To the press and general public,

The CENTRO DE ORNITOLÓGÍA Y BIODIVERSIDAD (CORBIDI) wishes to express its complete and profound rejection of the illicit activities alleged of Mr. Diego García Olaechea who has been accused, detained, and is being investigated for multiple charges of possession and distribution of child pornography in Florida, USA. We at CORBIDI strongly condemn the crimes he has been charged with and we feel strongly that he be investigated and punished appropriately if found guilty of the charges.

Mr. Diego García Olaechea, who has been living abroad for 5 years completing postgraduate studies, has been a research associate of ornithology with our institution. An institutional email address was provided to him to be used in his scientific activities; however, according to the news we have received, we understand it was used for the illicit activities alleged against him. We clarify that Mr. Diego García Olaechea has never been directly involved in decision-making and/or management of the institution, nor of any educational activities relating to minors.

Given the unpalatable facts that have been made public via various media platforms in the United States, CORBIDI has taken the step to cut all ties with Mr. Diego García Olaechea.

We sympathize with all those affected and with institutions such as CONCYTEC, University of Florida, and Fulbright that end up been mentioned in news reports of this unfortunate situation.

Surco, Lima, Peru,

October 17, 2020

Board of Directors of CORBIDI