



August 30, 2000

**PANEL OF FACILITATORS FOR BELIZE-GUATEMALA
DISPUTE TO BE INSTALLED AT OAS**

Guatemala's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gabriel Orellana Rojas, and the Head of the Belize Delegation, Ambassador Assad Shoman who has ministerial rank, will chair the ceremony to install the panel of facilitators on Thursday, August 31 at the Organization of American States (OAS) headquarters.

Last July, the two countries agreed to the terms of reference for this panel and for a mixed commission that would consider and apply confidence-building measures. At the invitation of both member countries, OAS Secretary General César Gaviria is acting as witness of honor to the negotiations on the territorial dispute between Guatemala and Belize.

The ceremony will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Hall of the Americas at the OAS Main Building (17th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.) and will be open to the media.
