#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN BELIZE AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA ON EXPEDITED DEPORTATION

The Republic of Guatemala and Belize, hereinafter "the Parties",

CONSCIOUS of the objective of maintaining and deepening friendly bilateral relations;

**CONVINCED** that the way to ensure an expedited procedure for the safe deportation of their nationals, with irregular migration status is through a formal agreement between the parties.

Agree as follows:

# ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Agreement is to establish an expedited procedure for the safe deportation of those nationals of either Party whose immigration status is irregular.

# ARTICLE 2 DEPORTATION

- 1. Nationals of either party who enter or remain in the territory of the other party, without complying with the requirements of domestic law or who make false statements to immigration authorities will be deported to their country of origin.
- 2. In cases where nationals of the other Party with an irregular immigration status have completed a penal sentence, the respective authority may make that person available to immigration authorities for immediate deportation.
- 3. Immediate deportation without any other sanctions shall be considered for those first-time offenders whose only offense is illegal entry. This will not apply to repeat offenders or to persons who have committed other offenses, apart from the illegal entry.

## ARTICLE 3 COSTS OF DEPORTATION

All expenses incurred by the deportation of nationals of the Parties, will be borne by the Party carrying out the deportation.

#### ARTICLE 4 FINAL PROVISIONS

- 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.

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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

H. \

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)