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Press Release

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GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT, URNG SIGN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT
FOR RESUMPTION OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

The following was issued today by the Spokesman for the Secretary-General:

Yesterday, 10 January, at the end of a four-day meeting held in Mexico City under the auspices of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) signed a framework agreement for the resumption of the peace negotiations which had been suspended in May 1993.

While building on agreements previously reached by the parties, the framework agreement offers several new mechanisms aimed at promoting the peace process. In particular, regarding the role of the United Nations, the parties have requested the Secretary-General to appoint a moderator who will propose initiatives aimed at facilitating the signing of a peace agreement. The parties also decided to request the United Nations to verify all agreements reached during the negotiations.

The parties have agreed to resume their negotiations during the latter half of February to discuss an agreement on human rights and the timetable for the consideration of the negotiating agenda.

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