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OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Letter dated 26 May 1988 from the Permanent Representative
of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you as follows the text of the communiqué issued on 19 May 1988 during the sixth meeting of the Tripartite Working Group for the Voluntary Repatriation of Nicaraguan Refugees in Honduras:

"On 19 May 1988, the representatives of the Governments of Honduras, Nicaragua and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) held a special meeting at San José, Costa Rica, to discuss the progress of and the procedures for the repatriation of Nicaraguan Indian refugees in Honduras.

The parties exchanged information on the stage reached in the repatriation process and discussed various operational aspects with a view to improving that process. To that end, they agreed on the necessary procedures for repatriating approximately 3,500 Nicaraguan Indian refugees in the coming weeks. Among other things, they agreed to provisionally open two new frontier crossing points so that the refugees could return overland, to continue to facilitate the refugees' transfer to their places of origin and to establish a tentative calendar for immediate repatriation.

The parties reiterated the principle that repatriation must be voluntary and reaffirmed their Governments' intention of continuing to facilitate repatriation on a mutually co-ordinated basis. Further meetings of the Working Group would take place as and when circumstances so required.

* A/43/50.

All parties thanked the Government of Costa Rica for providing the facilities for holding the meeting within its territory."

I should be grateful if you would have this communiqué distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under item 102 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jorge Ramón HERNANDEZ ALCERRO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
