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 THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND
SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

Letter dated 1 August 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am sending you herewith the "Declaration of the Government of Mexico on the situation in Central America" dated 29 July 1988 and should be grateful if you would have it distributed as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario MOYA-PALENCIA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Declaration of the Government of Mexico on the situation in
Central America, issued in Tlatelolco, D.F. on 29 July 1988

In view of the state of tension in Central America and the deadlock in the process of negotiations aimed at seeking a peaceful solution to the problems of the region, the Government of Mexico today reaffirms its firm conviction that respect for the self-determination of Central Americans and for the principle of the peaceful settlement of disputes is an essential condition for peace and development. It therefore reaffirms also its rejection of all foreign intervention and the use of coercion and force that have been hindering understanding among Central Americans and the diplomatic efforts of the Contadora Group and the Support Group.

It is essential that the commitments assumed by the Central American Governments in Esquipulas in August 1987 should be completely fulfilled. It is cause for concern that in most cases no concrete steps have been taken to that end and that, when any positive effort has been made, as in the case of the so-called Sapoá negotiations between the Government of Nicaragua and the counter-revolutionary forces, it has been interfered with and impeded by those interests that continue to rely on imposition, intolerance and force.

For all these reasons, the appeal made to the five Central American Governments by the Contadora Group and the Support Group on 27 June 1988 in Mexico City to establish an independent and impartial verification mechanism that would guarantee the implementation of the Esquipulas agreements and to renew the dialogue aimed at resolving pending security issues remains valid.

In short, the Government of Mexico emphasizes the political necessity of not excluding any of the Central American Governments from the consultations and negotiations aimed at resolving the regional conflicts. The principle of non-exclusion, which has been the basis of the progress made in the peace process initiated by Contadora in 1983 and ratified by Esquipulas, should be respected in order to avoid increasing antagonisms and polarization.

It also reaffirms that the normalization of relations between the United States and Nicaragua is essential for regional détente.

The Government of Mexico reaffirms its readiness to continue contributing, within the Latin American framework, to the establishment of peace and co-operation for development in Central America.
