ANNEX 1

Letter from Mariano Vasquez (Minister for Foreign Affairs, Honduras) to J. P. Armstrong (British Consul General), 8 September 1913

UK National Archives, CO 123/277
senor Consul General Británico:—

I have received your kind note in which you were good enough to inform me that, rumours of revolutionary preparations against the Government of Honduras, in the Zapotillo Islands, having come to the knowledge of His Majesty's Government, one of His Majesty's Ships of war has been placed at the disposal of the Colonial Government at Belize with the object of preventing any improper use being made of those Islands belonging to the Colony.

I have received special instructions from the President of the Republic to express through you to His Majesty's Government his sincerest thanks for the mark of cordial friendship which it shows to this Government by the arrangement which you have been pleased to communicate to me.

P. Armstrong, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c.
Altho' the rumours circulated in regard to revolutionary movements have been proved to be inexact, the arrangement for the Colonial Government to watch the Zapotillo Islands is beneficial to the peace and tranquility of this Republic, since these Islands have frequently been a refuge for revolutionaries.

I avail, &c.,

(Signed) Mariano Vasquez.
ANNEX 2


Spanish original: Archives of the Organization of American States

English translation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize

Los suscritos, Su Excelencia el señor doctor Rafael Heliodoro Valle, Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de Honduras ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos y Representante de ese país en el Consejo de la Organización de los Estados Americanos; el Secretario General de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, y el Secretario del Consejo de la Organización, se reunieron en esta fecha con el objeto de proceder al depósito en la Unión Panamericana de los instrumentos de ratificación por el Gobierno de Honduras de la Carta de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, del Tratado Americano de Soluciones Pacíficas—Pacto de Bogotá y del Convenio Económico de Bogotá, suscritos en la Novena Conferencia Internacional Americana, celebrada en Bogotá del 30 de marzo al 2 de mayo de 1948. El instrumento de ratificación referente al Convenio Económico de Bogotá mantiene las siguientes reservas que fueron formuladas por la Delegación de Honduras al firmar el Convenio:

RESERVA AL ARTÍCULO 25, CAPÍTULO IV:

"La Delegación de Honduras declara: que ha votado afirmativamente el artículo 25 del Convenio Económico de Bogotá, interpretando que la aplicación de la parte final de dicho artículo—igual que la del resto del mismo—quedan bajo la primacía de la Constitución Política Nacional."

RESERVA AL ARTÍCULO 36, CAPÍTULO IX:

"La Delegación de Honduras, al votar afirmativamente el artículo contenido en el Capítulo IX—Libertad de Tránsito—lo hace con la reserva de que no puede establecer en el presente ni en un futuro muy próximo, el libre tránsito de mercaderías que lleguen a cualquier puerto de su costa en el Océano Atlántico para ser llevadas, a través del territorio hondureño, hacia otro país, ocupando o no los puertos de Honduras en el Océano Pacífico."

Los instrumentos de ratificación fueron entregados por Su Excelencia el señor Embajador de Honduras al Secretario General de la Organización de los Estados Unidos.
los Estados Americanos en conformidad con lo dispuesto en los artículos correspondientes de los instrumentos arriba mencionados.

EN FE DE LO CUAL, los suscritos firman la presente acta, en Washington, a 7 de febrero de 1950.

(F) Rafael Heliodoro Valle
Embajador de Honduras

(F) Alberto Lleras
Secretario General de la Organización de los Estados Americanos

(F) William Manger
Secretario del Consejo de la Organización de los Estados Americanos

Atendiendo y constando que el documento adjunto es copia fiel del original del Acta de Depósito de los instrumentos de ratificación por el Gobierno de Honduras de la Carta de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, del Tratado Americano de Soluciones Pacíficas—Pacto de Bogotá y del Convenio Económico de Bogotá, suscritos en la Novena Conferencia Internacional Americana, celebrada en Bogotá del 30 de marzo al 2 de mayo de 1948.

Washington, D. C., 17 de febrero de 1950

William Manger
Secretario del Consejo de la Organización de los Estados Americanos
Juan Manuel Gálvez
Presidente de la República de Honduras

Por Cuanto:

Los representantes de Honduras en la Novena Conferencia Internacional Americana, celebrada en la ciudad de Bogotá, Colombia suscribieron el tratado Americano de Soluciones Pacíficas, "Pacto de Bogotá".

Por Cuanto:

El Poder Ejecutivo en Acuerdo Nro. 370, de 9 de marzo de 1949 aprobó dicho tratado, y el Poder Legislativo en Decreto Nro. 121, de 22 de marzo del mismo año, aprobó el Acuerdo Nro. 370, antes mencionado.

Por tanto:

En cumplimiento del Artículo LII, Disposiciones Finales, Capítulo Octavo del tratado Americano de Soluciones Pacíficas, Pacto de Bogotá y para los fines de su depósito en los Archivos de la Unión Panamericana, juntamente con dos ejemplares del Tbo. 13,932 de "La Gaceta", Diario Oficial de la República de Honduras del 18 de octubre de 1949 en que se publica el Acuerdo que aprueba en todas sus partes el mencionado tratado entiendo el presente Instrumento de Ratificación, firmado de mi mano, sellado con el Sello Mayor de la República y refrendado por el Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores en Iquiquegalpa, D. C., a los trece días del mes de enero de mil novecientos cincuenta.
NOTE: The original has been stored with the Instrument of Ratification of the Charter

PAN AMERICAN UNION

(Emblem/Crest)

WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S.A.


The undersigned, His Excellency Dr. Rafael Heliodoro Valle, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Honduras to the Government of the United States and Representative of Honduras in the Council of the Organization of American States; the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and the Secretary of the Council of the Organization, convened on this date with the objective of proceeding with the deposit at the Pan American Union of the instruments of ratification on behalf of the Government of Honduras of the Charter of the Organization of American States, of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement — Pact of Bogotá and of the Economic Convention of Bogotá, signed at the Ninth International Conference of American States, held in Bogota from the 30th of March to the 2nd of May 1948. The instrument of ratification regarding the Economic Convention of Bogotá maintains the following reservations that were formulated by the Delegation of Honduras upon signing the Convention:

RESERVATION TO ARTICLE 25, CHAPTER IV:

“The Delegation of Honduras declares that it has voted affirmatively on article 25 of the Economic Convention of Bogotá, on the basis of an interpretation that the application of the final part of said article — like the remainder of it — remains subject to the primacy of the National Constitution.”

RESERVATION TO ARTICLE 36, CHAPTER IX:

“The Delegation of Honduras, upon voting affirmatively on the article contained in Chapter IX — Freedom of Movement — does so with the reservation that neither at present nor in the very near future can it establish the free movement of goods that arrive at any port on its Atlantic Coast to be taken, via Honduran Territory, to another country, regardless of whether or not said goods will be moving through Honduran ports on the Pacific Ocean”
The instruments of ratification were delivered by His Excellency the Ambassador of Honduras to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States in conformity with the provisions of the corresponding articles of the aforementioned instruments.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned sign the present record, in Washington, on the 7th of February 1950

(Signed) Rafael Heliodoro Valle
Ambassador of Honduras

(Signed) Alberto Lleras
Secretary General of the
Organization of American States

(SEAL)

(Signed) William Manger
Secretary of the Council of the Organization of American States

I certify that the enclosed document is a faithful copy of the original Record of Deposit of the Instruments of Ratification by the Government of Honduras of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement — Pact of Bogotá, and of the Economic Convention of Bogotá, signed at the Ninth International Conference of American States, held in Bogotá from the 30th of March to the 2nd of May 1948.

Washington, D.C., 17th of February 1950

(Signed)
William Manger
Secretary of the Council of the Organization of American States
Juan Manuel Galvez
President of the Republic of Honduras

Whereby:

The representatives of Honduras at the Ninth International Conference of American States, held in the city of Bogota, Colombia signed The American Treaty on Pacific Settlement, “Pact of Bogota”

Whereby:

The Executive Branch in Accord No. 370, created the 9th of March 1949 approved said treaty, and the Legislative Branch in Decree No. 127, of the 22nd of March of the same year, approved the aforementioned Accord No. 370

Therefore:

In accordance with Article LII, Final Dispositions, Chapter Eight in the American Treaty of Pacific Settlement, Pact of Bogota and for the purposes of its deposit in the Archives of the Pan American Union, jointly with two copies of Edition No. 13.932 of “The Gazette”, Official Journal of the Republic of Honduras from the 18th of October 1949 which published the Accord that approves the said Treaty in all its parts, I issue the present Instrument of Ratification, signed by my hand, stamped with the Official Seal of the Republic, and countersigned by the Secretary of State in the Office of Foreign Affairs in Tegucigalpa, D.C., on the thirteenth day of the month of January nineteen fifty.

