

**Welcome remarks by Ambassador Liliana Torres-Muga, Director of Peru's Diplomatic Academy, to doctor Mikhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

*May 5, 2014*

Good evening.

Excellency, doctor Mikhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

Excellency, Ambassador Rebeca Arias, United Nations Representative in Peru:

Excellency, Ambassador Guillermo Valles Galmés, Director of International Trade, UNCTAD:

Excellencies, Heads of Diplomatic Missions:

Ambassador Marcela López Bravo, Director General for Economic Affairs at the Peruvian Foreign Ministry:

Ambassador Carlos Higuera Ramos, member of the Peruvian Delegation to UNCTAD-1964:

Dear Professors:

Dear Students:

Ladies and gentlemen:

The Peruvian Diplomatic Academy Javier Pérez de Cuéllar is pleased and honored to receive today a very prestigious personality, doctor Mikhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

As we know, doctor Kituyi is having a tight schedule in Lima participating in the 35th Session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and attending other official dealings. So we deeply appreciate his gracious gesture of kindly coming to our Diplomatic Academy to lecture about UNCTAD. As we also are aware, UNCTAD is celebrating in 2014 its 50th year of existence, its golden anniversary. Congratulations, doctor Kituyi!

Dr. Kituyi has come accompanied by Ambassador Guillermo Valles Galmés, from Uruguay, who in UNCTAD performs the important duties as Director for International Trade. Welcome to our Academy, Ambassador Valles Galmés.

We also thank our distinguished guests for having come to this academic event, which marks a milestone in the calendar of our institution. Trade and development are matters of great relevance to our Academy in training future diplomats and empowering foreign service officers and persons belonging to other sectors interested in international relations.

Before becoming UNCTAD's Secretary-General, less than a year ago, doctor Kituyi was Minister of Trade and Industry in his native, beautiful, Kenya. He has also been Chief Executive of the Kenya Institute of Governance; Member of Parliament;

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States, among other relevant positions.

Peru's Diplomatic Academy attaches particular importance to all matters related to UNCTAD, paying special attention to assistance provided to developing countries in their efforts to integrate into the world economy on an equitable basis.

So we are eager to listen to doctor Kituyi's lecture in view of his outstanding knowledge and experience. Likewise, taking into account UNCTAD's significant role in conceiving and implementing measures aimed at promoting progress and social inclusion in developing countries.

Let me stress that Peru has been an active participant within this main forum of the international community, since its founding have a century ago. We are delighted to have with us at this ceremony a distinguished diplomat, who being a junior foreign service officer, was a member of the Peruvian delegation to UNCTAD-1st, in 1964. I refer to Ambassador Carlos Higuera.

Now we are preparing ourselves to host in Lima UNCTAD-14th, in 2016.

Before giving the floor to doctor Kituyi, with our renewed gratitude for being with us today, I am glad to invite my good friend and colleague, Ambassador Marcela López Bravo, Director-General for Economic Affairs, to address this esteemed gathering.

Thank you. Asante saná. Muchas gracias.