

**REFLEXIONES**

**JULIO**

**2014**

**LA COMUNIDAD DEL  
CARIBE (CARICOM)  
Y LA  
GUAYANA  
ESEQUIBA**

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## INTRODUCCION.

En el Comunicado firmado a la conclusión de la XXXV Reunión de Jefes de Gobierno de la Comunidad del Caribe (CARICOM), realizada del 01-04JULIO2014, en Dickenson Bay, Antigua-Barbuda se expresa:

### ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS.

#### Guyana-Venezuela.

*Los Jefes de Gobierno reiteraron su firme apoyo por la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana, y por el libre desarrollo económico y social de toda Guyana. Ellos expresaron su esperanza por una pronta resolución de la controversia que se suscitó como resultado de la contención de Venezuela de que el Laudo Arbitral de 1899, que definitivamente estableció la frontera entre los dos países, es nulo e irritó.*

*Los Jefes de Gobierno también expresaron su interés sobre la falta de progreso hacia la consideración de opciones, en el contexto del derecho internacional, en la delimitación de la frontera marítima entre Guyana y Venezuela, como acordaron los cancilleres en su reunión del 17OCT2013. Ellos instaron a las dos Partes a llevar a cabo negociaciones con mayor conveniencia hacia la conclusión de un acuerdo de delimitación marítima.*

Resulta importante analizar el comportamiento de la CARICOM y el derecho internacional,<sup>1</sup> mediante análisis de sus comunicados conjuntos o la manifestación individual de cada país ante la controversia fronteriza entre Venezuela y Guyana.

La CARICOM actualmente esta conformada por 15 países (*Antigua-Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belice, Dominica, Granada, Guyana, Haití, Jamaica, Montserrat, San Cristóbal-Nieves, Santa Lucía, San Vicente-Las Granadinas, Surinam y Trinidad-Tobago*). Se observa que **Haití es de origen francés, Surinam es de origen holandés y Montserrat todavía es una colonia del Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte.** El origen de la CARICOM se remonta al año 1958<sup>2</sup>, cuando todos los países del Caribe Oriental eran colonias británicas, con excepción de *Guadalupe y Martinica*, que eran y continúan siendo Departamentos de la República Francesa, desde el 19MAR1946.

La Federación de Indias Occidentales, antecedente de la CARICOM, fue establecida el 03ENE1958 (*Antigua-Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Granada, Jamaica, Montserrat, San Cristóbal-Nieves, Anguilla, Santa Lucía, San Vicente-Las Granadillas y Trinidad-Tobago*). El 15DIC1965 se funda la Asociación Caribeña de Libre Comercio (CARIFTA) con *Antigua-Barbuda, Barbados y Guayana Británica*; el 01JULIO1968 se incorporan *Dominica, Granada, San Cristóbal-Nieves, Anguilla, Santa Lucía, San Vicente-Las Granadinas, Jamaica y Montserrat*. En la V Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de los Países de la Comunidad Británica del Caribe (*incluyendo a Guyana*), realizada en Puerto España, Trinidad/Tobago (3-6FEB1969), por primera vez, después del 17FEB1966, una Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno expresa:

- Preocupación por las amenazas sobre la integridad territorial de Guyana.
- La situación constituye un serio peligro a la paz del área.

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<sup>1</sup> Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Destecho del Mar 1982, Artículo 2, parágrafo 3: La soberanía sobre el mar territorial se ejerce con arreglo a esta Convención y **otras normas de derecho internacional.**

<sup>2</sup> La Integración en el Hemisferio Americano, 1948-2014, Compilación de Elías R. Daniels H.

- Compromiso para asegurar un arreglo de la controversia de acuerdo con los procedimientos acordados.

Luego de la incorporación de *Belice* en 1971, la Comunidad Británica del Caribe evoluciona el 04JUL1973 a Comunidad del Caribe CARICOM, mediante el Tratado de Chaguaramas, firmado en Puerto España, Trinidad. A partir de esa fecha, las reuniones de los Jefes de Gobierno se denominan Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno de la Comunidad del Caribe CARICOM.

Después de FEB1969, no se registran pronunciamientos oficiales de la CARICOM hasta la Tercera Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno, realizada en Ocho Ríos, Jamaica entre el 16 y el 18NOV1982, cuando se inicia el desarrollo de la referencia a la Reclamación Esequiba<sup>3</sup>, hasta nuestros días.

