

## UNGA Resolution 32/32 (XXXII) of 1977

The General Assembly,

...

Reaffirming the principles established in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, set out in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in particular that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Noting that, in the Bogota Declaration of 6 August 1977, it was agreed that "a solution of the Belize question should be found by the peaceful methods consecrated in the charters of the Organization of American States and the United Nations, and in accordance with respect for its territorial integrity and with the principle of the free self-determination of peoples,"

Noting that, in July 1977, negotiations took place between the Government of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 31/50,

Deeply regretting the interruption of the negotiations and the continued failure of the parties concerned to negotiate an agreement in conformity with the principles established in resolutions 3432 (XXX) and 31/50,

Concerned that the obstacles placed in the way of the people of Belize to prevent them from exercising their right to self-determination and independence without fear have not yet been removed,

Convinced that the people of Belize should be assisted in a practical manner to exercise freely and without fear their inalienable right to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination and independence;

2. Reaffirms that the inviolability and territorial integrity of Belize must be preserved;

3. Calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, acting in close consultation with the Government of Belize, and the Government of Guatemala to pursue vigorously their negotiations in strict conformity with the principles of General Assembly resolution 3432 (XXX), in consultation as appropriate with other especially interested States in the area, with a view to concluding the negotiations before the thirty-third session of the General Assembly;

4. Also calls upon the parties involved to refrain from any threats or use of force against the people of Belize or their territory;

5. Urges all States to respect the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity, and to render all practical assistance necessary for the secure and early exercise of that right;

6. Requests the Governments concerned to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the outcome of the negotiations referred to above;

7. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to remain

seized of the question and to assist the people of Belize in the exercise of their inalienable rights.

(81<sup>st</sup> Plenary meeting, 13 December 1978)

(Lauterpacht, *et al*, *Legal Opinion on Guatemala's Territorial Claim to Belize*, Appendix I, No. 21, pp. 77-79)