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Fifty-third session Agenda item 44 The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Letter dated 14 April 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement on the final report of the Commission for Historical Clarification in Guatemala, issued on 26 March 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Dieter Kastrup Ambassador Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the final report of the Commission for Historical Clarification in Guatemala issued on 26 March 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union has noted with satisfaction the work of the Commission for Historical Clarification, which has complied with its mandate to investigate objectively and impartially and elucidate the human rights violations and violence relating to the armed confrontation in Guatemala, and to recommend measures to promote peace and national reconciliation. The publication and intended widespread dissemination of the Commission's final report represent an important step in the ongoing process towards the full implementation of the peace accords. The Union, while noting the Guatemalan Government's initial reaction to the report, is encouraged by the subsequent assurances which its ambassadors have received over the Government's commitment to the report. The Union urges the Guatemalan authorities to take all steps to implement the Commission's recommendations to the fullest possible extent as a further new element to the existing peace process in order to strengthen democratization and lay the foundations for true reconciliation in Guatemalan society.

The Union reiterates its support for all efforts to consolidate the peace process in Guatemala.