(Signature)
ANNEX 3

General Assembly Resolution 35/20, Question of Belize,
UN Doc. A/RES/35/20, 11 November 1980

UN Doc. A/RES/35/20
the objectives of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the legitimacy of their struggle to ensure the enjoyment of that right, as envisaged in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

2. Deeply deplores the fact that its resolution 34/37, in which are set forth the ways and means for a just and definitive political solution of the question of Western Sahara, has not been implemented;

3. Again declares that it is deeply concerned at the aggravation of the situation deriving from the continued occupation of Western Sahara by Morocco and from the extension of that occupation to the part of Western Sahara which was the subject of the peace agreement concluded on 10 August 1979 between Mauritania and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro;

4. Reaffirms that a solution to the question of Western Sahara lies in the exercise by the people of that Territory of their inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination and independence;

5. Takes note of the decision on the question of Western Sahara adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its seventeenth ordinary session;

6. Takes note also of the conclusions adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its fourth session, held at Freetown from 9 to 12 September 1980;

7. Welcomes the efforts made by the Organization of African Unity and its Ad Hoc Committee, as well as the availability of the parties concerned and interested, with a view to promoting a just and definitive solution to the question of Western Sahara in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

8. Reaffirms to this end the determination of the United Nations to co-operate fully with the Organization of African Unity with a view to enabling the people of Western Sahara to exercise their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

9. Reiterates the appeal contained in its resolution 34/37 whereby it urged Morocco to join in the peace process and to terminate the occupation of the Territory of Western Sahara;

10. Urges, to that end, Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro, representative of the people of Western Sahara, to enter into direct negotiations with a view to arriving at a definitive settlement of the question of Western Sahara;

11. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara as a matter of priority and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to keep the Secretary-General of the United Nations informed of the progress achieved in implementing the decisions of the Organization of African Unity on the question of Western Sahara;

13. Invites the Secretary-General to follow closely the situation in Western Sahara with a view to the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

56th plenary meeting 11 November 1980

35/20. Question of Belize

The General Assembly,
Having considered the question of Belize,
Having examined the relevant chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,
Recalling its resolutions 3432 (XXX) of 8 December 1975, 31/50 of 1 December 1976, 32/32 of 28 November 1977, 33/36 of 13 December 1978 and 34/38 of 21 November 1979,
Having heard the statements of the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Guatemala,
Having also heard the statement of the representative of Belize,
Recalling that the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979, reiterated its unconditional support for the Belizean people's inalienable right to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity and condemned all pressure or threats to prevent the full exercise of that right,
Reaffirming the principles established in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, set out in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in particular that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,
Welcoming the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/38, negotiations have recently taken place between the Government of Guatemala and the Government of the United Kingdom in close consultation with the Government of Belize and that the respective positions of both sides were clarified with a view to continuing the process of negotiations,
Noting with regret, however, that despite their efforts and good faith it has not yet proved possible for the parties concerned to agree upon a settlement of their differences,
Convinced that the differences that exist between the United Kingdom and Guatemala do not in any way derogate from the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity and that the continuing inability of the par-

\[A/34/427-S/13503, \text{annex 1. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1979.} \]
ties to resolve such differences should no longer delay the early and secure exercise of that right.

Recognizing the special responsibility of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, to take immediate steps to enable the people of Belize to exercise freely and without fear their right to the secure and full independence of all their territory.

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity, and urges all States to render all practical assistance necessary for the secure and early exercise of that right.

2. Declares that Belize should become an independent State before the conclusion of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

3. Calls upon the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to convene a constitutional conference to prepare for the independence of Belize.

4. Calls upon the parties concerned to respect the principle that the threat or use of force should not be applied to prevent the people of Belize from exercising their inalienable right to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity.

5. Urges the Government of the United Kingdom, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala to continue their efforts to reach agreement without prejudice to the exercise by the people of Belize of their inalienable rights and in furtherance of the peace and stability of the region and, in this connexion, to consult as appropriate with other specially interested States in the region.

6. Calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom, as the responsible administering Power, to continue to ensure the security and territorial integrity of Belize.

7. Requests the relevant organs of the United Nations to take such actions as may be appropriate and as may be requested by the administering Power and the Government of Belize in order to facilitate the attainment of independence by Belize and to guarantee its security and territorial integrity thereafter.


9. Calls upon Guatemala and independent Belize to work out arrangements for post-independence cooperation on matters of mutual concern.

10. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the Territories listed above, in particular General Assembly resolution 34/34 of 21 November 1979.

Taking into account the statement of the administering Power relating to the Territories listed above.

Noting the continued readiness of the administering Power to grant independence to the peoples of the Territories under its administration, on the basis of their express wishes and aspirations in that regard, and its declared policy of fostering the growth of free and democratic political institutions in those Territories,

Conscious of the need to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territories concerned.

Bearing in mind the constructive results that can be achieved as a consequence of United Nations visiting missions to colonial Territories, which provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories visited, and reiterating its conviction that the dispatch of such missions is essential for securing adequate and first-hand information with regard to the political, economic and social conditions in those Territories and to the views, wishes and aspirations of the peoples therein;

Mindful that those Territories require the continued attention and assistance of the United Nations in the achievement by their peoples of the objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of the Territories concerned and stressing the necessity of diversifying and strengthening further their economies as a matter of priority in order to promote economic stability and reduce their dependence on fluctuating economic activities.

1. Approves the chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands and Montserrat.

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

3. Reaffirms its conviction that questions of territorial size, geographical location and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territories concerned.

4. Calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the ad-
ANNEX 4

Letter from Cesar Elvir Sierra (Minister for Foreign Affairs, Honduras) to John Barnard Weymes (British Ambassador to Honduras), 17 March 1981

Spanish original: UK National Archives, FCO 99/891

English translation: Annex II to Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Research Department Note 26/82, November 1982, UK National Archives, FCO 99/1407/1
Señor Embajador:

Tengo a honra dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia con el atento ruego de que haga del conocimiento de su Ilustrado Gobierno, lo siguiente:

1o. Hoy martes 17 de marzo, recibí la visita de una misión oficial del Gobierno de Guatemala, integrada por el Señor Embajador Manuel E. Rodríguez, la Embajadora María Mercedes Marroquín, el Doctor Luis Orantes y el Coronel Francisco Castellanos, que me entregó, para conocimiento oficial de mi Gobierno, una copia de las Bases de Entendimiento a que han llegado la República de Guatemala y el Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte, a fin de solucionar la controversia entre ambos, respecto al territorio de Belice.

2o. Con sorpresa mi Gobierno se ha enterado de que en el punto 3 de esas bases, se consigna que Guatemala tendría, por cesión que le haría el Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte, el uso y disfrute de los cayos Zapotillos, y derechos en aquellas áreas del mar adyacente a dichos cayos.

3o. A este respecto, el Gobierno de Honduras, --
2.

por mi medio presenta formal protesta ante el de Vuestra Excelencia, por la soberanía que indebidamente se atribuye sobre los cayos Zapotillos, que desde tiempo inmemorial, geográfica, histórica y jurídicamente han pertenecido y pertenecen a la República de Honduras.

4o. El Gobierno de la República de Honduras se reserva el derecho de recurrir a todos los medios establecidos por el Derecho Internacional, para hacer prevalecer la soberanía hondureña en los cayos aludidos y sus zonas adyacentes.

5o. El Gobierno de la República entiende que en todo lo concerniente a la delimitación de áreas marinas y submarinas de los Estados con costas adyacentes a las costas e islas sujetas a la soberanía hondureña, se deberá contar con el acuerdo de todos estos Estados de conformidad con el Derecho Internacional y, por consiguiente, con la participación y el consentimiento de la República de Honduras.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia, las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

CÉSAR ELVIR SIERRA
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores
Honduran Note of 19 March 1981

I have the honour to request your excellency to make the following known to your government:

1. Today Tuesday 17 March I received the visit of an official mission of the Guatemalan Government composed of Ambassador Manuel E. Rodríguez, Ambassador María Mercedes Castellanos who delivered to me for the official knowledge of my Government a copy of the Heads of Understanding drawn up by the Republic of Guatemala and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to solve the controversy between them in respect of the territory of Belize.

2. With surprise my Government found that point 3 of this document provided that Guatemala would have, by cession of the UK, the use and enjoyment of the Sapodilla Cays, and rights in those sea areas adjacent to the Cays.

3. In this respect I, on behalf of the Government of Honduras present a formal protest to your Excellency, because of the sovereignty which undoubtedly exists over the Sapodilla Cays, which from time immemorial, geographically, historically, and juridically have belonged and belong to the Republic of Honduras.

4. The Government of the Republic of Honduras reserves the right to have recourse to all those means established by International Law, to make Honduran sovereignty prevail over the Cays referred to and the adjacent zones.

5. It is the understanding of the Government of the Republic that in all matters concerning the delimitation of marine and sub/marine areas of states with coasts adjacent to the coasts and islands subject to Honduran sovereignty, the agreement of all these states should be based on (established in accordance with) International Law and consequently with the participation and consent of the Republic of Honduras.
ANNEX 5

United Kingdom Note to Honduras, 26 March 1981

Annex III to Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Research Department Note 26/82, November 1982, UK National Archives, FCO 99/1407/1
UK Note of 26 March 1981

Her Majesty's Government have no doubt of their sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cays which are referred to in paragraph 3 of the Heads of Agreement, recently signed by the Governments of the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize.

