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Forty-second session
Item 8 of the preliminary list*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Letter dated 8 April 1987 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Spain, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela addressed to the Secretary-General

On 12 October 1982, the representatives of the countries signing this letter requested that the agenda of the thirty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly should include an additional item entitled "Observance of the quincentenary of the discovery of America".

We were prompted to do so by the conviction that 1492 was a date of great historical significance which helped to bring the Indo-American and European cultures into contact, thus opening up new horizons for the universality that is a feature of international society today and is reaffirmed in the Charter of the United Nations.

The five centuries separating us from that date are filled with deeds of all kinds done by our peoples as a result of this historic and fruitful contact, in order to establish their national identities and reaffirm their cultures.

Although the item has been withdrawn from the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly for administrative and budgetary reasons, we wish to state that the spirit behind our initiative in 1982 is still alive and that we feel that the United Nations, through the General Assembly, cannot remain uninvolved in 1992

* A/42/50.

in the observance of an event that was such a decisive factor in broadening the perspectives of the course of history in our times and in integrating different cultural spheres and establishing communication between them.

We should be very grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 8 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations

(Signed) Davidson L. HEPBURN
Permanent Representative of the
Commonwealth of the Bahamas to the
United Nations

(Signed) Jorge GUMUCIO GRANIER
Permanent Representative of Bolivia
to the United Nations

(Signed) George A. MACIEL
Permanent Representative of Brazil
to the United Nations

(Signed) Stephen LEWIS
Permanent Representative of Canada
to the United Nations

(Signed) Pedro DAZA
Permanent Representative of Chile
to the United Nations

(Signed) Carlos ALBAN-HOLGUIN
Permanent Representative of Colombia
to the United Nations

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

(Signed) Oscar ORAMAS-OLIVA
Permanent Representative of Cuba
to the United Nations

(Signed) Juan Arístides TAVERAS-GUZMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Dominican Republic to the
United Nations

(Signed) Carlos TOBAR-ZALDUMBIDE
Permanent Representative of Ecuador
to the United Nations

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

(Signed) Florencio MAYE ELA
Permanent Representative of
Equatorial Guinea to the
United Nations

(Signed) Fernando ANDRADE-DIAZ-DURAN
Permanent Representative of Guatemala
to the United Nations

(Signed) Roberto MARTINEZ ORDOÑEZ
Permanent Representative of Honduras
to the United Nations

(Signed) Mario MOYA-PALENCIA
Permanent Representative of Mexico
to the United Nations

(Signed) Nora ASTORGA-GADEA
Permanent Representative of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jorge E. RITTER
Permanent Representative of Panama
to the United Nations

(Signed) Alfredo CAÑETE
Permanent Representative of Paraguay
to the United Nations

(Signed) Carlos ALZAMORA
Permanent Representative of Peru
to the United Nations

(Signed) Salvador P. LOPEZ
Permanent Representative of the
Philippines to the United Nations

(Signed) Fernando MORAN
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

(Signed) Vernon A. WALTERS
Permanent Representative of the
United States to the United Nations

(Signed) Julio César LUPINACCI
Permanent Representative of Uruguay
to the United Nations

(Signed) Andrés AGUILAR
Permanent Representative of Venezuela
to the United Nations
