

Speech given by Brenda Doroski, Coordinator, Partnership for Clean Indoor Air, at the 5th Biennial Partnership for Clean Indoor Air Forum Opening Day Ceremony, February 21, 2011

Estimados ministros, colegas e invitados, Esteemed ministers, colleagues and guests,

On behalf of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA), I am pleased to welcome all of you to the opening of the 5th Biennial Partnership for Clean Indoor Air Forum. We are honored to be here in Peru a county committed to the advancement of clean and efficient cooking practices. We have 350 participants from more than 40 countries gathered here to learn more about the Peruvian national stove campaign and participate in the PCIA Forum. This will be our biggest and best Forum yet.

As you'll see, the Peruvian national stove campaign is a powerful model. It brings together and utilizes the strengths of the national and local government, international and local NGOs and the private sector. We are here today thanks to the support and vision of so many leaders. In particular, I would like to thank Primer Ministro Dr. Jose Antonio Chang, Señora Primera Dama Pilar Nores y Sembrando, Doctora Virgina Borra y al Ministerio de la Mujer y Desarrollo Social. These leaders and their organizations, along with many implementing Partners have achieved great results in a short period of time – results we will hear about today and see firsthand in the communities we visit on Thursday. Thank you for inviting the PCIA to hold the Forum here in Peru-we are delighted to be here. I also want to thank our colleagues from GIZ for working so hard to ensure that this week will be successful.

This is the 5th PCIA Forum, and the first to be held in Latin America. We are very excited to be together in Lima for six days to: Build on Effective Programs & Activities; Share Strategies for Success; and Commit to Individual, Organizational and Global Actions Aimed at Achieving Bold Future Goals.

The Partnership for Clean Indoor Air was launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002 to improve the health, livelihoods and quality of life of millions of people who burn solid fuels over open fires and rudimentary, unvented stoves. The resulting exposure

to particulate matter is often 10 to 100 times higher than levels established to protect human health. Breathing these elevated levels of indoor air pollution results in an estimated 2 million premature deaths each year, primarily among women and children.

Together we have created a powerful global community of practice consisting of NGOs, governments, researchers, and private companies from the health, energy, environment, and carbon finance sectors. We come together with a common purpose to help families transition to cleaner, more efficient cooking technologies and fuels -- whether biomass, solar, LPG, ethanol, biogas, or others, they are all aimed at reducing exposure to indoor air pollution, protecting the environment and saving lives.

The Partnership has grown from just a handful of Partners in 2002, to more than 460 organizations working in 115 countries today to increase the use of clean, affordable, reliable, efficient and safe home cooking and heating practices. While the growth in the number of Partners is impressive, more impressive are the results of these Partners – many of whom are here today. In 2009, 123 organizations reported their results. Seventy-five partner organizations manufactured and sold more than 1.5 million stoves reducing exposure to indoor air pollution for nearly 7 million people. Another 48 partner organizations provided critical support and technical expertise in such things as stove testing and design, monitoring and evaluation, and carbon finance. For the past eight years, Partner organizations have been consistently doubling the number of stoves they sell every other year. At the Forum, we are collecting results reports for 2010 and we're expecting to see even more spectacular outcomes.

This week marks another milestone in the rapid growth of our community of practice as we introduce many of you to the recently launched Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. As longtime Partners know, PCIA has been looking to expand our work and our community of practice to bring in new Partners at the highest levels of Government, Foundations, Businesses, NGOs, and International organizations, to raise the profile of this issue and above all – to rapidly increase the number of families using clean cooking technologies and fuels.

The United Nations Foundation has stepped forward to join us in our efforts and has agreed to host and lead the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. We will hear more about the Global Alliance in a few minutes from Kris Balderston, a friend of the Partnership who has been a driving force behind the creation of the Alliance for more than a year now. Kris is the Special Representative for Global Partnerships in the Office of the U.S. Secretary of State. Tomorrow, Leslie Cordes, the Alliance's Acting Executive Director will share the Alliance's strategies and activities, and throughout the Forum, participants will be in conversation about how we will work together to achieve both our individual missions, and our global community goals.

Over the next week we will be celebrating your extraordinary results and breakthrough achievements; and encouraging you to commit to setting, and then achieving, bold goals – like we will hear about today from the Government of Peru and their campaign to reach a half million families with improved cook stoves. Success in Peru can lead to success not only in other parts of Latin America, but also in Africa and Asia. But that will only happen if we make best practice – common practice by sharing our success stories and effective approaches.

With all that we have achieved, we still have a long way to go – 3 billion people means 600 million homes need clean and efficient cooking technologies. Meaningful progress on a problem of this scale means that when we set our goals and long-term plans, we have to be thinking in terms of impacting not just thousands or tens of thousands of people, but hundreds of thousands and millions of people. I am deeply committed to increasing the use of clean and efficient cook stoves to reduce indoor air pollution, and I know you are as well. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and results prove it.

I challenge Partners to commit to ambitious and bold actions this week. I congratulate the Government of Peru and implementing partners and encourage you to sustain your national program and achieve your 500,000 improved stove goal. I am greatly looking forward to the Forum so that we can collectively explore what each of us can do to rapidly increase the use of clean efficient stoves here in Peru and around the globe.