Her Majesty's Government can assure the Government of Honduras that the maritime matters referred to in the Heads of Agreement do not impinge in any way on waters or sea bed areas in respect of which Honduras has sovereignty or sovereign rights. Her Majesty's Government acknowledges that the delimitation of maritime boundaries between states with adjacent or opposite coasts is best achieved by agreement between the states concerned and accordingly agrees that if any such question of delimitation arises in waters between Belize and Honduras it would be appropriate for the matter to be discussed with the Government of Honduras.
ANNEX 6

Communiqué from the Government of Honduras to the British Embassy in Honduras, 10 April 1981

UK National Archives, FCO 99/891
EN CLAIR
FM BRITISH EMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 2715302
UNCLASSIFIED TO ROUTINE FCO TELNO 31 OF 27 APRIL

SAPODILLA CAYS

HONDURAN GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE OF 10 APRIL SAID:

"QUOTE


THE SAID HEADS OF UNDERSTANDING WERE SUBSCRIBED TO BY THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS OF GUATEMALA.


THE BASES OF, AND THE MEANS OF DEFENDING, THE HONDURAN SOVEREIGNTY ON THE SAPODILLA CAYS ARE BEING ANALYSED BY THE RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS OF THIS SECRETARIAT OF STATE. UNQUOTE"

WEYMES

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]
ANNEX 7

Note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras to the British Embassy in Honduras, Note No. 202-DSM, 21 May 1981

UK National Archives, FCO 99/892
Dear Department,

Please refer to my telegram No. 59 of 26 May.

Following is rough translation of text of Ministry of Foreign Affairs note No. 202-DSM of 21 May:

"With reference to the Embassy's note of 27 March, I have the honour to request Y.E. to make the following known to your Government:

1. The Republic of Honduras cannot admit in any way the declaration contained in the note under reference according to which "HMG have no doubt of their sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cays which are referred to in para. 3 of the Heads of Agreement recently signed by the Governments of the UK, Guatemala and Belize", and therefore by means of the present repeat points 2, 3 and 4 of the Ministry's previous Note of 17 March (text in our telno 11 of 20 March). Honduran sovereignty over the said cays and adjoining maritime areas derives from the very fact of independence, since the islands formed part on 15 September 1821 of the Crown of Spain and were previously linked administratively to the old province of Honduras. Furthermore, both in colonial times and after the independence of the Republic, the Zapotillo Cays, as well as their resources, have been used by Honduran nationals with a constant and uninterrupted presence in them; which corresponds to an exercise of sovereignty by the authorities of the Republic which up to the present has been peaceful, continuous and effective. Such facts, being common knowledge, cannot be unknown to HMG.

2. Taking this into account, Honduras considers that the Heads of Agreement which the UK and Guatemala arrived at on 11 March, in so far as said Heads or any one of them affect or may affect in the future the sovereign rights of this..."
republic lack any juridical effect with regard to it (the Republic). This conclusion is evident not only from the fact that Honduras is not a party to the said agreement and therefore it (the agreement) can hardly create obligations or limit its rights without its consent, but also because in accordance with a principle of law recognized by all states none of them can transfer to another more rights than those which it possesses calmly and peacefully; belonging to Honduras the immemorial sovereignty over the Zapotillo Cays.

3. The Government and people of Honduras are very sincerely glad that an end has been brought to the controversy which separated Guatemala and the UK and, especially, over the forthcoming independence of Belize. Nevertheless, the Honduran Government and people cannot agree that on the occasion of the exercise of its right to free determination on the part of Belize, the national unity and territorial integrity of this republic should be broken or diminished in relation to the Zapotillo Cays and the adjacent maritime areas. In very clear and precise terms, respect for territorial integrity and national unity has been recognized in the UN Charter as a fundamental principle of international order; and said principle has been repeated in the most solemn declarations of the General Assembly in particular in RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) para 6 as well as in the Principle of sovereign equality and free determination of peoples contained in Resolution 2625 (XXV) where it is declared that every state shall refrain from any action directed to the partial or total rupture of the national unity and territorial integrity of any other state or country. Accordingly, in so far as the Heads of Agreement quoted affect the sovereign rights of HONDURAS such agreements are contrary to the principle quoted. And in view of its character of *ius cogens*, deprive of any value or juridical effect, not only as regards Honduras but also the whole international community, what has been agreed in respect to the Zapotillo Cays and other areas under the sovereignty of this REPUBLIC.

4. Finally the Honduran Government repeats its willingness shown in point 5 of the Ministry's previous Note to attain through negotiation a just delimitation of marine and submarine areas with neighbouring states, at the appropriate time. But at the same time I wish to declare to your Excellency for the information of your Government that this willingness to negotiate in good faith said delimitation of maritime areas must necessarily start, to be of use, from the recognition of the sovereign rights of this republic
over the Zapotillo Cays whose very geographical situation and geological characteristics deny the link which that government claims with the present colony of Belize.

F.T. Webster
Chargé de Affaires a.i.
ANNEX 8

Statement by Mr Elvir Sierra (Honduras) at the United Nations General Assembly, thirty-sixth session, 10th plenary meeting, UN Doc. A/36/PV.10, 23 September 1981

UN Doc. A/36/PV.10
General debate (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT: I should like to remind representatives that the list of speakers will be closed at 6 p.m. today as decided by the Assembly at its 4th plenary meeting.

2. Mr. ROMULO (Philippines): Many years ago, I proposed in the Assembly that policy statements should be limited to 20 to 25 minutes. I have attempted and will attempt today to do that. The full text of my speech will be distributed to members of the Assembly. I have an abridged version which I will deliver, and the reading time—I ask members to look at their watches—will not exceed 20 minutes. I hope that this will be emulated by subsequent speakers. We waste too much time in long speeches, when I believe that the full texts can be distributed to the members, who can read them at their leisure in their rooms or apartments.

3. My delegation is pleased to join our colleagues in congratulating you, Mr. President, and the country which you so ably represent, and in paying a tribute to your wealth of experience and proved diplomatic skill. Having served as an international civil servant in a high capacity, you have an unrivalled knowledge of the vast machinery of the United Nations, a knowledge that we are sure you will share with us in our deliberations during this session.

4. I acknowledge gratefully your kind reference to me in your opening remarks following your election [1st meeting]. I can only say that if during my term as President, in 1949, I had had even a small portion of your mastery of the workings of the Assembly, and if I were younger, I would consider running for President again when Asia’s turn next comes round.

5. Our congratulations also go to the outgoing President, Mr. Rüdiger von Wechmar. He ran the Assembly with exemplary efficiency and punctuality—which we must learn to emulate at this session—and imparted much of his wisdom in the solution of the numerous difficulties which beset the past session, especially in his pioneer work on global negotiations. In his eloquent valedictory address [ibid.], the best ever delivered by any outgoing President of the General Assembly, including myself, he left us a great deal of food for thought and profitable lessons for us all.

6. In the last 10 years we have noted the changing tone and colour of the relations among nations. Periodic crises, often low-key but more frequently of an emergency character, have continued to occur in the world. Many of these have been solved by time, like a wound that heals itself. But many more remain persistent and chronic, rising and falling in severity in accordance with the unpredictable global political climate.

7. Today we know that these crises create a cumulative impact. At a particular point in time the problems converge and generate intolerable pressures seemingly beyond our power to control. The prospect of a new world order built on the acceptance of reciprocal interests leading to peace, justice and security for all has been an illusory fabric, too frail to bear the burden of our deepest hopes.

8. We derive a measure of optimism from the fact that in the past we have managed our problems in a way that has kept the world on a reasonably even keel. But it is quite evident that the “windows of opportunity” for promoting a stable world order based on tactfully accepted norms of international conduct are at this moment firmly shut. Unless we can reopen these windows—and it is our task to do so—we should all very much fear that, against our will, we shall be writing a prescription for global disaster.

9. Why have we reached this dark passage in the history of our time? I suggest that behind the great issues of arms control, the apparently insoluble dilemmas in the Middle East and the issues of Afghanistan and Kampuchea lie profound psychological causes.

10. The following elements, among many others, have obvious causal connections with our failure to move ahead. One is deep-seated fears and suspicions. A second is an ineradicable feeling of insecurity. A third is lack of confidence in the viability of a world order capable of sustaining long-term stability. And a fourth is over-dependence on the luck of the gambler for the sake of particularist interests.

11. It would be ideal to suggest that the foregoing elements—the hidden and unrecognized causes that move men and nations to action—could be eradicated by a simple act of will. But they can be mitigated by open dialogue or, in a word, by communication. It is one of the
to create favourable conditions for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

146. Over the past year, the world has not only witnessed a series of major political events, but has also been faced with serious economic problems. The economic conditions of many developing countries have further deteriorated and the economic contradictions between the North and South have become more acute. Faced with worsening terms of trade, the developing countries are plagued with greater deficits in their international balance of payments and heavier burdens of foreign debts. They basically remain powerless in international economic relations. Certain developed countries are clinging to the old international economic order and trying to shift the consequences of their economic crises onto others, thus creating greater obstacles for the developing countries to build independent economies and making it more difficult for them to achieve the objectives of their development strategies.

147. The efforts of the developing countries to achieve economic independence after winning political independence represent an irresistible trend of our time. The major developed countries, however, refuse to go along with this trend by changing their unequal and unfair relationship with the developing countries. This is the root cause for the ever-sharpening economic contradictions between the North and South.

148. The economies of nations are closely interrelated. The developed countries are increasingly dependent on the developing countries for their economic growth. From the long-term point of view, the prolonged impoverishment of the latter will not be in the economic interests of the former. A number of developed countries have come to realize that their own economic "stagflation" may be alleviated as a result of the economic growth of the developing countries. We are of the view that the principle of equality and mutual benefit, which is the norm of international relations, should also apply to the economic field.

