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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 12 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative
of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Declaration of San Isidro de Coronado, signed today at San Isidro de Coronado, Costa Rica, by the five Central American Presidents (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this note and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ricardo CASTANEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration of San Isidro de Coronado

The Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, meeting at a special session at San Isidro de Coronado, Costa Rica, on 10, 11 and 12 December 1989, for the purpose of reviewing the delicate situation in Central America, which seriously affects the peace process, ratified the agreement contained in the preamble to the Procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America (Esquipulas II), and particularly those points in which they agreed to take up fully the historic challenge of forging a peaceful destiny for Central America, to eliminate war and to make dialogue prevail over violence and reason over hatred. To this end, they have agreed as follows:

1. They reaffirm their most vigorous condemnation of the armed action and terrorism being waged by irregular forces in the region and reiterate their deep conviction that the people must be made to realize that they must reject the use of force and terror to achieve political ends and objectives.
2. The Presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua expressed their determined support for the President of El Salvador, Mr. Alfredo Cristiani, and his Government, as a genuine demonstration of their unwavering policy of supporting Governments that have been established through democratic, pluralistic and participatory processes.
3. The Presidents of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica support the Government of El Salvador in its often-stated intent to find a solution to the conflict in El Salvador by peaceful and democratic means; to that end, they reiterated their vigorous appeal to FMLN immediately and effectively to cease hostilities in that fraternal country and to resume the dialogue that has been initiated. They also demand that FMLN publicly renounce any type of violent action that may directly or indirectly affect the civilian population. The five Presidents agreed to request respectfully the Secretary-General of the United Nations to do everything within his power to take the necessary steps to ensure the resumption of the dialogue between the Government of El Salvador and FMLN, thereby facilitating its successful continuation.
4. In accordance with the Alajuela, Costa del Sol and Tela declarations, the provisions of chapters I and III of the Joint Plan for demobilization constitute an integral and indivisible whole. Accordingly, they request the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) to proceed at once with the demobilization of the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, in keeping with the procedures set out in the aforementioned Plan.
5. The Presidents support the Nicaraguan Government of President Daniel Ortega in its wish to have the funds appropriated for the Nicaraguan resistance turned over to CIAV as of the signing of this agreement, with a view to implementing the voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third countries of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families.

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The Presidents appeal to the Nicaraguan resistance to cease any action which may jeopardize the electoral process and the civilian population, so that that process may evolve in an atmosphere of normalcy, in accordance with the Esquipulas II Agreement.

6. Initiation of the demobilization of the Nicaraguan resistance and FMLN is a key factor in overcoming the crisis besetting the peace process; accordingly, the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) must step up its activities to prevent the supply of weapons to FMLN and the Nicaraguan resistance.

7. The Government of Nicaragua reiterates the offer it made to the Nicaraguan resistance in Washington, D.C., United States of America, to take the necessary steps to ensure that those members of the resistance who are repatriated before 5 February 1990 may register to vote in the general elections to be held on 25 February 1990.

The Government of Nicaragua shall proceed at once to make the necessary contacts with ONUCA and CIAV so that the demobilization of the Nicaraguan resistance forces in Honduras may begin as of the signing of this agreement, in accordance with the provisions of the Tela Agreement.

8. The Presidents reiterated the importance of international co-operation as a parallel and indispensable element in the political efforts to bring peace to the region, and urged the international community to increase its support. They expressed the commitment of the region to pursue joint efforts in this area, in the conviction that economic and social development is a constant in efforts to secure peace. They expressed their gratitude for the progress made in this connection under the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America, approved by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and to the European Economic Community for its support in providing co-operation under the Luxembourg agreements.

9. The Central American Presidents, in accordance with the Esquipulas II Agreements, reaffirmed their commitment fully to respect human rights, including the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights laid down in their respective Constitutions and in the international agreements they have signed and ratified.

10. The Presidents agreed to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make the necessary connections to involve States with interests in the region more directly in the peace effort, within the framework of the Esquipulas II Agreements and subsequent declarations. They also request that the mandate of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) should be expanded to include verification of any cessation of hostilities and demobilization of irregular forces that may be agreed upon in the region.

11. In view of recent events, the Presidents confirmed that the complete deployment of the ONUCA machinery is of the utmost urgency for compliance with the commitments set forth in sections 5 and 6 of the Esquipulas II Agreements. By the same token, they also decided to request that the Secretary-General of the United

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Nations should take appropriate action to expedite the work of ONUCA, and that ONUCA should keep the Central American Presidents informed of developments.

12. The Presidents of Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica, on the basis of their commitment to seek negotiated solutions as a means of overcoming the conflicts resulting from the Central American crisis, fraternally urge the Presidents of El Salvador and Nicaragua to put an end, through negotiation and dialogue, to the estrangement between their Governments, and to continue their diplomatic and consular relations.

13. In connection with the application entered before the International Court of Justice by the Government of Nicaragua against the Government of Honduras, entitled Border and Transborder Armed Actions, the Governments of those countries agree to set up a commission with bilateral representation to seek an out-of-court settlement to the dispute within six months of today's date. In order to facilitate the work of the commission, they also agree to instruct their respective agents in the case immediately to communicate this agreement, jointly or separately, to the Court (the agreement being recognized, upon presentation, as fully and immediately valid between the Litigants), and to request the Court to postpone until 11 June 1990 the setting of the deadline for submission of the Honduran counter-memorial.

They also agree, in case by the date indicated no out-of-court settlement has been reached, that the agents for either country should request the Court to allow the Government of Honduras a period of six months for the submission of the said counter-memorial.

The Central American Presidents thank the people and Government of Costa Rica for their hospitality, and all those, men and women, whose efforts have contributed to the outcome of this meeting. In the light of what has been agreed, and in the certainty that it will be carried out, they agree to meet during the first quarter of 1990 at the regular session scheduled to be held in the city of Managua, Nicaragua.

San Isidro de Coronado, 12 December 1989

(Signed) Oscar ARIAS SANCHEZ
President of the Republic of
Costa Rica

(Signed) Alfredo CRISTIANI BURKARD
President of the Republic of
El Salvador

(Signed) Vinicio CEREZO AREVALO
President of the Republic of
Guatemala

(Signed) José AZCONA HOYO
President of the Republic of
Honduras

(Signed) Daniel ORTEGA SAAVEDRA
President of the Republic of
Nicaragua
