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**NOTAS PARA LA INTERVENCIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE DE LA
REPÚBLICA, RICARDO LAGOS ESCOBAR
EN EL RETIRO DE LOS LIDERES DE APEC**

Counter-terrorism and its Broad Economic Effects

Los Cabos, 26 de octubre de 2002

Last year in Shanghai, the APEC leader stated that ***Terrorism is... a direct challenge to APEC's vision of a free, open and prosperous economy, and to the fundamental values that APEC members hold.***

We have not changed our mind on this subject. Just the opposite; the same principles make us to reject the terrorist crimes in Bali and the Philippines with the same energy and decision.

There is no other alternative than facing terrorism with adequate measures, in order to be able to defend the ethical, legal and political values upon which peaceful living and human safety are based.

We support the work carried out in this field by international organizations charged with the implementation of global standards on safety as well as maritime and port efficiency.

On the other hand, Chile clearly understands that the fight against terrorism can not become a clash between civilizations or creeds.

Our own experience would not allow that. Within Chile all creeds, religious beliefs and worldviews share a culture of tolerance.

APEC is a good example of the understanding among cultures that encourages a sense of community which is one of its utmost valuable elements.

We share the belief of the President of the Czech Republic Vavlav Havel; ***evil must be confronted in its womb and, if there is no other way to do it, then it has to be dealt with the use of force.***

We also believe that civilian populations must not be harmed in the fight against terrorism.

Terrorism and trade

We cannot accept that as a consequence of the horrible terrorist attacks that have united us with regards to confronting terrorism, fewer cooperation programs are undertaken and less momentum is brought upon the goals of free and open trade.

We cannot concede a triumph to terrorism.

The course that APEC has set itself in order to achieve free and open trade in the Asia Pacific Region by 2010/2020 must not be changed by terrorists.

This would mean that those same terrorists who seek to divide us through violence would have succeeded.

We must comply with concrete commitments and obligations that seek to balance security with economic growth. The flow of goods, capital and people must materialize in a safe and expeditious manner.

We fully support the development of secure trans-Pacific cargo transportation is an objective shared by us all.

The system would include the establishment of frequent maritime routes, supported by Intelligent Transportation Systems, between selected Asian ports and the Mexican ports of Manzanillo and Lázaro Cárdenas. These sea routes will be enhanced by secure rail service running through the heart of North America.

However, it is our belief that this technology-driven secure multimodal system must reach America as a whole.

In order to achieve this, Chile offers any of its ports as a southern gateway for the TPMSS.

By including a certified Chilean port, the TPMSS would cover an area as significant as South America, where physical integration projects are already very supported by Intelligent Transportation Systems active.

Within that framework, Chile has carefully examined the proposal set forth by the United States titled “Secure Trade in the APEC Region” or STAR Initiative. We consulted numerous public institutions and shared our comments with all APEC Member Economies on this matter.

We share the view that the implementation of strict new security measures has become a key element for the increasing of the flow of goods, capital and people in the region.

But we must bear in mind that all security measures to be adopted by member economies should not undermine the Bogor goals of free and open trade within APEC.

Our united efforts are already a reality. We have undertaken measures in the financial, commercial and communications sectors. These measures implied increased expenditures for capacity building programs in security and the acquisition of modern technology.

Thus, we cannot forget to mention the fact that developing economies need strong support in the fields of human resources training and capacity building programs. The same applies for financial and technical assistance that will be needed in order to secure a united APEC front against terrorism.

Chile awaits the decision from developed economies to establish fruitful programs that will increase the capacity and technological transfers to developing economies to ensure the success of this valuable initiative.

Final words

It is our conviction that both security and trade facilitation are not in competition.

There are ways to achieve both ends at the same time. And if such possibilities exist, we must put them into practice.

Thank you Mr President