Para analizar el desempeño de la CARICOM en la Reclamación Esequiba, debemos tomar en cuenta que en el sistema de las relaciones internacionales, los **documentos** (*tratados, convenios, acuerdos, memorándum de entendimiento, comunicados, declaraciones oficiales etc.*) promulgados por los Estados ocupan el mayor grado de compromiso. Asimismo, los documentos o declaraciones conjuntas tienen prelación y obligan a los Estados, en relación a cualquier acción unilateral de los Estados.

Es conveniente aclarar que cuando los Estados interactúan en la Comunidad Internacional, según el Derecho Consuetudinario, los funcionarios públicos autorizados, al ejecutar actos que comprometen al Gobierno o al Estado, son tomados en cuenta como sujetos del Derecho Internacional Público y tienen consecuencias para las relaciones internacionales, según un orden prioritario, donde al Jefe de Estado, a los cancilleres y a los Jefes de Misiones Diplomáticas; les corresponden desempeñar, en orden prioritario, las máximas actividades de compromiso. Asimismo, las visitas y declaraciones oficiales reciben una valoración, según el rango del funcionario, y las circunstancias en la cual tienen lugar.

En base a lo anterior, es necesario describir la prioridad de las actuaciones de la CARICOM en el sistema de relaciones internacionales<sup>4</sup>. En primer lugar está la Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno y en segundo lugar el Consejo de Ministros de la Comunidad<sup>5</sup>.

Después de establecida la CARICOM (1973), hasta el año 2014, se han realizado 25 reuniones Inter sesionales de Jefes de Gobierno, las cuales se iniciaron en 1990, y donde pueden tratar o no la Reclamación Esequiba. Han tenido lugar 35 reuniones ordinarias en Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno, las cuales, después de 1998, en sus actuaciones respecto a la Reclamación Esequiba, toman en cuenta las consideraciones sobre la coordinación de la política exterior de la Comunidad CARICOM que se desarrolla mediante un análisis previo a la reunión de los Jefes de Gobierno, y la cual normalmente convoca a los cancilleres (Consejo de Relaciones Exteriores de la Comunidad COFCOR) para discutir los temas que serán presentados a la consideración de la

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.caricom.org/jsp/communications/communiques/> Consultada: 10JULIO2014

<sup>4</sup> Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community Including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, 2001, Artículo 10.

<sup>5</sup> Ídem, Artículo 10, parágrafo 1

Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno, la cual se reúne alrededor del 04JULIO o de forma extraordinaria, cuando las circunstancias lo requieran.

Durante la investigación se lograron compilar los comunicados emitidos por la CARICOM relacionados con la Reclamación Esequiba, para que los estudiosos puedan profundizar sobre el análisis de este Ensayo. El cual se anexa como ANEXO ALFA, al final de este ensayo.

Al revisar el ANEXO ALFA nos damos cuenta que las Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno convocadas en reuniones Inter sesionales, no se refirieron a la Reclamación Esequiba, hasta el año 1993, y luego no consideraron el tema durante las reuniones de los años 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2005 y 2006. También nos percatamos de que a partir del 15JUL1971 hasta el 09NOV2004, se han realizado otras 10 reuniones especiales de las Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno, y la séptima de esas reuniones efectuada el 16ABR1999, tuvo lugar en la República Dominicana. Asimismo, de esas 10 reuniones especiales, solamente la realizada entre 26 y 27OCT1999 abordó el tema de la Reclamación Esequiba.

Consideramos que ha transcurrido suficiente tiempo, desde 1966 (48 años); casi medio siglo de que la controversia Esequiba se rige por el Acuerdo de Ginebra. Siendo oportuna la sinceración de la Reclamación Territorial del Esequibo, es necesaria la realización de distintos tipos de foro para discutir el escenario actual 2014, con participación de estudiosos del tema o con responsabilidad. En tal sentido, la Asamblea Nacional, El Ejecutivo Nacional, las Academias, las Universidades, los Gremios, los Partidos Políticos; en resumen todos los venezolanos, deben participar en estos foros, puesto que, al fin y al cabo, esta decisión debe ser sometida a Referendo Popular, como lo establece la Constitución Nacional<sup>6</sup>. Pero eso si, **todas las personas que participen, además de estar calificadas, deben tener fundamentos para argumentar, y no argumentar para buscar fundamentos.**

En esta oportunidad y para estimular el necesario debate, se presenta la presente REFLEXION, la **Comunidad del Caribe CARICOM y la Reclamación Esequiba**; estructurada en:

- **INTRODUCCION.-**

- I. LOS PAÍSES MIEMBROS DE LA CARICOM.**

- II. LOS COMUNICADOS DE LA CARICOM.**

- III. CONCLUSIONES.**

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<sup>6</sup> Constitución Nacional 1999, Artículos 71, 73 y 74

