INCAE, December 4, 2013. INCAE President, Dr. Arturo Condo, took part in a high level regional forum on integration, "Positioning Central America in the 21st Century: Trends and Outlook," at the Riu Plaza Hotel in Panama.

This forum is a collaborative effort of the Government of Panama, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is currently Pro-Tempore President of the SICA, and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE).

The activity's main goal was to evaluate the current state of Central American integration, from the political, commercial, social, environmental and security vantage points. In addition, it examined regional competitiveness, and expanded the discussion about innovative financing mechanisms, with an eye toward strengthening and better positioning Central America.

The INCAE President took part in the panel on "Competitiveness in Central America," and spoke about "Challenges to Economic Integration from the Viewpoint of the Private Sector." Other participants included Mr. Nicolás Ardito Barletta, General Director of the National Center on Competitiveness and former Vice President of the Republic of Panama, and Javier Chamorro of the Investment Promotion Agency of Nicaragua (PRONicaragua).

Distinguished specialists from different secretariats of the Central American Integration System took part in the forum, along with others from the private and academic sectors, and governmental and multilateral institutions committed to Central America's development. They shared their knowledge and experiences in relation to this complex and extremely important topic, which directly affects the economic and social development of our region.