

42ND ANNUAL WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THE AMERICAS

# Global Recovery: The Regional View

MAY 7-8, 2012



(L to R) Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs Alfredo Moreno discusses Chile's commitment to trade; Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner addresses the audience; Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano delivers the keynote speech during the conference luncheon.

## IN BRIEF

Council of the Americas brought together senior hemispheric officials to dialogue with private-sector leaders and government representatives at the 42nd annual Washington Conference on the Americas at the U.S. State Department.

At the conference, COA's annual premier Washington event, speakers emphasized the need to prioritize U.S. partnerships with Latin America and the growing importance of regional trade with Asia-Pacific countries.

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner, who received the Chairman's Award for Leadership in the Americas, said, "The nations of the Americas...share a respect for democracy and an appreciation for the superiority of a free economy."

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

“Our partnerships in the Western Hemisphere are vital to our economic recovery and competitiveness,” the deputy secretary said.



**Roberta Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of State, Western Hemisphere Affairs**

Of the recent Summit of the Americas, the assistant secretary noted that the discussion and initiatives undertaken in Cartagena “marked twenty-first-century partnerships.”



**Alfredo Moreno, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chile**

The minister said Chile, which has signed trade agreements with some 60 countries, “is a 3-F country: fanatic for free trade.”



**John Boehner, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives**

“Free markets [and] free people are the key to a secure, prosperous future for all of the Americas,” the speaker said.



**Ron Kirk, U.S. Trade Representative**

Ambassador Kirk called the Trans-Pacific Partnership an opportunity to be part of “one of the most dynamic economic zones in the world.”



**Fred Hochberg, President and Chairman, U.S. Export-Import Bank**

Different from China and Germany, Hochberg described U.S. support to exporters as a “mother-in-law’s kiss,” polite but not very strong.



## CONFERENCE EVENTS

**MONDAY, MAY 7, 2012**

**Inter-American Development Bank**

**OPENING RECEPTION**

Featuring Americas Society Musical Performance  
by Washington National Opera’s  
Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program

**TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012**

**U.S. Department of State**

**U.S. POLICY:**

**THE AMERICAS AND OUR SHARED FUTURE**

Deputy Secretary William Burns  
Assistant Secretary Roberta Jacobson

**REGIONAL DIPLOMACY AFTER THE SUMMIT**

Minister Alfredo Moreno

**FREE PEOPLE AND FREE MARKETS:**

**A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAS**

Speaker John Boehner

**PERSPECTIVES ON HEMISPHERIC TRADE**

Ambassador Ron Kirk  
President and Chairman Fred Hochberg

**GLOBAL RECOVERY:**

**A VIEW FROM SOUTH AMERICA**

Vice President Amado Boudou

**KEYNOTE LUNCHEON**

Secretary Janet Napolitano

**Amado Boudou, Vice President, Argentina**

The vice president gave an overview of Argentina’s economy, noting the country is marking its tenth consecutive year of economic growth.



**Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security**

Of security and efficiency, the secretary said, “they are not opposing goals, they are integrated goals. We can’t have one without the other.”



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## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

(1) Ambassador Negroponte presents the Chairman's Award for Leadership in the Americas to Speaker Boehner; (2) PBS's Ray Suarez; (3) Minister Moreno and COA's Susan Segal look at *Americas Quarterly*; (4) FT's John Moncure speaks with Sarah Saucedo and Enrique Ortiz of Hewlett-Packard; (5) Bill Irwin of Chevron and Ford's Michael Sheridan talk with Vice President Boudou; (6) FT's Edward Luce moderates a panel; (7) Attendees at the conference; (8) Ambassador of Costa Rica to the U.S. Muni Figueres; (9) Okama Brook of the Government of Curaçao; (10) COA's Eric Farnsworth, Fred Hochberg of the Ex-Im Bank, Ambassador Kirk, and FT's Edward Luce.



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## COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS

Council of the Americas is the premier international business organization whose members share a common commitment to economic and social development, open markets, the rule of law, and democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere. The Council's membership consists of leading international companies representing a broad spectrum of sectors, including banking and finance, consulting services, consumer products, energy and mining, manufacturing, media, technology, and transportation.



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(11) Ambassador Kirk discusses U.S. trade policy; (12) Ambassador Francesco Olivieri of Enel; (13) Minister Moreno and Assistant Secretary Jacobson; (14) CA's Steve Savage talks with Andrés Otero of Kroll; (15) Eric Farnsworth of COA and Ford's Michael Sheridan; (16) Ambassador Negroponte of COA speaks with Secretary Napolitano; (17) COA's Susan Segal addresses the conference.

All photos by Pamela Risdon.

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