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United States of America

Organization of American States

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April 4, 2012

His Excellency
Sir Arthur Foulkes
Governor-General
Government House
Nassau, Bahamas

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 3rd, 2012 in which the Government of The Bahamas requests the Organization of American States (OAS) observe the General Elections that are due to be held in May of 2012.

Through its observation and technical assistance efforts, the OAS remains committed to strengthening electoral processes in the Americas. I am pleased to respond positively to this request and honored to deploy the first ever OAS electoral observation mission to The Commonwealth of the Bahamas. The request is also significant as it comes during the 50th anniversary year of the OAS conducting electoral observations missions.

I have instructed the Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) of the OAS Secretariat of Political Affairs to prepare a proposal and budget that contemplates the observation of the different facets of this important exercise and maximizes coverage of the polling stations on the date of the elections. As is customary, the size and scope of this mission will ultimately depend on the voluntary contributions received from the OAS Member and Observer States.

Should the Parliamentary Registration Department have any questions regarding the preparation of this mission, it should not hesitate to contact Ms. Ana Maria Diaz, DECO Specialist, who has been tasked with preparation of this mission.

Sincerely,

José Miguel Insulza
Secretary General