## I.- LOS PAISES MIEMBROS DE LA CARICOM.

Es necesario tomar en cuenta que la solidaridad expresada por los países de la CARICOM, en la expresión comunitaria, varía según el comportamiento de la relación unilateral con Venezuela; especialmente la de aquellos países que también son miembros del **mecanismo de integración ALBA-TCP** (*Antigua-Barbuda, Dominica, San Vicente-Las Granadinas y Santa Lucía*); del **Acuerdo de Cooperación Energética Petrocaribe** (*Antigua-Barbuda, Bahamas, Belice, Cuba, Dominica, Granada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, República Dominicana, San Cristóbal-Nieves, San Vicente-Las Granadinas, Santa Lucía y Surinam*) o el **Tratado de Seguridad Energética Petrocaribe** firmado en Caracas el 11AGO2007. (*Belice, Cuba, Dominica, Haití, Jamaica, Granada, San Vicente-Las Granadinas, Nicaragua y Surinam*). Ver tabla anexa sobre las Iniciativas Geopolíticas en el Caribe.

En el año 1997, *San Cristóbal-Nieves, Antigua-Barbuda, Santa Lucía, San Vicente-Las Granadinas* enviaron comunicación particular al Secretario General de la ONU cuestionando el status concedido Isla de Aves por los Estados Unidos de América, el Reino de los Países Bajos y la República Francesa; acción que fue reiterada por *San Cristóbal-Nieves* en el año 2001. Asimismo, los miembros de la CARICOM, *Antigua-Barbuda, Dominica*<sup>7</sup>, *Granada, San Cristóbal-Nieves, San Vicente-Las Granadinas, Santa Lucía y Montserrat* actuando en el contexto de la Organización de los Estados del Caribe Oriental (OECS); durante las 39<sup>a</sup>, 40<sup>a</sup>, 41<sup>a</sup> y 42<sup>a</sup> reuniones hicieron pronunciamientos contra la soberanía y jurisdicción de Isla de Aves.

Especial atención merecen los impactos geopolíticos que tienen los diferentes compromisos unilaterales adquiridos por cada país, y que pueden condicionar el comportamiento de esos países. Todo ello repercutiría en la redacción de los párrafos correspondientes a los temas relacionados con la Reclamación Esequiba. En particular los pronunciamientos de algunos países miembros de la OECS y de la CARICOM con respecto a la soberanía de Isla de Aves, o con respecto a otros temas que dificultan el consenso para la redacción del documento que expresa la posición oficial de la CARICOM.

Si bien, los temas de la Reclamación Esequiba y del status concedido a Isla de Aves por el Reino de los Países Bajos (1978), de los Estados Unidos de América (1978) y de la República Francesa (1980) han ocasionado divergencias entre los países miembros de la CARICOM y Venezuela; también es cierto que los programas de cooperación desarrollados por Venezuela, como el caso de Petrocaribe, han tenido un impacto positivo en las relaciones multilaterales y bilaterales. Sin embargo, resulta importante tener en cuenta que los dos temas tienen un impacto distinto en cada país, según sea su relación con los espacios geográficos patrimoniales de esos países. Isla de Aves para

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<sup>7</sup> Es conveniente recordar que en la Gaceta Oficial de Dominica del 17DIC2004 está publicado: “.....**Mediante la presente se le informa al público que la soberanía de Isla de Aves, ubicada al Oeste de Guadalupe y Dominica, ha sido reclamada por el Gobierno de Venezuela, petición que ha sido reconocida por el Gobierno de Su Majestad.**”

San Cristóbal-Nieves o Guyana para San Cristóbal-Nieves no tienen el mismo significado; pero la solidaridad que caracteriza las relaciones exteriores de los diferentes países en la Comunidad Internacional o Caribeña en particular, como características de la mundología actual, predispone y modera la conducta de estos países, y especialmente los de la CARICOM, donde la base cultural británica es preponderante.

Por esta razón presentamos a continuación la Tabla de **Iniciativas Geopolíticas en el Caribe** para que puedan ser sopesadas en los párrafos que expresan el consenso logrado en las reuniones, y posteriormente recogidos en los comunicados correspondientes.

