Andean Working Group

Lima, Peru

December 9 & 10, 2010

— Agenda —

Thursday, December 9

9:00 am  Introduction and Overview

Casa Andina Private Collection - Miraflores
Av. La Paz 463, Miraflores, Lima

Salón Colca
2nd Floor

9:30 – 11:30 am  COLOMBIA: Is Santos Moving the Country In A New Direction?

• What accounts for Santos’ high level of support? How long is the honeymoon likely to last? What are his sources of strength, and are there any potential problems or legislative fights on the horizon? What is the Santos/Uribe relationship, and how have their styles differed? What is being done to address the fallout from the DAS corruption cases? How significant is the controversy over Hurtado’s exile in Panama? What is the overall agenda that Santos is pursuing? What does his support for the Ley de Víctimas show about his broader political strategy? What is the status of other Colombian political parties, such as the Liberals, Polo Democrático, Green, etc.? How significant is the opposition to Santos coming from pro-Uribe partisans on the right? How will various political reforms influence future elections? What is the status of Democratic Security (now called Política de Consolidación)? Is Colombia’s economy likely to improve in 2011? Are fiscal problems such as high unemployment and low growth being dealt with? What types of foreign investment is the Santos administration trying to attract?

• What are Santos’ foreign policy goals? Has he diversified the countries Colombia is working with? What has Santos emphasized as priorities in relations with Ecuador? Brazil? What forces are driving Santos’ warm public ties with Hugo Chavez? How are overall political and economic relations between Colombia and Venezuela? In what ways are relations with the US changing? What does the
Santos administration want from Obama with regard to key issues such as the pending free trade deal, Plan Colombia, foreign aid, and defense agreements?

- What is Santos’ strategy for continuing to consolidate gains against the FARC? What is the end game? Are talks likely? What is current strength of the FARC? Is the alleged alliance with the ELN a concern? Has overall violence really subsided in Colombia? Are concerns about renewed violence in cities like Medellin being addressed? What role does the drug trade play in the levels of violence? Is it still a serious problem? What is the Santos administration’s approach to this challenge? Has progress been made in addressing the phenomenon of internal displacement in Colombia?

11:30am – 12:00 pm  Break

12:00 – 1:30 pm  **BOLIVIA: How Is Morales Handling Increased Governance Challenges?**

- How do you assess Morales’ political standing and strength? What are his political weaknesses? How is Morales managing the different factions of the MAS? What has been the departmental impact of the Ley de Autonomías, and will it increase political polarization within the country? How is the Ley Contra el Racismo likely to affect journalists? What is the current relationship between the press and the Morales administration? What other major initiatives are on the MAS agenda for the next year? How should the strikes in Potosi demanding increased regional investment be interpreted? Why did they escalate and are more likely? Did Morales’ administration respond to the unrest effectively?

- What is Bolivia’s economic outlook? How is inequality being addressed by the Morales administration? How is energy integration with Argentina and Uruguay progressing? What about the building of infrastructure for lithium exploration? Will Morales face any significant obstacles in his likely run for a third term? Besides former La Paz mayor Juan Del Granado, are there other figures who have stated they will oppose Morales? What is the status of the Movimiento Sin Miedo? How much influence do other opposition parties and politicians retain? What is the influence and stature of Vice-president Álvaro García Linera?

- To what extent is the Bolivian government playing an important role on climate change? What issues are on the bilateral agenda with Chile? How do relations compare today with during previous Chilean administrations? Have relations between the two countries really changed as a result of the miners rescue? Are issues about access to the sea any closer to being solved? Are the changes in relations with Peru significant and likely to continue? Have there been any changes concerning Bolivia’s relations with ALBA countries such as Venezuela or Ecuador? What are the prospects for rapprochement with the US? How serious is Morales about working with the Obama administration? What are some possible areas of collaboration? How has Bolivia’s counternarcotics strategy influenced the country’s role in the drug trade? Do the policies favored by the Morales administration make collaboration with other countries in the region more or less likely?

1:30 – 3:00 pm  **Lunch: A Conversation with Ollanta Humala**, presidential candidate from the Partido Nacionalista Peruano in the 2011 election
3:00 – 3:30 pm  
**Break**

3:30 – 5:00 pm  
**ECUADOR: What Has Been the Impact of the Political Crisis?**

- After four years under Correa, how has Ecuador’s political, economic, and social prospects changed? Does Correa’s relative longevity in office show that the country has become less politically volatile? What are the immediate and long-term outcomes of the September 30 police riot for the Correa administration? Has Correa himself been politically strengthened? How did Ecuador’s institutions react to the unrest? What are the prospects for further instability? What degree of support does Correa retain from institutions like the military and police? What is the status of the proposed austerity measures that provoked the initial crisis?

- What is the status of Alianza País? How stable is Correa’s coalition, and how serious are splits with indigenous and student groups? What is the strength of the opposition, and what have been their key issues so far in Correa’s second term? What is status of the pending Communications Law? What are the other major items on Correa’s legislative agenda? How serious are Correa’s threats to dissolve the National Assembly? How is the Correa administration handling the budget gap and what are its plans for stimulating growth? What is the status of dollarization? What are the general prospects for business and investment? What is the status of civil liberties, freedom of expression, and citizen security? Is Correa preparing for another presidential run in 2012?

- What are Correa’s main foreign policy goals? How is Ecuador positioning itself in the region? What are its most important relationships? What issues were most crucial in securing rapprochement with Colombia? Are there any substantive issues of mutual interest with the United States? What will be the impact of Correa’s plan to have international oil firms sign newly written contracts? What is the outlook more generally for foreign investment?