149. Moreover, one must not lose sight of the fact that the economic difficulties of the developing countries and the resultant domestic political turmoil, as well as the worsening North-South contradictions, will provide the hegemonists with opportunities to stir up troubles. To support the developing countries in building their independent economies and to promote appropriate reforms in the international economic order so as to establish step by step a new international economic order is therefore not a purely economic matter but a vital political question that affects the maintenance of world peace and stability.

150. It is our hope that the major developed countries, proceeding from the over-all situation of the world, will give serious consideration to the legitimate desires and demands of the developing countries, promptly come to an agreement at the current session or at the forthcoming Cancún summit to launch the global negotiations, and take practical and feasible measures to meet the urgent needs of the developing countries and improve North-South relations.

151. The political and economic situation of the world today is grim indeed. The maintenance of peace is the common aspiration of the people of the world. However, we have to struggle for peace; we cannot beg for it. To defend world peace it is imperative to oppose hegemonism. To this end, the peoples of all countries should unite and co-ordinate their actions, taking into account their respective situations. In order to achieve greater unity against hegemonism it is necessary for all parties to respect each other's sovereign rights and interests and to treat each other as equals. On the eve of the Second World War certain countries failed to discern in time the source of the threat and failed to unite effectively to oppose it. The people of the world ended up paying a heavy price and the world learned a bitter lesson.

152. China has consistently pursued a foreign policy of peace. Having suffered enormously from foreign aggressions and wars in the past, the Chinese people know only too well how precious peace is. Today, as the Chinese people are engaged in building China into a modernized socialist country, they need all the more a lasting peaceful international environment. However, in pursuing the policy of safeguarding world peace and opposing hegemonism, China is motivated not simply by its own interests, but also takes into account the interests of the people of the whole world.

153. China is a developing socialist country; it belongs and will always belong to the third world. China is ready to work together with other third-world countries as well as all countries that uphold justice and love peace and to contribute all it can to the defence of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international relations and to the cause of opposing hegemonism and maintaining world peace.

154. Mr. ELVIR SIERRA (Honduras) (Interpretation from Spanish): Mr. President, on behalf of my delegation and on my own behalf, I wish to extend the most sincere congratulations to you on your fitting choice to preside over the present session of the General Assembly. Your lengthy career in the field of international relations, as Secretary-General of the Ministry of External Affairs of your country, as representative of Iraq at many sessions of the General Assembly, as representative of your country and as a senior official of the Organization, provides ample assurance that your skill and experience, acquired over many years of praiseworthy service, will enable you to obtain successful results in the exercise of your important function.

155. I likewise wish to express our appreciation to the outgoing President of the General Assembly, Mr. Rüdiger von Wehmar, a most worthy representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, who carried out his important functions with forthrightness and tact and with the spirit and devotion of one who is imbued with the ideals of the United Nations.

156. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Secretary-General, who has unceasingly pursued the path of peace and whose report to the General Assembly at this session is a document which illustrates very well not only the grave problems which the international community faces, but also possible alternative solutions. Above all, it is an urgent and clear appeal for negotiation and understanding to preserve peace and promote development.

Mr. Legwaila (Botswana), Vice-President, took the Chair.
157. We cordially welcome the new Member State of Vanuatu, which will undoubtedly make an excellent contribution to our endeavours.

158. The situation in 1981 has been characterized by the persistence of tensions between the great Powers, the renewal of armed hostilities in several regions and a highly discouraging stagnation in the global economic negotiations which are necessary to restructure the world economy and thereby promote a universal solidarity which will ensure international peace and security.

159. Tensions are basically due to distrust, attempts at hegemony and the persistence of unjust situations which are contrary to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and make it difficult to apply the mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes, to which all Member States are bound and to which Honduras has always adhered.

160. The arms race makes the world live in increasingly dangerous. A tendency daily to improve on or invent new weapons of destruction does nothing but heighten insecurity to the same degree, and thereby distrust, thus giving permanence to the spiral of terror. On the other hand, it is only fair to say that every nation has a legitimate right to provide itself with appropriate means of defence. From that standpoint, it should be to the search for regional balances and effective negotiation of multilateral disarmament measures that we should direct the efforts of the United Nations.

161. Accordingly, Honduras supports a careful and appropriate preparation for the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, scheduled for 1982, and we welcome the submission of new proposals at the session of the Preparatory Committee which has recently concluded.

162. Nevertheless, one cannot expect progress in the various disarmament areas, nor will guarantees of fulfilment of the programme for disarmament be achieved unless at the same time the safeguard mechanisms for the peaceful uses of atomic energy are improved.

163. Honduras, which has at all times supported the peace scheme for the Middle East, laid down by the Camp David accords, once again reiterates its conviction that all efforts fully to carry out those accords with due thoroughness and promptness should be supported.

164. We believe that since the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai is about to be carried out, we should proceed to the next stages of withdrawal by Israel from the occupied Arab territories and a start on the process of Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip.

165. We must be aware that the treaties between Israel and Egypt are in jeopardy, not only because of the delay in their implementation, but also because of the dangerous climate of open hostility which has prevailed in Lebanon for several years.

166. In this very forum Honduras has on several occasions reiterated its solidarity with the Lebanese people and the urgent need to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We therefore sincerely believe that all the parties directly involved should meet together as soon as possible to arrive at a broad understanding which will consolidate the precarious cease-fire negotiated last July.

167. Honduras has viewed with concern the continuing conflict between Iraq and Iran and sincerely deplores the fact that this conflict is causing untold human and material losses. We therefore hope that, in accordance with the premises of international law and the principles which govern peaceful coexistence among States, the parties to the conflict will promptly find a solution so that normality will once again prevail in that part of the world.

168. As regards Afghanistan, Honduras, in conformity with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, wishes to support the initiatives which the Secretary-General may take in seeking a negotiating context for the Afghan question which will in the first place eliminate the causes of insecurity for the neighbouring countries and subsequently assure Afghanistan's genuine independence.

169. As regards Kampuchea, our country actively participated in the International Conference convened by the Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 35/6. Although we regretted the absence of Viet Nam and of the socialist countries, attendance by more than 90 countries and the attention given to the Conference by the international community confirm its importance as an adequate instrument through which to find a just solution to the delicate situation created in the Indo-Chinese peninsula.

170. The Conference remains open; its first stage was concluded by the setting up of the necessary machinery to bring positions closer together, on which reports will be submitted to the Conference, and by the adoption of important Declaration, of which we emphasize the following: first, Kampuchea has the right to be independent and sovereign, free from any external threat or armed aggression, free to pursue its own development and a better life for its people in an environment of peace, stability and full respect for human rights; secondly, with a view to reaching a comprehensive political settlement, negotiations between the parties must include a cease-fire and withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea under the supervision of the United Nations, appropriate arrangements to ensure that armed Kampuchean factions will not be able to disrupt law and order, and the holding of free elections which, also under the supervision of the United Nations, will ensure the establishment of a new government.

171. In Latin America we suffered in 1981 the painful loss of the head of State of Panama, General Omar Torrijos, a statesman of outstanding personality, who led his country in crucial moments of its history. He was the driving force in the struggle by the Panamanian people for full recognition of its sovereignty over the Panama Canal, which he admirably achieved, after an intelligent and patient effort, through the 1977 Treaty and the Protocol thereto, signed with the United States of America and entered into force in 1979, which, as is known, constitute one of the corner-stones of the renewed and growing relations of friendship and co-operation between the United States of America and the countries of Latin America.
172. As is well known, there is at present in Central America a serious situation of political, economic and social crisis which in recent years has erupted into armed explosions which have caused and are causing the loss of countless human lives and property in brother countries. This grave crisis situation, with its origins in the present order, requires determination to find solutions to bring about the transformation of the present societies into dynamic economic communities in the full exercise of a living and effective social justice.

173. The Government of Honduras, in the midst of these internal convulsions in brother countries with their possible repercussions for the international order, urges a return to peace and harmony among the parties to the conflicts, who should strive to find solutions to their problems as soon as possible.

174. At present, our country enjoys internal stability, not as a result of repressive attitudes but because of the Honduran people's appreciation of its Government's measures with their emphasis on social welfare, such as advanced labour legislation and agrarian reform law, the diligent and effective application of which has already benefited and will continue to benefit in the future—a high percentage of our rural population. Furthermore, the people of Honduras enjoy unrestricted freedom of the press, which has been internationally recognized and praised. All the inhabitants of our nation enjoy the right publicly to express, through the mass media, their ideas, thoughts and criticisms, without any censorship or fear whatever.

