



**Security Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/20794  
16 August 1989  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1989 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF HONDURAS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to address you in order to refer to the Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third countries of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families, adopted by the Presidents of the five Central American countries at a meeting held in the port city of Tela, Republic of Honduras, on 5, 6 and 7 August 1989.

In chapter I of the above-mentioned Plan, in the section dealing with machinery, the Presidents agreed to request the establishment of the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV), comprising the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States, or their representatives, which will be responsible for the execution and implementation of the Plan.

The Joint Plan establishes a time-limit of 30 days from its signing for the constitution of CIAV, and 90 days from the deployment of CIAV for the execution of the Plan.

As you are aware, on 4 October 1988, in letter CG/187/88, my Government formally presented to the Secretary-General the proposal made to the General Assembly on that same day by the Foreign Minister of Honduras, inviting the Secretary-General "in consultation with the interested parties, to arrange for the establishment of an International Peace Force, consisting of elements from Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and Spain, which would be stationed on the border between Honduras and El Salvador and Honduras and Nicaragua. This Force would guarantee, by means of inspections and coercive action where necessary, that Honduran border territories would not be used by insurgents from those countries".

The letter also contained other substantive paragraphs, which read as follows:

"The International Peace Force would have to place the said combatants in Salvadorian and Nicaraguan territory far from the Honduran borders. Their relocation in third countries, when appropriate, would have to be carried out from places in Costa Rica and Guatemala, since the Governments of those

countries have declared themselves to be neutral and they are consequently in a better position than any other Central American country to assume this crucial and important role.

"Concomitant to the above-mentioned activities, the Government of Nicaragua would have to desist, once and for all, from the international legal action it has brought against Honduras, which has been interfering, and continues to interfere, with the normalization process in Central America.

"In the view of the Government of Honduras, it would be advantageous if you could convene whatever parties may be necessary in order to deal with other interferences which continue to keep the Central American crisis from being resolved. For example, it might be worth considering holding negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, on the one hand, and, on the other, between the five Central American countries and the United States of America and between the latter and Nicaragua, should the parties deem that appropriate, as I suggested last November in the General Assembly of the Organization of American States.

"This overall approach would enable us to tackle properly the security concerns of all parties, such as, for example, the balance of forces in the region, which issues have not as yet been dealt with effectively.

"Creation of the International Peace Force which Honduras is proposing and the necessary complementary means would renew the impetus towards peace provided by the Esquipulas II agreement which, at present, seems precarious."

Since the voluntary aspect is the guiding principle of the Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third countries of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families, the Plan specifies a period of 90 days from the date of the constitution of CIAV during which members of the irregular forces who so desire may avail themselves of the Plan's provisions. In the eventuality that after the period for voluntary demobilization under the authority of CIAV has elapsed, Nicaraguan or Salvadorian irregular forces may remain in Honduras' border areas, I hereby confirm the Honduran proposal and request concerning the establishment of the International Peace Force, comprising elements from Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and Spain, to be stationed in Honduran territory in order to prevent the use of that territory by such irregular forces.

It is understood that following the formalization of this request or the establishment and deployment of the International Peace Force for the purpose of preventing Honduran territory from being used by irregular forces and after CIAV has issued its official report certifying compliance with the Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or resettlement in Nicaragua or third countries of members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families, the Government of Nicaragua will be bound to withdraw the application it has filed against Honduras with the International Court of Justice on 28 July 1986, as called for in the Tela agreements of 7 August 1989, including the Extrajudicial Agreement signed by the Presidents of Honduras and Nicaragua, with the moral and political

support of the Presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica, which is reproduced as annex II to the Tela Declaration.

The Government of Honduras is convinced that the United Nations has a valuable role to play in advancing the Central American peace process with a view to attaining the objectives of democracy, peace and development. In that connection, I express my country's gratitude for the Security Council's careful attention to this request.

I request you to have this note and its annexes 1/ circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Carlos LOPEZ CONTRERAS  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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1/ Annexes:

1. Communication CG/187/88, dated 4 October 1988 (see A/43/676).
2. Tela Declaration (see A/44/451-S/20778).
3. Joint Plan for the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or resettlement in Nicaragua or third countries of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families (see A/44/451-S/20778, annex I).
4. Extrajudicial Agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua (see A/44/451-S/20778, annex II).