### **Iniciativas Geopolíticas en el Caribe.**

<b>AEC</b>	<b>CARICOM</b>	<b>OECD</b>	<b>PETROCARIBE</b>	<b>TRATADO DE SEGURIDAD ENERGÉTICA PETROCARIBE</b>	<b>ALBA TCP</b>
Antigua Y Barbuda	Antigua y Barbuda	Antigua y Barbuda	Antigua y Barbuda		Antigua y Barbuda
Bahamas	Bahamas		Bahamas		
Barbados	Barbados				
Belice	Belice		Belice	Belice	
					Bolivia
Cuba			Cuba	Cuba	Cuba
Dominica	Dominica	Dominica	Dominica	Dominica	Dominica
					Ecuador
			Guatemala		
Granada	Granada	Granada	Granada	Granada	
Guyana	Guyana		Guyana		
			Honduras		
Jamaica	Jamaica		Jamaica	Jamaica	
Rep. Dominicana			Rep. Dominicana		
San Cristóbal y Nieves	San Cristóbal y Nieves	San Cristóbal y Nieves	San Cristóbal y Nieves		
Santa Lucía	Santa Lucía	Santa Lucía	Santa Lucía		Santa Lucía
San Vicente-Granadinas	San Vicente- Las Granadinas	San Vicente-Las Granadinas	San Vicente-Las Granadinas	San Vicente –Las Granadinas	San Vicente –Las Granadinas
Surinam	Surinam		Surinam	Surinam	
Haití	Haití		Haití	Haití	
Nicaragua			Nicaragua	Nicaragua	Nicaragua
Trinidad y Tobago	Trinidad y Tobago				
Venezuela			Venezuela	Venezuela	Venezuela
	Montserrat	Montserrat			
		Anguila			

A continuación procedemos a considerar algunas actuaciones de los países de la CARICOM, mediante actuaciones oficiales relacionadas con la Reclamación Esequiba.

## **BARBADOS.**

El 02DIC2003 firmó con Guyana un Acuerdo de Cooperación en el solapamiento de las zonas económicas exclusivas. Acto inamistoso, por cuanto trata de ignorar el Tratado de Delimitación Marítima suscrito el 18ABR1990, entre Venezuela y Trinidad-Tobago. Venezuela no puede aceptar la vecindad marítima entre Barbados y Guyana, que obvie los derechos de jurisdicción marítima de Trinidad-Tobago y de Venezuela que se les oponen. Además, debemos tener en cuenta de que el Laudo del Tribunal del Mar del 11ABR2006, que estableció la frontera marítima entre Barbados y Trinidad-Tobago, solamente otorgó derechos de soberanía a Barbados hasta el punto 11<sup>8</sup>; cualquier acto de reclamación sobre soberanía fuera de esos espacios geográficos marítimos, constituye un acto nulo y que debe ser consensuado entre los países con soberanía geográfica en el área.

En el año 2007, el Gobierno de Barbados<sup>9</sup> ofreció en licencia de exploración los bloques Ad-I y Ad-II Bottom Bay de 2027 Km2 que están ubicados en la plataforma continental de las aguas marítimas jurisdiccionales de Venezuela, reconocidas en el Tratado de Delimitación Marítima del 18ABRIL1990, registrado de acuerdo al Artículo 102 de la Carta de la ONU, en el archivo de tratados de la Secretaría General de la ONU, página 170, inglés/español, Registro 128463, Volumen 1654<sup>10</sup>. Un acto unilateral de Barbados abrogándose jurisdicción sobre un área que no le corresponde.

El 08MAY2008, Barbados tramita ante la Comisión de Límites de la Plataforma Continental de la ONU<sup>11</sup>, una solicitud para extender el límite exterior de su plataforma continental, mas allá de las 200 millas náuticas, acción que afecta los derechos de soberanía y jurisdicción de Venezuela en la Fachada Atlántica. En el mismo documento, Barbados reconoce que consultó a los gobiernos de Surinam, Guyana y la República Francesa; obviando la consulta necesaria con los gobiernos de Trinidad-Tobago y Venezuela; consulta necesaria debido a que tal solicitud producirá un solapamiento en las prolongaciones de las plataformas continentales extendidas.

