



Press Statement

Richard Boucher, Spokesman

Washington, DC

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Peru, Brazil and Colombia Riverine Trafficking Accord

The United States congratulates the Governments of Peru, Brazil, and Colombia on the February 11 signing of an agreement to cooperate in combating narco-trafficking and other transnational crimes on the rivers that border the three countries. The agreement, signed by Defense and Justice Ministers from the three countries, calls for the exchange of tactical intelligence, joint military training exercises, and the establishment of communications networks to link the countries' riverine defense facilities. This three-way cooperation represents a landmark step toward coordinated regional action against those who traffic in illicit drugs, illegal arms, contraband goods, and could serve as a model for other regions facing similar problems. We applaud this bold action by Peru, Brazil and Colombia to fight the hemisphere's scourges.

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 [BACK TO TOP](#)

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