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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:  
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND  
SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 9 August 1989 from the Permanent Representatives of  
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to  
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you herewith the documents adopted at the meeting of the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua held at Tela, Honduras, on 5, 6 and 7 August 1989.

These documents are:

- (a) The Tela Declaration;
- (b) The Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third countries of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families, as well as assistance for the demobilization of all those involved in armed actions in the countries of the region when such persons voluntarily request it (annex I); and
- (c) The Agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua (annex II).

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\* A/44/150.

We should be grateful if you would have this note and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 34 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Carlos José GUTIERREZ  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of Costa Rica to the United Nations

(Signed) Roberto MEZA  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of El Salvador to the United Nations

(Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN DE LEON  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of Guatemala to the United Nations

(Signed) Roberto MARTINEZ ORDÓÑEZ  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of Honduras to the United Nations

(Signed) Alejandro SERRANO CALDERA  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of Nicaragua to the United Nations

Tela Declaration

The Central American Presidents, meeting at the port city of Tela, Honduras, on 5, 6 and 7 August 1989, bearing in mind and recognizing the important work done by the Executive Commission at its ninth meeting and by the Technical Working Group, whose efforts have made this meeting possible,

Considering:

That the measures agreed in the Esquipulas II agreement for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace must be implemented and the commitments made subsequently by the Presidents in their declarations and agreements at Alajuela and Costa del Sol fulfilled,

Agree:

1. To confirm their determination to promote all efforts aimed at implementing points 5 and 6 of the Esquipulas agreement in order to prevent the use of their own territory to destabilize the Governments of Central American countries. Accordingly, they have endorsed the Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third countries of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families and for assistance in the demobilization of all those involved in armed actions in the countries of the region when such persons voluntarily request it.
2. To promote, by direct means, concerted solutions to any disputes that may arise directly between the various countries of Central America. Accordingly, they have endorsed the agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua regarding the application filed with the International Court of Justice, which enjoys the moral support of the Presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica.
3. To endorse the appeal to armed groups in the region, particularly to FMLN, that still persist in its use of force, to halt such activities. Accordingly, they have endorsed chapter III on assistance in the voluntary demobilization of FMLN, whereby FMLN is strongly urged to put an immediate and effective end to hostilities so that a dialogue may be carried out that will lead to a rejection of armed struggle and the integration of FMLN members into institutional and democratic life.
4. The Presidents acknowledge the efforts made by the Government of Guatemala to strengthen its process of national reconciliation through a wide-ranging, ongoing dialogue in which the National Reconciliation Commission is a leading participant. They also express their hope that this dialogue will be used to strengthen the democratic, pluralistic and participatory process, in keeping with point 1 of the

Esquipulas Procedure and internal legislation. They reiterate the appeal to armed groups to abandon their activities, which violate the spirit of this agreement, and to enter political life through the national reconciliation process.

5. To request the United Nations to take the necessary steps for the establishment of the security machinery by virtue of which Honduras and Nicaragua have reached an agreement in which, inter alia, Honduras agrees to withdraw its reservation to implementation of the Plan. They also reiterate the request by Honduras concerning the dispatch of an international peace-keeping force to Honduran territory.

6. To confirm the decision taken by the Executive Commission at its ninth meeting to convene the Central American Commission on Environment and Development for the first time at Guatemala City on 30 and 31 August 1989, so that it can begin work on the draft convention setting out its nature and functions.

7. To reiterate the importance of the Central American Parliament as a forum in which the peoples of the region can discuss and make recommendations on political, economic, social and cultural problems in Central America. Accordingly, it is imperative that the treaty establishing the Parliament enter into force as soon as possible.

8. To condemn vigorously drug trafficking and use. The Central American Presidents agree to promulgate laws and take drastic measures to prevent the countries of Central America from becoming bases for drug trafficking. To this end, regional and international co-operation shall be sought and agreements concluded with nations affected by such illegal traffic, and activities for the effective control of drug trafficking shall be carried out.

9. The Central American Presidents agree to entrust the Executive Commission with the task of considering and adopting the document on political monitoring, which shall be ratified by the Presidents no later than at their next meeting.

As two years have passed since the signing of the Esquipulas II peace plan, the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua reiterate their firm commitment to implement fully all commitments and agreements set out in the Guatemala Procedure and the Majuela and Costa del Sol Declarations, particularly those which refer to the strengthening of democratic processes. Accordingly, strict compliance with these agreements is of fundamental importance.

The Central American Presidents agree to meet before the end of the year in Nicaragua.

The Central American Presidents express their gratitude to the people and Government of Honduras, and especially to its President, Mr. José Azcona Hoyo, for their hospitality.

Tela, Honduras, 7 August 1989

Oscar ARIAS SANCHEZ  
President of the Republic of Costa Rica

Alfredo CRISTIANI BURKARD  
President of the Republic of El Salvador

Vinicio CEREZO AREVALO  
President of the Republic of Guatemala

José AZCONA HOYO  
President of the Republic of Honduras

Daniel ORTEGA SAAVEDRA  
President of the Republic of Nicaragua