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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS
TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
AND PEACE INITIATIVES
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-
NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES
BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Letter dated 12 August 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Panama to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the information bulletin issued by the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group on 9 August 1985, at the conclusion of their visit to the five countries of Central America (see annex).

I request you, Sir, to circulate this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under items 21, 72, 84, 132 and 133 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) David SAMUDIO, Jr.
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/40/150.

ANNEX

Information bulletin issued by the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group at the conclusion of their visit to the five countries of Central America

(Panama City, 9 August 1985)

The Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group, Guillermo Fernández de Soto of Colombia, Ricardo Valero of Mexico, José María Cabrera of Panama and Germán Nava Carrillo of Venezuela, made a working visit to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador during the period between 3 and 8 August 1985. Prior to that time, they had met at Panama City on 1 and 2 August 1985 with a view to carrying out the appropriate preparatory work.

The visit was carried out in fulfilment of the agreements made by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group as a result of the meeting they held on 21 and 22 July 1985. On that occasion it was decided that the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs should seek out the views and comments of the Central American Governments in connection with pending matters relating to the Contadora Act for Peace and Co-operation in Central America, specifically those concerning the chapter on security, and other subsidiary arrangements, with a view to completing the final formulation of the Act and thereby making possible the early signature of that political and legal instrument.

Among the joint actions included by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group in their communiqué of 22 July, they invited the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua to initiate, at Panama City, during the early days of the month of August, talks aimed at finding effective and lasting solutions for the tensions in the frontier region between the two countries, within the framework of the Contadora negotiations, which also agreed with the resolution unanimously adopted by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States at its meeting of 11 July 1985.

Throughout their travels in the Central American area, the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs emphasized that the agreements of the Contadora Group constitute an integral solution to the aggravation of the regional situation, and accordingly, they pointed to the need for adopting specific measures designed to promote détente. They also expressed the view that those measures not only were valuable in themselves but also produced a favourable framework for continuing the peace-making process.

The action of the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs was carried out through prolonged working meetings at each of the Central American Ministries of Foreign Affairs. They also had an opportunity to exchange views with the highest authorities of the Central American countries.

The visit to the five Central American countries made it possible to gain a precise understanding of the present regional situation. At the same time, in most cases, they gathered valuable comments and opinions useful for their efforts at diplomatic harmonization. It was made clear once again how valuable and important dialogue is as an effective means for understanding and negotiation, which the Contadora Group has always promoted for the purpose of finding solutions that would guarantee the fundamental and legitimate interests of the five Central American countries. The growing manifestations of support and solidarity on the part of the Latin American community of nations constitute a favourable framework for détente in Central America and stimulate the process in favour of peace and co-operation in the region, to which the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela have committed their will and their actions in this fraternal atmosphere.

The Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs expressed their conviction that their action would help to create conditions for continuing the negotiations on regional agreement, as well as the promotion of stable and lasting solutions to the disputes and conflicts which have conspicuously and dangerously separated neighbouring countries in recent times.

Upon returning to their countries, they will immediately inform their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs concerning the results of their action, in order to determine further activities aimed at attaining the objectives fixed by the Contadora Group.