175. For more than a year efforts were made with a view to convening a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Governments of Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama and Honduras aimed at re-activating regional dialogue and establishing the basis for the setting forth of common Central American positions in the face of international economic problems, thus promoting not only the development of each country but also effective co-operation among them. Those efforts were crowned by the holding of the meeting of the ministers of Central American countries at Tegucigalpa on 15 and 16 August 1981. The results of that meeting are recorded in an important document known as the "Declaration of Tegucigalpa," in which, inter alia, the ministers:

"(1) Reaffirm the intention to work toward integral development of their countries so as to improve the spiritual and material well-being of all the inhabitants, within the framework of the development strategy that each of the countries sovereignly adopts;

"(2) Decide to take maximum advantage of intraregional co-operation to benefit the various internal development efforts, to facilitate and encourage equitable trade, to undertake new development projects whose execution can be facilitated by dealing with them collectively, and to adapt the formal instruments of Central American integration to current needs;

"(3) Call upon the international community to cooperate with the countries of the Central American isthmus in the internal and intraregional efforts they make to eliminate the obstacles to their development, through concerted and determined action which takes into account the priorities that each of those countries has established, independently of the manner elected to achieve them, and which reinforces the existing coordination and complementarity of economic development among the countries of the region;

"(4) Agree, so that the aforementioned external co-operation can be implemented as soon as possible, to establish a forum where the countries of the Central American isthmus, either individually or collectively, may explain their international co-operation needs to the sources that might provide them that co-operation, without prejudice to the arrangements that each country initiates, maintains or continues to maintain with those sources."

176. In accordance with what was established by the Declaration of Tegucigalpa, a working group met in the Honduran capital on 24 and 25 August this year. It included representatives of Central American Governments and the Government of Panama and prepared a proposal for the establishment of a group on co-operation for the economic and social development of the Central American isthmus.

177. Following the course agreed upon at the meeting of the ministers of the Central American countries and of Panama, the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica informed the States participating in the meeting held at Nassau on 11 and 12 July 1981 of the contents of the Declaration of Tegucigalpa and invited them to participate in a preparatory technical meeting with the Central American countries. That meeting took place on 7 and 8 September at San José, call with the object of inviting the countries that signed the Nassau Declaration to join the countries of the Central American isthmus in their joint proposal to increase the volume of international technical and financial co-operation sufficiently to enable the Governments of the isthmus to face the adverse economic situation in which, for various reasons, they find themselves, to obtain resources granted on concessionary terms so as to be consistent with the debt capacity of the recipient countries, to adjust the acquisition of technology to be used as a result of the financing obtained, and to see to it that all this forms part of a plan for external co-operation directed to the countries of the Central American isthmus which would contribute to reactivating the process of economic and social development in all those countries.

178. The representatives of the countries of the isthmus welcomed the participation in the meeting of representatives of the Governments of Canada, the United States, Mexico and Venezuela, who expressed their firm and determined support for what they described as the praiseworthy initiatives adopted by the States of the region for the development of greater co-operation and economic integration with a view to the establishment of the appropriate institutional machinery and the mobilization of resources from outside the region in order to achieve faster and more effective economic and social development in Central America.

179. The people of Honduras are at present engaged in a democratic electoral process. The freely elected Constituent National Assembly is drafting a new constitution for the Republic and has already handed down the legal instrument creating the electoral organization and the rules governing the civic campaign which will result in the
election of members of the municipal corporations of the Republic, deputies to the National Congress, the President of the Republic and officials attached to the office of the President.

180. Four political parties are participating in the present electoral campaign, together with independent candidates. Our citizens, exercising the greatest possible freedom to select those who in their view would best serve the interests of the country as members of the Government. The Government and people of Honduras are thus showing their faith in democratic institutional solutions and their conviction that the power of the vote is greater and better than violence for the transformation of societies. The armed forces are fully discharging their constitutional duty to guarantee the citizens their right to express their will by voting.

181. I am pleased to inform the General Assembly that on 30 October 1980 Honduras and El Salvador, in the city of Lima, signed a general peace treaty which put an end to the conflict which for more than 11 years had kept the two countries peoples apart, and that on 10 December of the same year, in Tegucigalpa, there was an exchange of the instruments of ratification of that legal document at a solemn ceremony which was honoured by the presence of the Presidents and heads of State of Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela, who, with delegations from other countries of the continent and of Spain, accompanied the President of Honduras, General Policarpo Paz García, and two members of the civilian-military junta of El Salvador, Mr. Napoléon Duarte and Colonel Abdul Gutiérrez, in that historic event that demonstrated to the world that a frank and sincere dialogue and the rules and principles of international law are the best means of settling disputes among States.

182. With other countries of the isthmus, Honduras maintains cordial relations of co-operation and coexistence within the legal framework which has always governed its international life. The meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and of representatives of the Central American Governments, to which I referred earlier, bear witness to the fact that understanding and the desire for unity are the bases of the course chosen by the Central American States.

183. As a consequence of various resolutions adopted by the United Nations and by the Organization of American States [OAS], a few days ago Belize emerged into independent life. Honduras hopes that the new Central American entity will base its actions on the patterns of democracy and extend its best wishes to that people.

184. During one of the various stages of the search for a solution to the dispute between the United Kingdom and Guatemala over the territory of Belize, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of those two countries and the Prime Minister of Belize signed a document entitled "Heads of Agreement". In one of those Heads, Guatemala is granted the use and enjoyment of the Cayos Zapotillos. The Cayos Zapotillos historically, geographically and legally belong to Honduras.

185. For this reason, Honduras submitted to the Government of the United Kingdom, with which we maintain very cordial and friendly relations, a note of protest at the alleged cession of a sovereignty which belongs to Honduras. Honduras hopes and trusts that by means of direct negotiations, or by any other means open to us under international law and international institutions, a just solution to that problem will be found.

186. Our country continues to give humanitarian assistance to close to 35,000 refugees who have arrived from neighbouring countries because of the situations prevailing in those countries.

187. Honduras will continue its humanitarian policy as far as that is possible and wishes to express its sincere gratitude for the co-operation it has received from the UNHCR, the World Food Programme, UNICEF, the Evangelical Committee, World Relief, OAS and some friendly Governments, both on the American continent and on other continents, which have made generous contributions.

188. Honduras strives to overcome the economic and social problems which afflict our country, but our efforts need to be complemented internationally. Accordingly, Honduras, represented by a delegation which I had the honour of presiding over, participated in the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in Caracas from 13 to 19 May under the auspices of the Group of 77. Horizontal co-operation among the nations of the developing world opens new and broader perspectives for the adoption of co-ordinated regional and international economic policies and facilitates the introduction and implementation of specific co-operation projects in areas of priority importance for the developing countries. In this respect, Honduras continues to benefit from the agreement on energy co-operation for Central America and the Caribbean established by Mexico and Venezuela.

189. The forthcoming International Meeting on Co-operation and Development, to be held next October at Cancún, is of great importance and we hope that the dialogue of the heads of State and Government who will be attending will take further indispensable decisions to carry out vigorous co-operative action for development. We believe that in the global discussions the United voice of the countries of the Central American isthmus should be heard, as a reflection of both the spirit that prompts them and their needs and objectives.

190. We are concerned about a possible reduction or freeze in the forthcoming years in the supply of funds for multilateral financing institutions, because that would immediately affect the viability of the many projects scheduled for the next five-year period at a historic time when tension and insecurity might lead developing countries to greater levels of poverty, unemployment and disorder.

191. As regards the law of the sea, regretfully, despite the advances achieved after protracted negotiations, in which Honduras participated whole-heartedly, on the signing of a universal treaty on the law of the sea, when we were already very close to concluding that process and were about to sign the draft convention, there emerged difficulties and positions so far removed from the very premises of the negotiations that today we must contemplate the possibility of having to conclude a convention in 1982 without some of the most important maritime Powers being party to it.
192. The Government of Honduras a few days ago associated itself with the decisions taken at the eighth emergency special session of the General Assembly, which dealt with the question of Namibia. We are following with grave concern the setback in the negotiations between the five Western Powers and the Pretoria régime to implement the plan for free elections and the accession of Namibia to independence recommended by the United Nations, in particular in Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

193. As we see it, the question of the deployment of forces within the Territory and the question of security for Namibia’s neighbours continue to be of singular importance if a peaceful and complete solution to this problem is to be found. At this stage Honduras believes it is indispensable to renew the political will so as not to prolong further the paralysis of the independence plan. On the contrary, and with the full support of the international community, there should be prompt negotiation of practical arrangements that will facilitate the holding of truly free elections in the Territory in 1982.

194. The foreign policy of Honduras continues to conform to the basic principles which confer fundamental value on respect for human beings, the practice of democracy and the quest for the economic and spiritual progress of the population of the country. On this special occasion I wish to place on record our consistent adherence to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and again appeal for the strengthening of the peaceful means for the settlement of international disputes as the most appropriate way to achieve the purposes of the Organization, in particular the maintenance of peace.

195. Mr. Muhammad GHAZALI (Malaysia): I am indeed gratified to see an illustrious son of Iraq, with which my country enjoys the most cordial relations, assuming the high office of the presidency of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly. I offer to Mr. Kittani my Government’s warmest congratulations. His election is a testimony to the special position and respect that he enjoys in the international community and a tribute to him as an outstanding diplomat.

196. In welcoming his election, may I express at the same time our heartfelt thanks to the outgoing President, Mr. Rüdiger von Wechmar, for the outstanding manner in which he conducted the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the emergency-special session on Namibia to a successful conclusion.

197. I should also like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Government of Malaysia, to congratulate warmly General Carlos Romulo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, who earlier this month was bestowed the highly honoured and much-coveted United Nations Peace Award. It is indeed most fitting. As a member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations [ASEAN], my Government considers this a matter of pride and glory.

