

The Governments of Belize and Guatemala, at a ministerial level meeting held at the Headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington D.C. on July 17-20, 2000, agreed to the following:

I

Coordination Mechanism for the Armed Forces

On or before August 15, 2000 there will be a high-level defense policy meeting to include Defense Ministers, high-level Military Officers and Representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Belize and Guatemala to define the elements appropriate for cooperation between the two Militaries at the operational level. In this context, it is agreed that an important mechanism for the implementation of measures identified is the appointment and exchange of Military Attachés, duly authorized.

II

Confidence-Building Measures

In conformity with the agreed upon Terms of Reference for the establishment of a Belize-Guatemala Mixed Commission, both countries agreed to confidence-building measures that include, but are not limited to:

1. Cultural exchanges.
2. Exchange of academic scholarships.
3. Business forums and reciprocal promotion of trade and investment.
4. Cooperation on natural disaster prevention and relief activities.
5. Cooperation on the protection of natural resources and the environment.
6. Joint actions for the prevention of drug cultivation and narco-trafficking.
7. Civil Society encounters.
8. Cooperation in the promotion of tourism.
9. Guatemala to assist Belize for its integration into Central America, including SICA; and Belize to assist Guatemala in closer links with CARICOM.

III

Bilateral Agreement on Trade and Mutual Protection of Investments

Belize and Guatemala will enter negotiations, within a reasonable time, for a Bilateral Agreement for Trade and Mutual Protection of Investments, to be concluded within a five-year time frame. This agreement shall take into account the size of the economies of

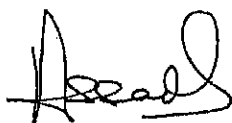


the respective countries, and will reflect the international treaty obligations of the two States in the spheres of trade and economic integration.

Both countries will assist each other in achieving closer ties with their respective regional economic integration systems.

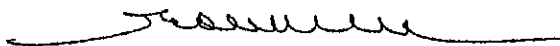
For all purposes, the English and Spanish versions of this document shall be equally authentic.

For Belize:



H.E. Assad Shoman
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For Guatemala:



H.E. Lic. Gabriel Orellana Rojas
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