



NOTA DE PRENSA

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U.S. Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights Visits Peru

LIMA, January 16, 2013 – U.S. Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights Maria Otero visited Peru January 14 – 16 where she met with government officials and leading civil society representatives. Under Secretary Otero took advantage of her visit to discuss issues including the promotion of democracy; strengthening the protection of human rights; raising awareness of the importance of anti-Trafficking in Persons initiatives; and enhancing the effectiveness of counternarcotics and other law enforcement efforts. She also discussed barriers to social inclusion in areas of education, health, and jobs in Peru. The Under Secretary noted that her visit to the country reflected the great importance the United States placed on its bilateral relationship with Peru and the broad range of challenges both countries were working together to address in an equal partnership.

While in Lima, Under Secretary Otero met with DEVIDA Executive President Carmen Masias, Interior Minister Wilfredo Pedraza, Vice Foreign Minister Jose Beraun, Social Inclusion Minister Carolina Trivelli, and Vice Minister for Human Rights and Access to Justice Jose Avila. She also met with civil society leaders and prominent journalists and press freedom advocates. During her visit, Under Secretary Otero traveled to Tarapoto where she met successful women entrepreneurs who benefited from a U.S. sponsored business and leadership training program. While in Tarapoto, she also visited Orquidea artisanal chocolate factory, an alternative development success story.

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