provided an opportunity for the public to participate in a discussion with government officials about implementation of the Environment Chapter, including the Annex on Forest Sector Governance.