6:30 pm  
**Public Session: “Simposio sobre desafíos políticos en América Latina”**  
*Featuring Lázaro Cárdenas, César Montúfar, Antonio Navarro, and Teodoro Petkoff*

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (San Isidro Campus)  
Av. Esquilache 371, 5th Floor - San Isidro

9:00 pm  
**Andean Working Group Dinner**

*Panchita*  
Calle Dos de Mayo 298, Miraflores

Friday, December 10

9:00 – 11:00 am  
**VENEZUELA: What is the Outlook Following the September Elections?**

- What are Chávez’s political objectives prior to the presidential elections in 2012? What is the opposition’s strategy? What does the changed make-up of the
Assembly mean for Chávez? To what degree is the opposition likely to remain unified? What are the main aspects of the opposition’s agenda? Who are the likely national leaders? Are there any areas of possible cooperation between opposition and Chávez supporters? How will Chávez try to deal with serious economic and security problems? To what degree do nationalizations figure into Chávez’s economic strategy? How likely is he to follow through on his threats to foreign-held companies?

• What is the state of democracy and civil liberties in Venezuela? How worrisome are public threats from the military about coups should opposition members increase their political power? What role is the military playing more generally in the country’s politics? Does the attempted arrest of the head of Globovision portend greater restrictions on the media? How accurate are reports that drug trafficking continues to increase in Venezuela? What parts of Venezuelan civil society have been the most active in pressing reforms? Is Caracas likely to see improvement in the levels of violence and crime?

• What explains Chávez’s conciliatory stance towards Santos? Is it likely that Chávez (in Santos’ words) will remain his “new best friend”? Does increased cooperation on extraditions with Colombia imply greater collaboration on other anti-narcotics efforts? To what extent does Chávez seem prepared to address Colombia’s concerns about the presence of the FARC in Venezuela? How will Chávez work with Brazil’s new president? What is the status of ALBA? What about PetroCaribe? Are there any new developments in the relationship with Iran? What is the current state of relations with Cuba? Will proposed political and economic changes in Cuba affect the bilateral relationship in any way? What does the deepening of Russia’s nuclear cooperation with Venezuela mean? Is there any possibility of improved relations with the US throughout the rest of Obama’s first term? How has the controversy over the proposed US ambassador affected the overall relationship?

11:00 – 11:30am  
**Break**

11:30am – 1:30pm  
**PERU: What Challenges Will A New President Face?**

• What is the outlook for the April 2011 presidential elections? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the different candidates? What are likely to be the key policy issues in the campaign? What are the most pressing issues that the new president will have to address upon election? What role is current president Alan Garcia playing? What degree of influence will APRA wield once Garcia is out of office? To what extent is corruption an issue? What did the October 2010 municipal elections reveal about Peru’s political direction?

• What accounts for Peru’s robust economic growth? How sustainable is the current growth, and what are the key long-term economic trends? Is growth helping ease inequality? Can more free trade agreements like that recently signed with South Korea be expected? Will the country’s education system be able to meet the challenges that go along with continued economic progress? What are the prospects for the rest of Garcia’s term? How has he performed overall, what were the most important accomplishments of his time in office, and what will he do after his term is over? How is the issue of rising drug trafficking being addressed? Is
Peru’s security infrastructure working successfully to address these concerns? How will shifts in the drug trade influence the strength of the Shining Path?

- What role does Peru intend to play in the region? In what ways is the country likely to use its growing economic clout, both regionally and globally? How will the relationship with China develop? What is the current state of relations with the United States? What about regional partners, like Bolivia, Chile, and Brazil? What are areas of conflict and cooperation? Which alliances in Latin America are especially important? Are any of the presidential contenders calling for major changes in international relations? Has Peru had any success promoting its arms control initiative in the region?

1:30 – 3:00pm

**Lunch and Wrap-Up: Regional, Cross-Cutting and Pending Issues**

- **Special Guest: Alejandro Toledo**, former President of Peru and presidential candidate from Peru Posible in the 2011 election

*Regional themes across the hemisphere and their political implications:*

- Has political polarization decreased in South America? Are there new developments in the evolving relations among Andean countries with Russia, China, and Iran? How will new Brazilian president Dilma Rousseff work with the Andean countries? Are there specific countries or leaders that she is likely to focus on? What changes are expected compared with the Lula government? What are the expectations about Brazil’s role in region?

- How important are energy issues for social and political relations? What are the choices being faced by the Andean countries looking to expand/revitalize their energy infrastructures? Is cooperation likely to increase? How are concerns about climate change impacting energy policy? Which countries have been most successful in developing alternative, “clean” energy sources? What level of influence do environmental issues have on public policy and development considerations in the region?

- How are the Andean countries re-assessing the drug issue? Is there any support for alternative approaches, such as decriminalization? What is the relationship with Mexico? What are possible areas of greater cooperation between the Andean governments and Washington? Are any changes likely in US policy in the second half of Obama’s first term, with a new US Congress in place?

- Is the Andean region moving out from the US sphere of influence? Are US allies like Peru and Colombia reassessing their relationships with the United States? What is the profile of Andean countries in global forums and on the global agenda? Are prospects better or worse today for Andean-wide arrangements? Is UNASUR playing a significant role in the region? What about the Organization of American States? Can it play an effective role in dealing with the region’s challenges?