198. We have at this thirty-sixth session one new Member of the Organization. It is a great privilege for me to welcome on behalf of my delegation the Republic of Vanuatu, and Malaysia looks forward in delightful anticipation to the admission of Belize. By joining us in this august body as a full-fledged Member, Vanuatu has, like all new Members, made an important contribution towards the universality of the United Nations. Malaysia pledges its commitment to work together with our new friends in everything to which the Organization is dedicated.

199. Nearly four decades ago, following the deliberations in Dumbarton Oaks, 50 countries gathered in San Francisco to draft the Charter of the United Nations. Having just witnessed the ravages of the Second World War and the suffering that mankind had undergone, they manifested in the Dumbarton Oaks deliberations a new spirit infused with the ideal that they should be united in their determination to ensure positive co-operation in the cause of peace and social justice.

200. Since then the world has undergone major changes. While the ranks of independent developing nations grow each year, we do not see a corresponding advance in development and social justice. Hence the just demands of developing countries for an equitable share of the wealth of the world, access to the benefits of modern technology and scientific know-how and participation in decision-making on global issues that affect the general well-being of mankind. Unfortunately, the realization of those demands has been entwined with the complexities of East-West relations. Herein lies the challenge of our times: the solution of the North-South dichotomy must be isolated from the vicissitudes of East-West relations.

201. In the complexity of the situation, should we not now ask ourselves: what is the spirit of Dumbarton Oaks, which inspired the authors of the Charter? It would seem to me that the progress, wealth and power acquired during the post-war years by the industrialized nations of the East and the West alike have neutralized the moral and ethical values which the authors of the Charter tried to espouse. Even now, this Hall echoes with the repetition of their commitments which, however, stand in sharp contrast to the reality in the world today.

202. Instead, there is the increasing tendency to use force in international relations. Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the Vietnamese intervention in Kampuchea, the Chinese incursion into Viet Nam, that of South Africa into Namibia and of Israel into Iraq and Lebanon provide only a few, but nevertheless glaring, examples of this, though more subtle interventions have taken place in other parts of the world. Only yesterday we witnessed the violent overflow of the Afghan problem into the streets of New York, in front of this building, this magnificent edifice. This is a clear testimony of one of our failures.

203. These developments, amidst long-standing conflicts in West Asia and southern Africa, further heighten international tension. Indeed, the breakdown of détente and the revival of the cold war will certainly have destabilizing effects in the global context. This could well increase the danger of the developing nations being sucked into the vortex of super-Power conflict, with grave ramifications for their peace, their security and their economic well-being. These are our fears and our concerns. Are these not issues that we, States Members of the United Nations, must continue to reflect upon and must continue to face squarely?

204. Bold solutions are called for. Suggestions have been made for a return to détente. But the détente of the 1960s and the 1970s, which essentially sought to stabilize East-West relations in Europe through a policy of mu-
ANNEX 9

Statement by Mr Goulding (United Kingdom) at the United Nations General Assembly, thirty-sixth session, 12th plenary meeting, UN Doc. A/36/PV.12 and Corr. 1, 24 September 1981

UN Doc. A/36/PV.12 and Corr. 1
12th
PLENARY MEETING

Thursday, 24 September 1981, at 3.30 p.m.

NEW YORK

United Nations
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION
Official Records

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AGENDA ITEM 9

General debate (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Assembly will now hear a statement by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Guyana, Mr. Pioemony A. Reid.

2. On behalf of the General Assembly, I have great pleasure in welcoming and inviting him to speak.

3. Mr. REID (Guyana): My first words, Sir, from this podium are addressed to you in expression of our sincere congratulations on your election to the high office of President of this the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly. Your own long and distinguished service in the field of diplomacy and international relations is a matter of public record. You have served not only in the interests of your own country but also in pursuit of the noble objectives of international endeavour.

4. I recall with particular pleasure the honour we in Guyana had of welcoming you in 1972 as a representative of the Secretary-General to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries. Since your return to the service of your country you have contributed to the strengthening of the bonds of friendship between the parties, the Governments and the peoples of Guyana and Iraq—a friendship which is enhanced by our joint and cooperative activities as members of the Group of 77, the non-aligned movement and this Organization.

5. The business of this session promises to be challenging, if not perplexing. We are confident, however, that your skill, your experience, your aplomb and your dedication to the search for just and equitable solutions to the problems which at present beset mankind will be tactfully and maturely applied, to the benefit of the Organization and the peoples here represented.

6. Let me take this opportunity to express as well our thanks and gratitude to Mr. von Wechmar of the Federal Republic of Germany, who, as President of the thirty-fifth session, only recently concluded, applied unremittingly his talents and his energies to the achievement of consensus in the Assembly.

7. We must specially commend him for his untiring efforts to see launched a global round of negotiations on international economic cooperation as desired by the vast majority of Member States.

8. Equally, I wish to extend to the Secretary-General our deep appreciation for his own consistent and steadfast work directed towards the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

9. With the admission of Vanuatu to our midst, the Organization takes one more step towards its goal of universality of membership. Today we join with others in welcoming this new Member to our ranks. Guyana is convinced that this Republic will make a positive contribution to our work.

10. It was with particular pleasure that Guyana took note of the unanimous decision of the Security Council to recommend acceptance of the application for admission submitted by the newly independent Government of the sister Caribbean country of Belize. The struggle by the Belinean people for their freedom and independence has been long and arduous. Yet even at the very last hour attempts were still being made to frustrate Belize's movement to independence. The Assembly has given constant and unyielding support to the people of Belize in achieving their independence and making secure their territorial integrity. It will be a moment of great joy for the people of Guyana when Belize joins the Organization.

11. The thirty-sixth session of the Assembly is being held at what may well be a historic crossroads for humanity. It is a moment for reflection on the real values and the present needs of mankind. It is equally a moment to make a projection as to where we go from here, for we seem caught up in the contradiction of extremes. Each hour that we meet, the number of hungry and starving people on this small planet of ours increases. While Saturn and Venus and other distant planets are being explored through the use of a technology which is a wonder indeed, there are people on this earth who spend days to get from one place to another on foot, sometimes in harsh conditions, in search of basic necessities like food, water and fuel. There are enormous extremes of wealth among nations. There are those who are luxuriously housed while others take shelter from the rain in the filthiest hovels. There are others who remain illiterate while the bounds of knowledge expand continually. And each moment the preparations for war escalate.

12. The spectre of deformation and death due to hunger and malnutrition, that of disease and deprivation through

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437. The present Constitution of Cuba, adopted under the tyranny of Castro, is the only Constitution in the entire Latin American region that pays the vassal's tribute to a super-Power. President Castro takes part, led by his strong hand by the aggressors, in the sad chorus of those who support the invasion of non-aligned countries such as Afghanistan and Kampuchea. Castro's tyranny undertakes military adventures in many parts of the third world.

438. My country itself suffered in the 1960s from military aggression on the part of Cuba. We beat it militarily and otherwise. It was the first resounding defeat for Cuban military interventionism. Cuba also supports terrorism.

439. I have the greatest affection for the people of Cuba, but we condemn the Cuban executioners.

440. Today, the voice of the executioner speaks for Cuba, not the voice of José Martí.

441. The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): I appeal to representatives speaking in exercise of the right of reply to abide by the 10-minute rule.

442. Mr. GOULDING (United Kingdom): In his statement in the general debate yesterday afternoon the Foreign Minister of Honduras [10th meeting] stated, with reference to the Heads of Agreement signed by the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize last March, that the group of islands known as the Cayos Zapotillos belonged to Honduras. My delegation has been instructed to state that the United Kingdom does not accept that claim. The United Kingdom had no doubt of its sovereignty over the Cayos Zapotillos as part of the territory of Belize up to the date of Belize's independence. On the granting of independence to Belize on 21 September this year—which we note with pleasure has been welcomed by the Government of Honduras—sovereignty over the Cayos Zapotillos passed to the State of Belize. In the view of the British Government, the Heads of Agreement, including the paragraph that envisages that Guatemala should be given certain rights of use and enjoyment of the Cayos Zapotillos, represent a satisfactory basis for a settlement of the dispute between Belize and Guatemala.

443. Before the independence of Belize, the British Government made this position clear to the Government of Honduras and also expressed the hope that it would be possible for Belize and Honduras to reach a mutually acceptable understanding on the matter.

444. The statement I have just made has been made after consultation with the Government of Belize.

445. On a separate question, I should like to state that my delegation looks forward to studying at leisure the transcript of the interesting statement just made in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of Venezuela in order to discover whether there are any points in it on which my delegation would like to exercise its right of reply at some later date.

446. Mr. CASTRO ARAÚJO (El Salvador) (interpretation from Spanish): The Soviet Union's puppet in the Caribbean made a public statement here this afternoon that it had the right to give military assistance to the groups of terrorists and guerrillas who are trying—in vain—to destabilize the Government of El Salvador. Therefore, in exercise of that right, it is solely responsible for the bloodshed that this violent Cuban military aid has caused in my country, as it has caused bloodshed and continues to do so in many developing countries. Cuba is solely responsible for the violent events which are now occurring and which will occur in Central America.

447. Respect for the principle of non-intervention is a victory for the Americas which dates back more than 50 years. Unfortunately, the Government of Cuba lost it more than 20 years ago, because all its orders come directly from the Soviet Union.

