

PRESS RELEASE OF THE PERUVIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PERUVIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS GARCIA BELAUNDE SIGNS IN THE HAGUE A TREATY BETWEEN PERU AND THE NETHERLANDS ON TRANSFER OF SENTENCED PERSONS

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Peru and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Ambassador José Antonio García Belaunde and Dr. Uri Rosenthal, respectively, signed in The Hague, the Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons. The negotiation of this treaty arises from the official visit of Foreign Minister García Belaunde made to this country in July 2008.

This humanitarian instrument allows prisoners to serve their sentences in their countries of origin to facilitate their future reintegration into society.

Prior to the signing of that treaty, the foreign ministers of both countries reviewed various issues of common interest, highlighting the excellent level currently experienced in their bilateral relations.

They stressed that their countries share many views on global issues such as strengthening democracy and respect for human rights, environmental protection and drug trafficking. The ministers agreed to hold consultations to deepen cooperation in these areas.

The Ministers underlined their interest in further deepening the strategic partnership between both countries and the role of the Netherlands as Peru's HUB to Europe.

Netherlands is the fourth largest market for Peruvian exports within the European Union and the second in the world of Peruvian exports of fresh fruits and vegetables. It is the fourth main investor in Peru and the sixth European country with largest number of largest flow of tourist to Peru.

In this regard, the Ministers highlighted the importance of the concession won by the Dutch firm APM Terminals for the development and operation of Terminal Muelle Norte at the Port of Callao with an investment of 749 million dollars.

The Ministers also agreed to consider negotiating an agreement to avoid double taxation.

Furthermore, the Dutch Foreign Minister announced that Peru will remain as a beneficiary of the programs of cooperation for business development and capacity building, joint investment and infrastructure. These programs are contributing to the strategic partnership between both countries by developing higher value-added exports and the generation of quality employment.

In addition, the ministers agreed to deepen the actions that are being developed jointly in the area of the environment, particularly in water management and climate change.

Furthermore, the ministers coincided on the importance of developing cooperation in defense matters between the two countries. In that sense, it was agreed to study the possibilities to elaborate a memorandum of understanding on this subject.

Finally, the two foreign ministers agreed to try to have the third round of bilateral political consultations in the second half of this year in Lima.

The Hague, May 12, 2011