## **TRINIDAD Y TOBAGO.**

El 18ABR1990 el Gobierno de Trinidad y Tobago firmó con el Gobierno de Venezuela, el Tratado de Delimitación de Áreas Marinas y Submarinas<sup>12</sup>, hasta el punto 22 *"...el cual está ubicado aproximadamente en el borde exterior del margen continental que delimita las áreas de jurisdicción nacional de la República de Venezuela y las de la República de Trinidad y Tobago con la Zona Internacional de los Fondos Marinos que es Patrimonio Común de la Humanidad..."*. El 20MAR2007 el Gobierno de Trinidad-Tobago firmó con el Gobierno de Venezuela el Tratado Marco sobre la Unificación de Yacimientos de Hidrocarburos que se extiende a través de la línea de delimitación entre la República Bolivariana de Venezuela y la República de Trinidad y Tobago<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> WEBSITE de la Corte Permanente de Arbitraje [www.pca-cpa.org](http://www.pca-cpa.org)

<sup>9</sup> Government of Barbados Offshore Licensing Round 2007, [www.energy.gov.bb/web/component.....](http://www.energy.gov.bb/web/component.....)

<sup>10</sup> WEBSITE de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas, [www.onu.org/](http://www.onu.org/)

<sup>11</sup> Boletín Ocean and Laws of the Sea, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, 08MAY2008.

<sup>12</sup> G.O. Número 34752 del 10JUL1991

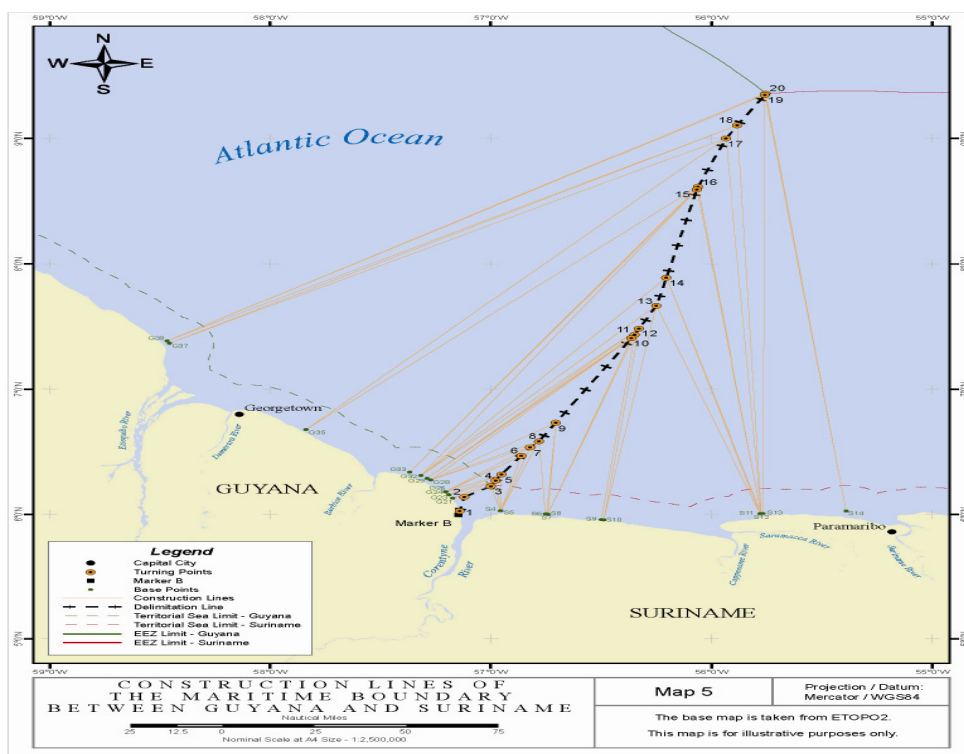
<sup>13</sup> G.O. Número 39104 del 22ENE2009.

## SURINAM.

Al igual que Guyana, geográficamente, Surinam no es ribereño del Mar Caribe, su consideración para ser miembro de la CARICOM es de carácter geopolítico. Surinam es miembro de la CARICOM desde el 04JUL1995 y además, es miembro signatario del tratado constitutivo UNASUR (23MAY2008). Sus relaciones mas importantes son con el Reino de los Países Bajos. A pesar de no tener relaciones de vecindad con Venezuela, tiene vínculos geopolíticos por mantener ambos países, controversias territoriales con Guyana; la controversia territorial con Guyana es por la soberanía del triángulo del New River; además de que sus aspiraciones para la plataforma continental extendida producen solapamiento que deben ser concertadas con los países vecinos en el área.

