

Friday, 20 July 2012

Subject: Letter from Lima, Peru

Dear All:

Lima is a bristling city, stretching endlessly from the shores to the hills as ascending the Andes. Former boroughs grew together, leaving no boundaries behind in a web of endless streets and traffic. The old centre no longer is the real centre despite impressive buildings; it moved on, including to Miraflores – a preferred residential area where I stay. The Universita Catolica is distant, and the trip follows along the Pacific shore along winterly surfers on the waves. The University is modern and beautifully located in a campus where all courses were held in the evening. The new Master Programme has started well with interested and interesting students, many working in government. It is an excellent example of good cooperation of which we can be proud. I very much enjoyed seeing former MILE students in government and also teaching in the programme. Training the trainers gradually takes effect. More is needed in building research capacity which is not part of the tradition in this country. We can do more in linking it up with NCCR work. Apart of teaching, I gave three public lectures on the future of the multilateralism, on digital trade and on protecting traditional knowledge. It was impressive to see how Peru leads off in this debate and has started to document TK and interact with communities. These events allowed getting in touch with people of government, law and business. It was impressed how friendly and open they are.

Just about leaving. Have a good week-end,

Thomas