448. The large majority of Latin American countries support the Government of El Salvador, maintaining the traditional principle of non-interference in the internal or external affairs of other States.

449. It is ridiculous for the most ferocious tyranny known to Latin America, where human rights have no place and where the people have no possibility of self-expression, to set itself up as a defender of so-called freedom when its unavowed designs on democracy are well known.

450. The statement made this afternoon by the Government of Sweden indicates a gross ignorance of the problem in El Salvador, offering frank support to guerrillas and terrorist movements which cause all the violence, which all honest Salvadorians are determined to end by democratic and peaceful means.

451. We should like to remind Sweden that underdevelopment is not confined to El Salvador and neither are the causes of internal discontent. We are aware that there is a need for structural change, and in this regard we have begun the most radical internal changes, which will lead to democracy, justice and general well-being in El Salvador.

452. It is regrettable that people uninformed about the El Salvador question should make irresponsible judgments and thereby support Marxism and intervention.

453. Mr. SINCLAIR (Guyana): My delegation has listened carefully—or tried to do so—to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela speaking in exercise of the right of reply.

454. We have received the documentation which the delegation of Venezuela was kind enough to make available to members of the Assembly. I should have liked to reply to this evening to the presentation made by the Minister, but on account of the detailed and voluminous nature of this documentation I would at this stage merely reserve my right to exercise my right of reply at a later stage in the proceedings of the Assembly.

455. Mr. MARTÍNEZ URDANETA (Venezuela) (interpretation from Spanish): I simply want to inform the President on my country's behalf that we reserve the right to speak in exercise of the right of reply should Guyana do so.

The meeting rose at 8.45 p.m.
ANNEX 10

General Assembly Resolution 36/3, Admission of Belize to membership in the United Nations, UN Doc. A/RES/36/3, 25 September 1981

UN Doc. A/RES/36/3
### General Assembly—Thirty-sixth Session

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#### 36/1. Admission of the Republic of Vanuatu to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly, Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 8 July 1981 that the Republic of Vanuatu should be admitted to membership in the United Nations, \(^1\)

Having considered the application for membership of the Republic of Vanuatu, \(^2\)

Decides to admit the Republic of Vanuatu to membership in the United Nations.

1st plenary meeting
15 September 1981

#### 36/2. Credentials of representatives to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly

A

The General Assembly Approves the first report of the Credentials Committee. \(^3\)

3rd plenary meeting
18 September 1981

#### 36/3. Admission of Belize to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly, Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 23 September 1981 that Belize should be admitted to membership in the United Nations, \(^4\)

Having considered the application for membership of Belize, \(^5\)

Decides to admit Belize to membership in the United Nations.

13th plenary meeting
25 September 1981

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2. Ibid., document A/36/308-S/14506.
3. Ibid., agenda item 3, document A/36/517.
4. Ibid., document A/36/517/Add.1.
5. Ibid., agenda item 20, document A/36/551.
ANNEX 11

Constitution of Honduras, 20 January 1982, Article 10


ASAMBLEA NACIONAL
CONSTITUYENTE

DECRETO NUMERO 131
PREAMBULO

Nosotros, Diputados electos por la voluntad soberana del pueblo hondurense, reunidos en Asamblea Nacional Constituyente, invocando la protección de Dios y el ejemplo de nuestros próceres, con nuestra fe puesta en la restauración de la unidad centroamericana e interpretando fielmente las aspiraciones del pueblo que nos confirió su mandato, decretamos y sancionamos la presente Constitución para que fortalezca y perpetúe un estado de derecho que asegure a la sociedad política, económica y socialmente justa que afirmó la nacionalidad y propicie las condiciones para la plena realización del hombre, como persona humana, dentro de la justicia, la libertad, la seguridad, la estabilidad, el pluralismo, la paz, la democracia representativa y el bien común.

CONSTITUCION DE LA REPUBLICA

TITULO I
DEL ESTADO
CAPITULO I
DE LA ORGANIZACION DEL ESTADO

Artículo 1.—Honduras es un Estado de derecho, soberano, constituido como república libre, democrática e independiente para asegurar a sus habitantes el goce de la justicia, la libertad, la cultura y el bienestar económico y social.

Artículo 2.—La soberanía corresponde al pueblo de quien emanan todos los poderes del Estado que se ejerzan por representación.

La suplantación de la soberanía popular y la usurpación de los poderes constituidos se tipifican como delitos de traición a la Patria.

Artículo 3.—Nadie debe obedecer a un gobierno usurpador ni a quienes asuman funciones o empleos públicos por la fuerza de las armas o usando medios o procedimientos que quiebran o desconozcan lo que esta Constitución y las leyes establecen. Los actos verificados por tales autoridades son nulos. El pueblo tiene derecho a recurrir a la insurrección en defensa del orden constitucional.

CONTENIDO

DECRETO NUMERO 131
Enero de 1982.

ECONOMIA
Acuerdo N° 483-81 — Diciembre de 1981.

AVISOS

Artículo 4.—La forma de gobierno es republicana, democrática y representativa. Se ejerce por tres poderes: Legislativo, Ejecutivo y Judicial, complementarios e independientes y sin relaciones de subordinación.

La alternabilidad en el ejercicio de la Presidencia de la República es obligatoria.

La infracción de esta norma constituye delito de traición a la Patria.

Artículo 5.—El gobierno debe sustentarse en el principio de la democracia participativa del cual se deriva la integración nacional, que implica participación de todos los sectores políticos en la administración pública a fin de asegurar y fortalecer el progreso de Honduras basado en la estabilidad política y en la conciliación nacional.

Artículo 6.—El idioma oficial de Honduras es el español. El Estado protegerá su pureza e incrementará su enseñanza.

Artículo 7.—Son símbolos nacionales: La Banderita, el Escudo y el Himno.

La Ley establecerá sus características y regulará su uso.

Artículo 8.—Las ciudades de Tegucigalpa y Comayagua, conjuntamente, constituyen la capital de la República.

CAPITULO II
DEL TERRITORIO

Artículo 9.—El territorio de Honduras está comprendido entre los Océanos Atlántico y Pacífico y las repúblicas de: Guatemala, El Salvador y Nicaragua. Sus límites con estas repúblicas son:

1. Con la República de Guatemala los fijados por la sentencia arbitral emitida en Washington, D. C., Estados Unidos de América, el veintitrés de enero de mil novecientos treinta y tres.
2. Con la República de Nicaragua, los establecidos por la Comisión Mixta de Límites hondureño-nicaragua, en los años de mil novecientos y mil novecientos uno, según descripción de la primera sección de la línea divisoria, que figura en el acta segundo de junio de mil novecientos y en las posteriores hasta el Puerto de flootecatlante y de este lugar hasta el Océano Atlántico conforme al laudo arbitral dictado por su Majestad el Rey de España, Alfonso XIII, el veintiún de diciembre de mil novecientos seis cuya validez fue declarada por la Corte Internacional de Justicia en sentencia de dieciocho de noviembre de mil novecientos setenta.

3. Con la República de El Salvador los establecidos en los Artículos diez y seis y siete del Tratado General de Paz suscrito en Lima, Perú el treinta y cuatro de octubre de mil novecientos ochenta y cuatro, cuyo instrumento de ratificación fueron canjeados en Tegucigalpa, Distrito Central, Honduras, el diez de diciembre de mil novecientos ochenta y cuatro, en las secciones pendientes de delimitación se estará a lo dispuesto en los artículos aplicables del Tratado de referencia.

4. La plataforma continental, que comprende el lecho y el sub-suelo de zonas submarinas, que se extiende hasta las veinticuatro millas marinas medidas desde la línea de base de la República de Honduras, a todo lo largo de la prolongación natural de su territorio hasta el borde exterior del margen continental, o bien hasta una distancia de doscientas millas marinas medidas a partir de la línea de base desde la cual se mide la anchura del mar territorial; y, las anteriores medidas conforme a los tratados internacionales que se encuentren en aguas territoriales de Honduras.

5. En cuanto al Océano Pacífico las anteriores medidas se contarán a partir de la línea de cierre de la bocana del Golfo de Fonseca, hacia al oeste.

Artículo 10.—Pertenecen a Honduras los territorios situados en tierra firme dentro de sus límites territoriales, aguas interiores y las islas, islotes y cayos en el Golfo de Fonseca, que históricas, geográficas y juridicamente le corresponden, así como las Islas de la Bahía, las Islas del Cisne, las Islas del Cisne Occidental e insular, mar territorial, zona contigua, zona económica exclusiva y plataforma continental.

La presente declaración de soberanía no desconoce legítimos derechos similares de otros Estados sobre la base de reciprocidad ni afecta los derechos de libre navegación de todas las naciones conforme al derecho internacional ni el cumplimiento de los tratados o convenios ratificados por la República.
Honduras's Constitution of 1982 with Amendments through 2013

Subsequently amended

This complete constitution has been generated from excerpts of texts from the repository of the Comparative Constitutions Project, and distributed on constituteproject.org.
Article 6

The official language of Honduras is Spanish. The State shall protect its purity and increase its learning.

Article 7

The national symbols are: the Flag, the Coat of Arms, and the National Anthem. The law shall establish their characteristics and shall regulate their use.

