

## ANNEX A

### **PROTOCOL FOR THE REMOVAL OF SETTLEMENTS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 6 (A) (i) AND (ii) OF THE CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES AGREEMENT SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> 2000**

This protocol is prepared in compliance with the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures signed in Washington, D.C. on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2000 by H.E Assad Shoman, Senior Ambassador with Ministerial Rank, for Belize, and H.E. Gabriel Orellana Rojas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, and witnessed by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Dr. Cesar Gaviria.

Standing instructions to provide for joint on-site verification of farming/settlements described in Paragraph 6 (A) (i) and (ii) of the Confidence Building Measures Agreement signed on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2000 prior to removal.

Execution of activities by sequence:

**Stage I** Settlers/settlements shall be reported, in the case of Belize, to the Ministry of National Security, and in the case of Guatemala to the Ministerio de Gobernacion, by the finding agency.

**Stage II** The respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall proceed to notify the Embassy of the other State and shall request joint verification. The Facilitators and the Secretary General of the OAS shall also be notified. The Ministry shall provide a written report of the situation to the Ambassador or to the Chargé d'Affaires and to the Facilitators and the Secretary General of the OAS.

**Stage III** Joint on-site verification shall occur within 72 hours of notification and shall be coordinated by the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Embassies. The Human Rights Commissioner of Belize and the Procurador de Derechos Humanos of Guatemala or their duly appointed representatives will also be invited to participate in the joint verification exercise. Any discrepancy in the findings of such an exercise shall be referred to the Facilitators for determination.

Verification shall be joint, save and except that where either State Party does not participate in a requested verification exercise, the other party may proceed to carry out the verification exercise in accordance with paragraph 6 (c) of the Agreement.

The exact location and the status of cultivation and/or settlements will be established by the verification team.

#### **Stage IV**

- (a) The authorities engaged in the process of removal will be fluent in English, Spanish and Maya Kekchi and Maya Mopan, and shall act in strict respect for the human rights of the settlers. The Human Rights Commissioner of Belize and the Procurador de Derechos Humanos of Guatemala or their duly appointed representatives will also be invited to observe the removal exercise.
  
- (b) Removal of the settlers shall begin within 72 hours of on-site verification. Where in exceptional circumstances this might not be possible, the competent authorities of the two sides shall consult urgently. A longer time period may be agreed on for the removal premised on each party's good faith, and recognizing always that time is of the essence. Provided that if consultation fails to produce agreement, removal shall occur within 72 hours unless the matter is referred to the Facilitators, who shall make a recommendation as a matter of urgency, for the carrying out of the action; with the Parties complying in good faith. Provided further that if difficulties arise in carrying out the removal the matter will be referred to the Facilitators, who shall make a recommendation, as a matter of urgency, for the carrying out of the action; with the Parties complying in good faith.