Es muy importante señalar que en el Laudo del Tribunal del Mar del 17SEP2007, en el Capítulo III, Aparte C, The rol of Coastal Geography, Artículo 224<sup>14</sup>, registra que en las deliberaciones se consideró para la construcción de la línea de equidistancia, el apoyo de la línea base en Devonshire Castle Flats; lo cual fue objetada por Surinam, al considerar que Devonshire Castle Flats esta ubicado en la controvertida costa occidental del Río Esequibo. Esta protesta surinamés no prosperó, cuando Guyana alegó que Surinam al ser parte de la CARICOM, había firmado los comunicados de la CARICOM reconociendo la soberanía guyanesa sobre la Zona en Reclamación. De esta manera, Devonshire Castle Flats fue seleccionado por el Tribunal del Mar como base referencial de los punto 18, 19 y 20; para la construcción de la línea de equidistancia, mas allá del mar territorial. Ver gráfico a continuación.

### CONSTRUCCION DE LA LINEA DE EQUIDISTANCIA



<sup>14</sup> WEBSITE de la Corte Permanente de Arbitraje [www.pca-cpa.org](http://www.pca-cpa.org)



## II.- LOS COMUNICADOS DE LA CARICOM.

Los comunicados emitidos por la CARICOM, relacionados con la Reclamación Esequiba, están registrados en la página Web de la Secretaría de la CARICOM (CARICOM Secretariat)<sup>15</sup>. Los cuales han sido compilados por el suscrito en el ANEXO ALFA que se presenta a continuación de este ensayo, para facilitar las consultas, investigaciones y/o comprobación de lo expuesto en este Trabajo.

Hay varias formas de analizar las diferentes posiciones oficiales asumidas por la CARICOM; pero en este Trabajo, las consideraremos según los períodos presidenciales venezolanos: **1964-1969**, 1969-1974, **1974-1979**, 1979-1984, **1984-1989**, 1989-1994, **1994-1999** y 1999-2014.

**1964-1969.-** De 1966 a 1969 no hubo pronunciamientos. De 1966-1970 estuvo reuniéndose la Comisión Mixta prevista en el Acuerdo de Ginebra del 17FEB 1966.

**1969-1974.-** En el comunicado de la 5ª Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de la Comunidad Británica de Países Caribeños realizada en Puerto España, Trinidad-Tobago del 03-06FEB1969 se expresa:

- Preocupación por amenaza a la integridad territorial de Guyana y un serio peligro para la paz de la región.
- Hacer lo posible para que la controversia sea resuelta pacíficamente de acuerdo a los procedimientos acordados.
- El 18JUN1970 se firma el Protocolo de Puerto España, que según el Artículo III<sup>16</sup>, suspende el funcionamiento del Artículo IV del Acuerdo de Ginebra de 1966. En el año 1972, durante la séptima Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de los Países de la Británica Caribeña se decide transformar la integración económica de CARIFTA por el establecimiento de un mercado común CARICOM. El 04JUL1973 *Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica y Trinidad-Tobago* firman el Tratado de Chaguaramas CARICOM.

**1974-1979.-** El 01MAY1974 *Belice, Dominica, Granada, Santa Lucía, San Vicente-Las Granadinas y Montserrat* ingresan a la CARICOM; el 04JUL1974 ingresa *Antigua y Barbuda*; y el 26JUL1974 lo hace *San Cristóbal-Nieves*. En los comunicados oficiales de la CARICOM no hubo referencia a la controversia Esequiba.

**1979-1984.-** El 04ABR1981, el Gobierno venezolano ratifica la Reclamación Territorial, rechaza el Proyecto Hidroeléctrico del Alto Mazzaruni y decide no prorrogar el Protocolo de Puerto España. Durante la Tercera Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de

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<sup>15</sup> [wwcaricom.org](http://wwcaricom.org), consultada el 18JUL2014

<sup>16</sup> “...En la fecha en que este Protocolo deje de tener vigencia, el funcionamiento de dicho Artículo se reanudará en el punto en que ha sido suspendido, es decir, como si el Informe Final de la Comisión Mixta hubiera sido presentado en esa fecha, a menos que el Gobierno de Venezuela y el Gobierno de Guyana hayan antes declarado conjuntamente por escrito que han llegado a un acuerdo completo para la solución de la controversia a la que se refiere el Acuerdo de Ginebra o que han convenido en uno de los medios de arreglo pacífico previstos en el Artículo 33 de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas.”

la CARICOM, Ocho Ríos, Jamaica, 16-18NOV1982; por primera vez y oficialmente la CARICOM se pronuncia:

- Preocupación por la santidad de los tratados para definir y demarcar fronteras.
- Urgen a Guyana y Venezuela para procurar arreglo pacífico de la controversia según el Acuerdo de Ginebra de 1966.

En el comunicado de 1983 expresan esperanza para que la controversia sea rápida y pacíficamente resuelta según lo previsto en el Acuerdo de Ginebra de 1966.

