

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2009 7:15 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Guaymuras Update

From: Shannon, Thomas A
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Abedin, Huma; Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Fri Oct 30 19:04:36 2009
Subject: Fw: Guaymuras Update

See below. Agreement signed and sent to Honduran Congress. Lots will happen next week. The Hondurans are moving at a very fast pace. This is a good omen.

From: Llorens, Hugo
To: Aquilera, Patricia; Amselem, W Lewis; Brands, William R; Cue, Lourdes C; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] drestrepo
Eugene Gray ([REDACTED]); Gonzalez, Francisco J; Gonzalez, Juan S; Henshaw, Simon;
Jacobson, Roberta S; Kelly, Craig A; Otero, Maria; Papp, Andrew W; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; SES-O; Shannon, Thomas A; Webster, Christopher W; Williams, Bisa
Cc: Task Force Honduras
Sent: Fri Oct 30 17:52:44 2009
Subject: Guaymuras Update

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Tegucigalpa/San Jose Accord: Both delegations reached agreement this morning on the text of the preamble to the "Tegucigalpa/San Jose Accord." They also reached agreement on Article 8 (Final Dispositions), the calendar of implementation of the Accord (Article 9), as well a final declaration (Article 10). Both delegations also prepared a new Article (11) giving thanks and special mention for their support to the U.S. (President Obama and Secretary Clinton), the OAS and President Arias. Both delegations signed the Tegucigalpa/San Jose Accord about mid-day today. As per its terms, the Accord is effective the moment it is signed. Both delegations also submitted a copy of the Accord to the National Congress about 2 PM this afternoon. The two sides plan to continue working this weekend with support from OAS staff re selecting the four member (2 Honduran and 2 international) Verification Commission. Both delegations expressed a strong preference for nominating Colin Powell (improbable due to his heavy travel schedule). Other names being considered include President Lagos of Chile, Sanguinetti of Uruguay, Governor Bill Richardson and Senator Mel Martinez. The Accord calls for the Verification Commission to be created by November 2. We understand that OAS Secretary General Insulza plans to arrive in Tegucigalpa on Sunday, November 1. The OAS is helping to organize a public ceremony commemorating the Accord on the morning of November 2. Both sides and the OAS plan to invite regional heads of state and foreign ministers. We expect President Arias and other Central American heads of state to attend the ceremony. We've heard that Z and M are already in contact, through intermediaries, with the objective of creating a government of national unity. Under the terms of the Accord, the new government must be formed between the signing of the Accord (today) and NLT November 5.

While the current calendar of implementation appears to be going well, we expect Congressional approval of Article 6 to be complicated. While the presidential candidates support the Accord, there is concern within the parties about the timing of its implementation, particularly on the eve of the election. We will continue to reach out to political leaders and all sides and encourage them to support the expeditious implementation of the Accord.

Diplomatic Front: We've heard that the regime Foreign Ministry is inviting Ambassadors back into the country. The Swedish Ambassador, who is resident in Guatemala, is here on a visit and plans to attend the Accord ceremony on November 2. We are also expecting the Spanish Ambassador, Ignacio Ruperez, to arrive this weekend. OAS PODIR Victor Rico told us that he plans to return to DC tomorrow, but will come back later next week.

Elections: The Swedish Ambassador told me she will be meeting with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and discuss the renewed Swedish elections assistance. We also understand that the Japanese are planning to move forward with support for the elections process. Finally, the UN pulled back plans to withdraw its elections technical assistance team. Most eyes, however, are on the OAS and specifically what the Permanent Council will do about sending an elections observer mission.

Hugo Llorens
Ambassador
U.S. Embassy Tegucigalpa, Honduras
504 236-9320 ext. 4268