PRESS RELEASE
Embargoed until 00:01 CLST, 28 April 2016

Pacific Alliance businesses act on climate change

28 April 2016 – 27 companies with operations across Pacific Alliance countries have today added their voice in support of climate action by pledging their commitment to work with government to create a supportive environment for green growth.

Signatories to the letter are Acciona, Alessandri Abogados, Andean Crown, Arauco, Asobancaria, B12 Comunicaciones, Banco Agrario, Bancoldex, Bancolombia, Bancoomeva, BBVA Colombia, Britcham, Celepsa, Colbun, Corpbanca, Deloitte, EAI, Enaex, Ferrovial, GNB Sudameris, Ibberdrola, Nestle, Philips, Poch, Sodimac, Statkraft and Unilever.

This letter, published today, is in response to the declaration, ‘Plataforma de Crecimiento Verde’ made by Pacific Alliance Ministers of the Environment last month, which signalled that the region has entered a new phase in which governments seek common opportunities to promote green growth. The letter demonstrates the desire for a deeper form of collaboration in the region – both within countries and between public and private sectors. It marks an opportunity for government and the private sector to collaborate together from the beginning to help achieve real and lasting change in the region.

Nicolette Bartlett, Senior Programme Manager at University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership said: “In the wake of the historic Paris Agreement signing ceremony in New York this letter provides another signal to the world that a new economic transformation is underway. It is great that leadership is emerging not just from the governments of these countries but also from the private sector. This is especially important for emerging economies, which must pursue their development and growth objectives while facing increasingly extreme climate impacts. If their ambition is achieved, the platform and the Alliance could become an inspiring example of collaborative innovation around green growth for other regions around the world.”

The declaration, ‘Plataforma de Crecimiento Verde’ builds on a series of events and roundtables, which began during the climate negotiations in Peru in 2014. The platform model was inspired by the European Union Green Growth Platform (EU GGP) run by the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). The EU GGP brings together Ministers, CEOs, MEPs and experts from 16 countries to discuss and debate the economic opportunities and challenges involved in the transition to a low carbon, resilient economy. CISL, has been supporting stakeholders in Pacific Alliance countries to establish something similar to the EU GGP.

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About The Pacific Alliance
The Pacific Alliance is an initiative of regional integration comprised by Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, officially established on April 28th, 2011. Its objectives are:

- Build in a participatory and consensual way an area of deep integration to move progressively towards the free movement of goods, services, resources and people.
- Drive further growth, development and competitiveness of the economies of its members, focused on achieving greater well-being, overcoming socioeconomic inequality and promote the social inclusion of its inhabitants.
- Become a platform of political articulation, economic and commercial integration and projection to the world, with emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region.

About the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL)

The University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) brings together business, government and academia to find solutions to critical sustainability challenges.

Capitalising on the world-class, multidisciplinary strengths of the University of Cambridge, we deepen leaders’ insight and understanding through our executive programmes; build deep, strategic engagement with leadership companies; and creates opportunities for collaborative enquiry and action through its business platforms.

Over 25 years, we have developed a leadership network with more than 7,000 alumni from leading global organisations and an expert team of Fellows, Senior Associates and staff. HRH The Prince of Wales is the patron of CISL and has inspired and supported many of our initiatives.

About the European Union Green Growth Platform

The Green Growth Platform (GGP) was established in 2013 at the request of a group of like-minded European energy, climate and environment Ministers. It has grown in strength and now consists of Green Growth Groups at Ministerial, Business Leader and European Parliamentary level. The secretariat of the GGP is provided by the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). The Prince of Wales’s Corporate Leaders Group, which is also convened by CISL, acts as a strategic advisory body to the GGP.

The GGP provides an informed business and expert-led debate with useful insights into the challenges of a low carbon and resource efficient economy. The GGP brings together ministers from 16 European governments, 18 members of the EU parliament and some 40 major businesses to discuss and debate the economic opportunities and challenges involved in the transformation to a low-carbon economy.