**1984-1989.-** En los comunicados de 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987 y 1988 la CARICOM expresa satisfacción por el desarrollo de las relaciones bilaterales.

**1989-1994.-** En los comunicados de 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992 y 1993 se expresa satisfacción por el desarrollo de las relaciones bilaterales; y a partir del año 1990 los Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM demuestran confianza con el proceso Mc Intyre. A partir de 1991, son registrados los comunicados de las reuniones intersesionesales de las Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM, expresando apoyo a la integridad territorial de Guyana; y en 1992 condenan la Rebelión Militar del 4FEB1992.

**1994-1999.-** En los comunicados de las reuniones intersesionesales de la Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 y 1998 no se refirieron al tema. En 1994 la reunión regular de la conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM expresa satisfacción y obvia el apoyo a la integridad territorial de Guyana. A partir de 1995 retoman el apoyo a la integridad territorial de Guyana y los deseos para una solución pacífica de la controversia. Es de hacer notar que a partir de 1998, se inician los comunicados del Consejo de Ministros COFCOR, los cuales preceden y sirven de base a los comunicados de la reunión regular de las Conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno.

**1999-2004.-** Las conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno muestran satisfacción, apoyo a la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana; y expresan deseos por una solución pacífica de la controversia. Sin embargo, en ocasión de los 100 años del Laudo de 1899, expresaron preocupación por la reiteración venezolana de la Reclamación Territorial y la protesta por el Proyecto Beal Aerospace en el Esequibo. Apoyan Resolución aprobada por la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la Comunidad Caribeña Parlamentaria del 15OCT1999, y la de Commonwealth reunida en Durban Sur África. En el comunicado del 2001, en su apoyo a Guyana incluyen la Zona Marítima; y por primera vez se incluye un párrafo OECS-Venezuela, refiriéndose a Isla de Aves (Bird Island) para apoyar las delimitaciones marítimas pendientes de países del Caribe Oriental con Venezuela. También señalan que el Laudo de 1899 *definitivamente estableció la frontera entre los dos países*. En el comunicado del 2002, en vez de Bird Island comienzan a referirse a Bird Rock.

**2004-2009.-** Expresan satisfacción por el desarrollo de las relaciones bilaterales, confianza en el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios, reiteran apoyo a la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana y a partir del año 2007 desaparece el párrafo referente a Isla de Aves. Demuestran preocupación por la designación de un nuevo representante personal del Secretario General de la ONU.

**2009-2014.-** Preocupación por la designación del representante personal del Secretario General de la ONU y satisfacción por el compromiso de ambos países con el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios. En el comunicado del año 2010 expresan preocupación por

declaración del Presidente de Venezuela sobre la nulidad del Laudo de 1899, reiterando que ese laudo **definitivamente delimitó** el territorio entre Guyana y Venezuela. En el comunicado del año 2012 destacan objeción de Venezuela a la solicitud guyanesa para extender el límite exterior de la plataforma continental, mas allá de las 200 millas náuticas; aspirando que tal objeción no afecten las excepcionalmente buenas relaciones. Péseme por la muerte del Presidente Hugo Chávez Fría y desaparece la referencia al Laudo de 1899. En el comunicado del 2014, destacan incidente del buque Teknik Perdana, la reunión de los cancilleres y la Declaración Conjunta del 17OCT2013.

Para un mejor análisis de la situación actual, a continuación de transcriben los últimos comunicados de la CARICOM emitidos durante los años 2013 y 2014.

#### **ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 24ª CONFERENCIA INTERSESIONAL JEFES DE GOBIERNO DE LA CARICOM, 18-19FEB2013, Puerto Príncipe, Haití.**

*“La Conferencia expresó satisfacción que Guyana y Venezuela continuaron disfrutando excelentes relaciones y estuvieron comprometidas en actividades que ayudan a incrementar el nivel de cooperación entre los dos países.*

*La Conferencia destacó que Guyana y Venezuela permanecieron comprometidas con el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios para ayudarles en la búsqueda por una solución a la controversia que surgió por la contención venezolana de que el Laudo de 1899 que definitivamente delimitó el territorio entre Guyana y Venezuela, es nulo e irritó.-*

La Conferencia reafirmó el inequívoco apoyo de la Comunidad por el mantenimiento y salvaguarda de la soberanía de Guyana e integridad territorial.

