

SPECIAL DECLARATION 19: ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE AGREEMENTS IN GUATEMALA

The Governments of the Latin America and Caribbean, gathered in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on the occasion of the Fifth Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), note with satisfaction the 20th Anniversary of the Signature of the Guatemalan Agreements of Firm and Lasting Peace; and since then the Republic of Guatemala:

1. Has silenced the weapons that fed the fire of the armed conflict,
2. Made notable progress in respect of human rights,
3. Strengthened of the democratic system,
4. used of dialogue in conflict resolution, and
5. Has continued struggle to combat racism and discrimination,
6. Is convinced that peace, democracy, solidarity and respect for human rights are consubstantial and indispensable for the common good.

For this reason, and on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Signing of the Agreements of Firm and Lasting Peace on December 29, 2016, we commend the people and Government of the Republic of Guatemala, likewise, we recognize the support of the United Nations and the Group of Friends of Peace in Guatemala given to its negotiation, which ended the 36 years of internal armed conflict.

We also urge the people and Government of Guatemala to continue making efforts to comply with commitments contained in the Peace Accords, to achieve sustainable development that facilitates the full existence of a State of Law and provides prosperity for the people of Guatemala, and the support of the member countries of CELAC to achieve it.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, January 25, 2017.