# AGREEMENT BETWEEN BELIZE AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA ON THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF DRIVER'S LICENSES

Belize and the Republic of Guatemala, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Desirous of strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries, on the basis of the principle of reciprocity, with the intention of ensuring the mutual recognition of driver's licenses issued in Belize and the Republic of Guatemala,

Have agreed as follows:

#### ARTICLE 1

The Parties shall mutually recognize, in conformity with their national legislation, the driver's licenses issued by the competent authority of the other Party, without any further requirements on the part of the holder of the driver's license. Driver's licenses shall be recognized in accordance with the table of equivalence set out via the diplomatic channels.

This recognition shall not contravene the national legislation of either country relating to driving restrictions based on the age, health or mental condition of an applicant for a driver's license.

## ARTICLE 2

Any competent authority may request the competent authority of the other Party to verify the validity and authenticity of a driver's license by the most expeditious means.

### ARTICLE 3

- (1) The Parties shall provide to each other the following information:
- a) Full names, addresses, phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses of their competent authorities and
- b) Samples of their valid drivers' licenses covered by the Annex to this Agreement.
- (2) The Parties shall promptly inform each other of any changes to their drivers' licenses or any changes or amendments to their national legislation, which may affect the implementation of this Agreement, as well as of any changes in the contact information of their competent authorities.

## **ARTICLE 4**

- 1. The present Agreement is based on the "Framework Agreement for Negotiations and Confidence Building Measures between Belize and Guatemala," signed on 7th September 2005, that has as an objective the maintenance and deepening of friendly bilateral relations until the Territorial, Insular and Maritime Dispute is permanently resolved.
- 2. This Agreement is also based on the Road Map for the Strengthening of the Bilateral Relations signed in Washington, D.C. United States of America on 24th January 2014 by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Parties, in which it was agreed to develop a programme of activities for the strengthening of the bilateral relations.
- 3. The present instrument shall not constitute a total or partial waiver of sovereignty over any territory (land, insular and maritime) claimed by either Party; nor shall any rights of either Party to such territory be prejudiced; nor shall any precedent be established for the strengthening or weakening of either Party's claims to any such territory. Each Party expressly reserves its rights with respect to its claims of sovereignty over any territory (land, insular or maritime).
- 4. The Parties agree that neither Party will use against the other, in any forum in which their territorial differendum may be addressed in the future, the fact that either of the Parties has accepted, agreed to, complied with or implemented any of the confidence building measures included herein.
- 5. Any dispute arising from the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved amicably through diplomatic channels.
- 6. This Agreement will enter into force on the date when both sides have received notification via diplomatic note that their respective legal requirements have been met.
- 7. The present Agreement will have a duration of ten (10) years and will be automatically extended for equal periods, unless any of the Parties, through written communication via diplomatic channels, revokes it, and the termination will be effective one (1) year after the respective notification.
- 8. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the rights or benefits already acquired by the individuals by virtue of this Agreement.

9. This Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the Parties through written communications via diplomatic channels. Its entry into force will be in accordance with paragraph 6 of this Article.

Done in Placencia, Belize, on December 17, 2014 in two original copies, in the Spanish and English language, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR BELIZE

WILFRED ELRINGTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL
AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA

CARLOS RAUL MORALES MOSCOSO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

JOSÉ MIGUEL INSULZA

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(WITNESS OF HONOUR)