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Embassy of Colombia in the United States

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 6, 2017

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Embassy Celebrates 60th Anniversary of the Fulbright Commission in Colombia

Washington, DC — Colombian Ambassador to the United States Juan Carlos Pinzón hosted an event at his residence tonight commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Fulbright Commission in Colombia. The event celebrated academic cooperation between two close allies – the United States and Colombia.

“The Fulbright program is one of the hallmarks of the strong U.S.-Colombia partnership – fortifying the bond between our two nations,” said Ambassador Pinzón. “Now, more than ever, we need to support these types of initiatives that promote collaboration and person-to-person connections to make a positive impact in our collective global society.”

Ambassador Pinzón delivered opening remarks with Fulbright Colombia Executive Director Dr. Adriana Gaviria Duque, followed by a presentation from Dr. Duque. There were then two panel discussions, one focused on “Higher Education in Colombia” and the other on “Academic Cooperation between the United States and Colombia – The Fulbright Program.”

Participants in the first discussion included Colombian Minister of Education Yaneth Giha; Cecilia María Vélez, President, Universidad de Bogotá Jorge Tadeo Lozano and Fulbright Commission Board Member; Dr. Fernando Reimers, Faculty Director, International Education Policy, Harvard University; and Lina Zuluaga Ocampo, Education Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank.

The second panel included Dr. Maria Eugenia Verdagué, Western Hemisphere Fulbright Programs Branch Chief, U.S. Department of State; Dr. Marc Chernick, Professor of the Practice of Conflict Resolution and Human Rights and former Director of the Center for Latin American Studies, Georgetown University; Dr. Rafael Obregón, Chief of Communication for the Development Section, United Nations Children’s Fund; Juan Hernández, PhD Candidate in Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University and LGU Consortium Representative; and Dr. Duque.

Since being established in 1957, the Fulbright Commission in Colombia has awarded scholarships to more than 4,000 Colombian and American students.

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/07/2017 2:17:39 PM

Among the many distinguished Colombian Fulbright fellows is President Juan Manuel Santos.

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