

## Remarks During the United States-Brazil CEO Forum in Brasilia March 19, 2011

I just want to begin by thanking President Rousseff for her extraordinary hospitality. To the Brazilian companies who are here, many of whom have investments in the United States, we're grateful for the dialogue with our colleagues from the north.

As I stated in the statement that I just made before coming here, Brazil is on the rise. And the United States is excited and fully supportive of Brazil's rapid expansion, its extraordinary talent, its resources, its enormous potential that's now being realized, in part because of the outstanding leadership of President Rousseff.

And I think the goal today—so I'm not going to speak long—is simply to make sure that we were helping to facilitate an effective dialogue. I know that there are a couple of areas where we're going to be announcing agreements: an agreement on trade and economic cooperation, an open skies agreement. I know those are two issues that everybody was advocating and we're going to announce them today, so we're pleased to do that. I know there's been some work done on extending visas for both

countries, and although we haven't gotten all that worked through, we are making progress, and we will continue to do so.

Brazil is going to be hosting several important sporting events over the next few years. I mentioned that it pains me to say this when it comes to the Olympics because—[laughter]—Lula beat me on that one. [Laughter] But we want to make sure that through this forum, companies that have both an expertise on security and infrastructure, that they will potentially participate.

On energy, obviously, Brazil is a major player on the world stage—

*[At this point, the press pool was escorted out of the room. The forum continued, but no transcript was provided.]*

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:33 p.m. at the Palacio do Itamaraty. In his remarks, he referred to President Dilma Rousseff and former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil.

## Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by President Dilma Rousseff of Brazil in Brasilia March 19, 2011

President Rousseff, to all the distinguished guests, elected officials, business leaders who are here, I want to thank you so much, not only for your very kind words, but for the extraordinary hospitality that you and the Brazilian people have shown me, Michelle, and our daughters. You've shown us the essence of the Brazilian spirit, which is truly *simpatico*.

We gather here at one of the city's most magnificent structures, which speaks to the creativity and the ingenuity and vision of Brazil and its people. It calls to mind the words of President Kubitschek, who said, "What is Brasilia if not the dawn of a new day for Brazil?" In our lives we've seen that new day come to pass. Because of the sacrifices and courage

of Brazilians like Madam President, you have built a vibrant democracy. Because of the hard work and determination of the Brazilian people—parents, students, entrepreneurs—you've built a thriving economy. Future historians will surely record Brazil's rise as one of the great achievements of our time.

As I said earlier today, the United States doesn't simply welcome Brazil's rise; we want to help in any ways that we can to realize Brazil's full potential. When you look at what our two countries share, as President Rousseff mentioned—our belief in the dignity of every individual, our confidence that if we put our minds to it there's nothing we can't do, the incredible diversity of our peoples, our sense of