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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS

TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND

PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-first year

Letter dated 18 March 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the joint agreement signed between the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, His Excellency Victor Hugo Tinoco, and of Costa Rica, His Excellency Gerardo Trejos, expressing the political will of both Governments to establish a Permanent Mission to Investigate and Inspect Frontier Incidents between our countries and establishing the bases for the same, under the auspices of the countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group.

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as an official document of the fortieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 21, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nora ASTORGA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Joint agreement signed between the Deputy Ministers for  
Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and Nicaragua

In the spirit of creating a climate of confidence and security in the frontier zone and within the framework of the peace process promoted by the Contadora Group, the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, representing their respective Governments, have decided to draw up, as soon as possible, an agreement establishing a Permanent Mission to Investigate and Inspect Frontier Incidents on the following agreed bases:

I. NATURE:

1. It shall be a Permanent Civilian Mission enjoying the assistance of competent advisers in the field of defence and security.

II. FUNCTIONS:

1. Observation, investigation, on-the-spot inspection and verification of incidents or acts that might produce frontier tensions.

2. The preparation of reports and recommendations to the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua and the transmittal of the said reports to the Governments of the countries members of the Commission.

III. UNDERTAKING OF THE PARTIES:

1. The Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua undertake to ensure the implementation of the recommendations or measures necessary to rectify the situations that are the subject of the investigations.

IV. STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION:

1. An Executive Commission, composed of civilian representatives of the participating countries (Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Contadora Group and Support Group); the Commission shall be the administrating body and shall be co-ordinated by the Contadora Group and the Support Group on a rotating basis.

2. An Inspection and Observation Corps, composed of advisers in the field of defence and security, who shall be stationed on both sides of the frontier and shall be nationals of the countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group.

V. SECURITY OF THE COMMISSION:

1. The Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua shall furnish all means available to them in order to guarantee the safety and security of the members of the Commission.

**VI. SUPPLIES AND FINANCING:**

1. Contributions of the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua undertake to provide for housing, food, health care, premises, secretarial support and office equipment in their respective territories. The supply of fuel shall be determined at a later date. The Parties shall also permit the representatives of the Commission to use their communication systems in those cases where conditions so permit and within the capacities of each host country.

2. In order to carry out the above commitment, both Parties undertake to prepare the necessary budgets for that purpose.

3. Contributions of the Governments of the Contadora Group, the Support Group and other countries.

The Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua have expressed the view that, for the proper functioning of the Commission, aircraft, river launches, light land vehicles and communication equipment are required. Crews, mechanics and operators, as well as spare parts for the aircraft and communication equipment mentioned, are also essential. Accordingly, both Governments request that the Contadora Group, with the collaboration of the Support Group, approach the international community in this regard with a view to obtaining the necessary material and financial support.

**VII. IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES:**

In order to ensure the proper conduct of the work of the Commission and its staff, questions relating to the régime of immunities, privileges and facilities shall be the subject of an agreement to be concluded by the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua with the Governments of the States participating in the Commission.

Pending the conclusion of the said agreement, both Parties agree to extend the privileges and immunities provided for in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations to the staff of the Mission, provided that they are attached to the respective diplomatic missions in each country.

VIII. Questions relating to insurance and civil liability shall be dealt with at a later date in the envisaged Agreement.

IX. Within the framework of these measures, the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua have agreed to request the members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group, with the participation of representatives of the two countries, to ensure the conduct of a general reconnaissance of the common frontier zone, to be carried out as soon as possible.

For the purpose of the conduct of the said reconnaissance, both Governments have expressed their willingness to provide the means available to them and the appropriate facilities.

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X. The Agreement to be signed shall be valid for a term of one year, renewable automatically for equivalent periods. Upon the expiry of that year, either of the Parties may denounce it six months in advance of the date of renewal, in which case the denunciation shall be set forth in a written note to the other Party and notified to the participating countries.

Done at San José, Costa Rica, on 12 March 1986.

For Costa Rica:

Gerardo TREJOS

For Nicaragua:

Victor Hugo TINOCO

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