



Organización de los Estados Americanos
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17th and Constitution Ave., N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006

May 30, 2003

Excellency:

I have the honor to address Your Excellency regarding the creation of a Group of Friends of the Belize-Guatemala Transition Process.

After receiving responses from the governments of Belize and Guatemala on the suggested the composition of the Group of Friends, the General Secretariat has reconsidered its initial proposal with the following criteria in mind.

The Secretariat believes that the Group should include countries which have accompanied Belize and Guatemala in the search for a peaceful solution to their territorial differendum; countries which have demonstrated their commitment to the OAS' Fund for Peace and which will be able to make additional financial contributions to the Fund in the future; and countries representing the different sub-regions of the Hemisphere.

Under these criteria, the Secretariat proposes the following countries for the Group: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Japan, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Secretariat will invite these countries to become members of the Group of Friends unless your government presents an objection to the Secretariat by June 6, 2003. The Secretariat will also consult member states of the OAS regarding the possible future participation of the Republic of China in the Group.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Luigi R. Einaudi
Assistant Secretary General

Her Excellency
Embajador Lisa Shoman
Permanent Representative of Belize
to the Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

cc: The Secretary General