Article 8

The cities of Tegucigalpa and Comayaguela, jointly, constitute the capital of the Republic.

Chapter II. The Territory

Article 9

The territory of Honduras is situated between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and the Republics of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Its boundaries with these republics are:

1. With the Republic of Guatemala, those established by the arbitral award issued in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on January 23, 1933.

2. With the Republic of Nicaragua, those established by the Mixed Honduran-Nicaraguan Boundary Commission, in 1900 and 1901, according to the description of the first section of the dividing line, contained in the second act of June 12, 1900, and in later acts, to Portillo de Teotecacinte, and from that place to the Atlantic Ocean, in accordance with the arbitral award handed down by His Majesty the King of Spain, Alfonso XIII, on December 23, 1906, and declared valid by the International Court of Justice on November 18, 1960.

3. With the Republic of El Salvador, those established in Articles 16 and 17 of the General Peace Treaty signed in Lima, Peru, on October 30, 1980, whose instruments of ratification were exchanged in Tegucigalpa, Central District, Honduras, on December 10, 1980. In the sections pending delimitation the provisions of the pertinent articles of the above-mentioned Treaty shall be applied.

Article 10

The territories located on the mainland within its territorial limits, its inland waters and its islands, islets, and the cays in the Gulf of Fonseca which historically, geographically, and legally correspond to it belong to Honduras. So are the Bay Islands, the Swan Islands, also known as Santanilla or Santillana, Viciosas, Misteriosas; and the cays Zapotillos, Cochinos, Vivorillos, Seal or Foca (or Becerro), Caratasca, Cajones, or Hobbies, Mayores de Cabo Falso, Cococuma, Palo de Campeche, Los Bajos, Pichones, Media Luna, Gorda and Los Bancos Salmedina, Providencia, De Coral, Cabo Falso, Rosalinda and Serranilla, and all others located in the Atlantic that historically, geographically and legally belong to it.

The Gulf of Fonseca may be subjected to a special regime.

Article 11

The following also belong to the State of Honduras.

1. The territorial sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles, measured from the baseline of the lowest tide along the entire coast;
ANNEX 12

Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Honduras, 29 September 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize
In the context of the excellent and friendly relations between our two States, I have the honour to refer to my letter to your Excellency dated 5 May 2022, which followed our meeting on 22 April 2022 in Houston, Texas.

At our meeting in April, your Excellency indicated to me that Article 10 of the Constitution of Honduras states that the Sapodilla Cayes are part of Honduras obliges Honduras to consider applying to intervene in the case between Belize and Guatemala which is pending before the International Court of Justice in which Guatemala claims those same cayes.

As Honduras is aware, Belize is sovereign over the Sapodilla Cayes as a result of over 200 years of uninterrupted, peaceful possession, first as part of the British settlement (and later colony) of British Honduras and since 1981 as part of the territory of the independent State of Belize. Until 1981, Honduras made no protest against British title to these cayes. To the contrary, there were repeated instances of Honduras having recognized that the United Kingdom was sovereign over them. By way of example, on several occasions around the turn of the twentieth century, Honduran officials requested that British authorities take action to suppress alleged revolutionary activity on the Sapodilla Cayes, thus recognizing that the United Kingdom was sovereign over them. Indeed, in 1913, the then Honduran Foreign Minister thanked the “Colonial Government at Belize” for attempting to prevent improper use of the Sapodillas, which he expressly referred to as “Islands belonging to the Colony”. These and many other instances demonstrate longstanding British sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes and Honduran recognition of it.
succeeded to that sovereignty in 1981 upon its independence from the United Kingdom with all its territory intact.

Consistently with this established position, Honduras has no credible claim to sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes under international law.

In the relations between our two States, it has long been accepted that Belize is sovereign over the Sapodilla Cayes, and Article 10 of the Constitution of Honduras asserting that they are part of Honduras has caused no difficulty in practice. This is because notwithstanding the Article 10 as a matter of the internal law of Honduras, in the relations between our two States, Honduras has not in any way sought to exercise sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes or to prevent Belize from doing so.

As I explained in our meeting in Houston and in my letter to your Excellency in May, if Honduras intends to intervene in the case between Belize and Guatemala to articulate a claim to sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes, that may generate practical significance in inter-State relations for a claim that has previously not had any such significance.

As a continuation of our discussion at our April meeting, and of the requests I expressed to your Excellency in my letter, I respectfully request your Excellency to urgently confirm that Honduras will not apply to intervene in the case between Belize and Guatemala. Equally, I also respectfully request your Excellency to urgently confirm that Honduras is willing to negotiate a solution to the dispute between Belize and Honduras concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes that is based on Honduras accepting Belize's sovereignty and thus abandoning any claim of Honduran sovereignty over those same cayes. I emphasize that this is an urgent matter.

I assure your Excellency and your Government that the Government of Belize earnestly desires that this matter does not in any way affect the excellent and friendly relations between our two States, and indeed hopes that a swift and amicable resolution of the matter will enhance those relations even further.

It is in that spirit, Excellency, that I ask you to accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Hon. Eamon Courtenay
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and Immigration

Leigh Richardson Building, Belmopan, Belize  (501) 880-2167/2833 · belizemfa@btl.net
ANNEX 13

Belize, Instrument of Accession to the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement, 24 October 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize
WHEREAS the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement ("the Pact of Bogotá") was concluded at Bogotá on 30 April 1948,

NOW THEREFORE I, Eamon Courtenay, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize, declare that Belize, having considered the above-mentioned treaty, accedes to it pursuant to Article LIV and undertakes faithfully to perform and carry out the stipulations contained therein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this instrument of accession at Belmopan on 24 October 2022.

FOR
BELIZE

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration
ANNEX 14

Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Honduras, 25 October 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration

Ref: FA/BR/11/22 (70) 25th October 2022

H.E. Eduardo Enrique Reina
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to my letter to you of 29 September 2022, which followed my letter of 5 May 2022 and our meeting in person on 22 April 2022.

On each of those occasions I requested your Excellency to confirm that Honduras would not assert a claim to the Sapodilla Cayes by way of application to intervene in the case before the International Court of Justice pending between Belize and Guatemala. I further requested your Excellency to confirm that Honduras was willing to negotiate a solution to the legal dispute between Belize and Honduras concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes that would be based on Honduras accepting Belize’s sovereignty and thus abandoning its own claim to sovereignty. I emphasized the urgency of this matter.

Belize has not received any reply from Honduras to these letters. Belize has therefore concluded, consistently with your explanation to me at our meeting on 22 April 2022, that Article 10 of the Constitution of Honduras constrains your Government to maintain the claim of Honduras to sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes.

Against that background, your Excellency will be aware that on 24th October 2022, Belize acceded to the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement concluded at Bogotá on 30 April 1948, known as the Pact of Bogotá. Since Honduras is already party to this Pact, the legal dispute between our two States concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes may now be submitted to the International Court of Justice for final and binding resolution in accordance with international law.

Belize would still very much welcome from Honduras the confirmations sought in my letter of 29 September 2022, in particular that Honduras is willing unambiguously to accept Belize’s sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes and thus abandon its own claim to sovereignty over them. However, having reached the conclusion that Honduras is not in a position to provide those confirmations, and

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appreciating the reasons why that is so, Belize otherwise intends in two weeks from the date of this letter to institute proceedings with Honduras before the International Court of Justice in order to resolve the legal dispute between our two States concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes. Belize will do so in the context of the excellent and friendly relations between our two States, with the goal of obtaining a prompt, authoritative and definitive resolution of this legal dispute, on the basis of which Belize hopes that our relations will be even further enhanced.

It is in that spirit that I ask you to accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Hon. Eamon Courtenay
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and Immigration

Leigh Richardson Building, Belmopan, Belize (501) 880-2167/2833 • belizemfa@btl.net
ANNEX 15

General Secretariat of the Organization of American States,
Certificate of Receipt of Instrument of Accession by Belize
to the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement,
27 October 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize
CERTIFICATE

Luis Toro Utillano, Senior Legal Advisor at the Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the Organization of American States,

HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT:

1. In accordance with Article 112.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the General Secretariat of the Organization serves as depository of Inter-American treaties and agreements, as well as the instruments of ratification thereof.

2. The American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogota) was adopted in Bogota, Colombia, on April 30, 1948, by the Ninth International Conference of American States.

3. On October 27, 2022, Belize deposited the original copy of the instrument of accession of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement.

4. The instrument of accession was received by the undersigned and deposited in accordance with article LII of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement.

The undersigned is issuing this certificate to the Permanent Mission of Belize to the Organization of American States.

Washington, D.C., October 27, 2022

Luis Toro Utillano
Senior Legal Advisor
Department of International Law
General Secretariat

Office of the Secretary General
ANNEX 16

Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States, Note informing States parties to the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement of Belize’s accession, 27 October 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize
The Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States presents its compliments to the State parties and signatory governments to the “American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogota)” and wishes to notify that, on October 27, 2022, it received from the Permanent Mission of Belize to the OAS the deposit of the original copy of the instrument of accession of the referred instrument, in accordance with its article LII. In addition, the information may be consulted at the website of the depository.

The Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the States parties and signatory governments to the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogota) the assurances of its highest consideration.

c.c. Office of the Secretary General