

AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BELIZE-GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA BELIZE SPORTS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION

During the Sports Workshop organized by the Belize-Guatemala Language Exchange Project at the Caribe Conference Room of the Casona del Lago Hotel, in Santa Elena Petén, Guatemala, on Sunday 18 June, 2006, at 10.00am, the sports delegations representing Belize and Guatemala comprising the following delegates appointed by their respective authorities:

FOR BELIZE: Hugh Staine, Director of Sport Development of the National Sports Council; Marvin Ottley, National Sport Coordinator of the National Sports Council; Wendy Castillo, Public Relations Officer of the National Sports Council; Herman Herson Guerra, Sport Coordinator of the National Sports Council; Kent Gabourel, District Sport Coordinator; Carlos Acosta, District Sport Coordinator; José Teul, District Sport Coordinator; Deon Sutherland, Vice-President of the National Secondary Schools Sports Association (NSSSA); Vivianni Teul, Primary School Director and Chairman of the Association of Primary School Directors of Cayo District; Francisco Tun, teacher,
FOR GUATEMALA: Gerardo Aguirre, Director General of the Secretariat of Physical Education (DIGEF in Spanish) of the Ministry of Education; Juan José Cifuentes, Coordinator for Institutional Development DIGEF; Luis Salvador Reyes Mazariegos, DIGEF Supervisor Petén; Aroldo Rolando Reyna Roldán, Deputy Director for Education Petén; Sulema Marisol Guillén Chavarría, athlete; Oliver Américo Rosado Recinos, Bands Coordinator DIGEF; Víctor Miguel Argueta, Physical Education instructor; Elviz Yosari Campos Pérez, Chairman of the Municipal Culture and Sports Committee in Melchor de Mencos; Víctor Hugo Cruz Herrera, Physical Education teacher; Víctor Manuel Ayala, Chairman of the Softball Association, Petén; Rebeca Mariela García Sosa, Trainer in Petén; Gustavo Adolfo Reynoso, teacher; Edwin Estuardo Chí, Physical Education instructor; Minron Danilo Arriaza Martínez, Primary School Teacher; **HEREBY STATE THAT:**

1. RATIONALE:

Based on the agreement reached on 7 September 2005, by the Governments of Belize and Guatemala at the Headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS), in order to implement measures to promote mutual trust until a final agreement is reached on the territorial dispute, the **BELIZE-GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA-BELIZE SPORTS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION** is hereby **CONSTITUTED** for the purpose of fulfilling the said process and objective.

2. GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

The Belize-Guatemala, Guatemala-Belize Sports, Recreation and Culture Commission will contribute to the strengthening of relations between both countries by means of sports, recreational and cultural activities, thereby promoting and building trust, friendship, mutual respect and human rights that should exist between both nations for the establishment of a culture of peace.

3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To promote a culture of peace through the practice of traditional sporting disciplines between both countries;
- To improve communication and relations between the Ministry of Education of Guatemala as represented by the General Secretariat of Physical Education (DIGEF in Spanish) and the Ministry of Sports of Belize, as represented by the National Sports Council (NSC);
- To maintain permanent coordination in order to consolidate the Commission and its objectives;
- To employ sports as a means to achieve cultural and social impact among athletes, sports leaders and the educational community in both countries;
- To create a sporting spirit for all, regardless of age, race, gender and physical abilities;
- To acknowledge the impact of sports on the quality of life, attitudes and life-style;
- To identify the role of sports in terms of the development of Education, Health, and especially Youth;
- To acknowledge the special value of sports as regards the improvement of relations between Belize and Guatemala;
- To recognize the General Secretariat of Physical Education (DIGEF in Spanish) of Guatemala and the National Sports Council of Belize (NSC) as the official agencies responsible for carrying out the policies and activities of the Belize-Guatemala, Guatemala-Belize Sports, Recreation and Culture Commission;

4. GENERAL ACTIVITIES:

The duties of the Belize-Guatemala, Guatemala-Belize Sports, Recreation and Culture Commission are to undertake, but are not limited to, the following activities:

- Sports exchanges at all levels;
- Organization of sporting, recreational and cultural activities;
- Encouragement of physical education;
- Development of technical and educational resources, sports facilities and equipment;
- Regular meetings of the Commission for planning, developing and evaluating the activities of the Commission.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION:

The Belize-Guatemala, Guatemala-Belize Sports, Recreation and Culture Commission will consist of sixteen (16) members, eight (8) from Belize and eight (8) from Guatemala. Members should not send substitutes to meetings.

Members will be appointed for a period of up to five (5) years and may be reappointed. Such reappointments will be scheduled to ensure continuity as well as the systematic rotation of membership. Members may not be changed simultaneously.

The members from each national group will nominate one co-chair from each group for the Commission, who will serve for a period of two (2) years and who may be reappointed.

The members will nominate one secretary from each country to serve for a period of two (2) years. On completion of this term of office, another nominee should be appointed under the same conditions.

All meetings will be minuted, and the minutes later distributed to all members of the Commission.

The Commission will meet on a regular basis at least four (4) times per year. The co-chairs will be responsible for convening such meetings and further meetings may be held at the discretion of the co-chairs.

The Commission may appoint members to serve on other sub-committees as required. Reports on the activities and findings of these sub-committees must be circulated to all Commission members with formal presentations made to the full Commission as requested by the co-Chairs.

6. MEMBERS OF THE BELIZE-GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA-BELIZE SPORTS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION

For Guatemala:

Co-Chairperson:	ELVIZ YOSARI CAMPOS PEREZ
Member:	GUSTAVO REYNOSO
Member:	LUIS SALVADOR REYES
Member:	VICTOR HUGO CRUZ HERRERA
Member:	OLIVER AMERICO ROSADO
Member:	EDWIN ESTUARDO CHI
Member:	REBECA MARIELA GARCIA
Member:	MINRON DANILO ARRIAZA MARTINEZ

For Belize:

Co-Chairperson:	HUGH STAINE
Member:	DEON SUTHERLAND
Member:	WENDY CASTILLO
Member:	FRANCISCO TUN
Member:	JOSE TEUL
Member:	KENT GABOUREL

Member: MARVIN OTTLEY
Member: HERSON GUERRA

7. CONCLUSION

The endorsement and implementation of the Belize-Guatemala, Guatemala-Belize Sports, Recreation and Culture Commission by both Governments will be of great educational, cultural and political benefit, thereby promoting an overall improvement at national, regional and international levels as regards sports.

Signed on Behalf of the Government of Belize by:

Signed on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Guatemala by:

Place and Date: _____