

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN BELIZE AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA
ON THE EQUIVALENCY OF STUDIES AND THE RECOGNITION OF
EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTS**

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

CONSCIOUS that education is a key factor for the integral development of the individual person, knowledge and national and universal culture;

CONSIDERING that the promotion of educational integration processes will foster higher learning and reciprocal benefits through the equivalency of studies and recognition of educational documents.

DESIROUS of enhancing cooperation in education between the Parties;

Agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1. The Parties, through their respective Ministries of Education, shall grant equivalency of studies at the levels of preschool, primary, secondary and technical and vocational training in recognized institutions and in accordance with the current legislation in each of the Parties
2. The respective Ministries of Education shall, on the basis of equivalency, recognize certificates, titles, degrees, diplomas or other documents issued (hereinafter referred to as "educational documents") by recognized educational institutions.
3. The purpose of the recognition of documents and the equivalency of studies aforementioned is to enable the continuation of studies in any of the Parties.

ARTICLE 2

1. For the application of the present Agreement, the Parties shall exchange:
 - a) The laws, regulations or other documents that govern teaching at the levels of preschool, primary and secondary in their country,
 - b) The current curricula at the level of preschool, primary and secondary.
2. Each Party will inform the other of any changes that occur in its national legislation that affect the granting of educational documents.

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ARTICLE 3

1. The request for recognition of educational documents and equivalency of studies shall be submitted to the respective Ministries of Education.
2. The processing of such requests will be carried out in accordance with the current national legislation of the respective Party.

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.

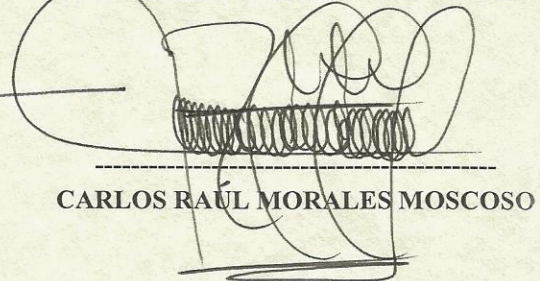
FOR BELIZE



WILFRED ELRINGTON

**ATTORNEY GENERAL
AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA



CARLOS RAÚL MORALES MOSCOSO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



JOSE MIGUEL INSULZA

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(WITNESS OF HONOUR)