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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONFERENCE IN PERU TO HONOR
PROF. BORIS KOZOLCHYK**

The National University of San Marcos in Lima, Peru, in collaboration with other leading Peruvian academic institutions and bar associations, is sponsoring Peru's first International Congress on Contract Law in honor of Dr. Boris Kozolchyk, president and executive director of the National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade in Tucson, Arizona and Evo DeConcini Professor of Law at the James E. Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona.

Dr. Kozolchyk is being recognized for his considerable work in the area of international contracts, with particular emphasis on international commercial contracts. Dr. Kozolchyk's recently published textbook, *Comparative Commercial Contracts*, is used in law schools throughout the world, including Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru, Chile and the United States.

The Peruvian conference honoring Dr. Kozolchyk is being held in Chiclayo, Peru from April 23-25, ending with a session organized by the National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade (NLCIFT) and chaired by Dr. Kozolchyk on secured transactions law and registries. The panel will showcase recent and ongoing legal reform in the area of secured transactions throughout the Americas – starting with the 2002 adoption of the Organization of American States' Model Law on Secured Transactions and subsequent national reform efforts patterned after the OAS Model Law -- including Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

The NLCIFT has played a leading role in these various reform efforts: the April 25 panel in Chiclayo will be presenting the case for similar reform in the Andean Community, with a particular emphasis on Peru and Colombia.

The international development community, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and national country development and aid agencies, has embraced secured transactions reform as a key component to economic development and poverty reduction in the developing world. Such reform facilitates asset-based lending and, consequently, access to commercial credit at affordable rates of interest for the benefit of micro, small and medium-sized business enterprises so that they can become meaningful and enduring economic engines for their respective societies.

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