#### **El 06MAR2013, Su Excelencia Michel Martelly, el Presidente de Haiti, en nota de condolencia as Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM):**

*“It is with great sadness that I extend my deepest sympathies to the Government and People of Venezuela on the death of the President of the Bolivarian Republic, His Excellency Hugo Chavez. President Chavez opened a new chapter in relations between the countries of CARICOM and Venezuela with his generosity and deep interest in the welfare of the peoples of the Community. His outstretched hand to support our countries during a time of great challenge will never be forgotten, in particular the generous assistance rendered by Venezuela to my country, Haiti, following the earthquake of 2010, as well as to other Member States of the Community.*

*His desire to improve the lives of the less fortunate in his country, the Caribbean and in Latin America was the hallmark of his political life and ensured that his name would be etched in the history of this Region.*

*May the Government and People of Venezuela and the family of Mr. Chavez find solace in the memory of a leader who successfully sought to change the lives of many for the better. I am confident that the inner strength and resilience of the Venezuelan people will ensure that they continue to build the society for which Hugo Chavez strived.”*

#### **ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 16ª REUNION CONSEJO MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y DE LA COMUNIDAD COFCOR 14-15MAY2013, Puerto España, Trinidad y Tobago.**

*“Guyana y Venezuela continúan disfrutando excelentes relaciones conducidas a través de un regular alto nivel de consulta y un vibrante programa de cooperación funcional.*

*Ellos tomaron nota de que ambos países permanecen comprometidos con el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas, bajo el Acuerdo de Ginebra de 1966 y reafirmaron su apoyo por la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana.”*

**ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 34ª CONFERENCIA REGULAR JEFES DE GOBIERNO DEN CARICOM, 3-6JULIO2013 Puerto España, Trinidad y Tobago.**

*“Los Jefes de Gobierno expresaron satisfacción sobre el excelente estado de las relaciones entre Guyana y Venezuela que ha habilitado a los dos países para continuar implementando un vibrante programa de cooperación*

*Los Jefes de Gobierno tomaron nota de que ambos países permanecen comprometidos con el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas bajo el Acuerdo de Ginebra de 1966 y reafirmaron su apoyo a la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana.”*

**ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 25ª CONFERENCE INTERSESIONAL JEFES DE GOBIERNO DEL CARICOM, 10-11MAR2014, Buccament, St. Vicente-Las Granadinas.**

*“Guyana y Venezuela iniciaron diálogo después de la detención, el 10OCT2013, por un buque naval armado, del buque sísmico RV Teknik Perdana contratado por Anadarko que efectuaba levantamiento sísmico en el subsuelo de la zona económica de Guyana.*

*Los cancilleres reunidos en Puerto España, Trinidad-Tobago, el 17OCT2013 acordaron explorar mecanismos en el contexto del Derecho Internacional, para abordar el tema de la delimitación marítima y que sus equipos técnicos se reúnan en un período de 4 meses para intercambiar puntos de vista. El Gobierno de Venezuela solicitó posponer la reunión técnica debido a la situación política interna.. Los Jefes de Gobierno expresaron esperanza para que no se pierda el momento para la delimitación marítima.*

*Después del incidente, Guyana y Venezuela continuaron manteniendo estables y satisfactorias relaciones.*

*Reiteraron apoyo a la integridad territorial y soberanía de Guyana, resaltando la confianza de ambos países en el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios.”*

**ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 17ª REUNION DEL CONSEJO MINISTROS COFCOR, 20-21MAYO2014, Georgetown, Guyana.**

*“Los Ministros de Relaciones Exteriores reconocieron el importante rol desempeñado por el finado Profesor Norman Girvan como Representante Personal del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas en el Proceso de los Buenos Oficios. Ellos notaron que Guyana y Venezuela permanecen comprometidos con ese proceso con vista a alcanzar una solución pacífica satisfactoria a la Reclamación Venezolana de que el Laudo Arbitral de 1899, que definitivamente delimitó la frontera entre ambos países, es nulo e irritó.*

*Los Ministros de Relaciones Exteriores reiteraron su apoyo al mantenimiento de la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana.”*

**ASUNTOS FRONTERIZOS 35ª REUNION DE LA CONFERENCIA DE JEFES DE GOBIERNO DE LA CARICOM, 01-04JUL2014, Dickenson Bay, Antigua y Barbuda.**

*“Los Jefes de Gobierno reiteraron su firme apoyo por la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana, y por el libre desarrollo económico y social de toda Guyana. Ellos expresaron su esperanza por una pronta resolución de la controversia que se suscitó como resultado de la contención de Venezuela de que el Laudo Arbitral de 1899, que definitivamente estableció la frontera entre los dos países, es nulo e irritó.*

*Los Jefes de Gobierno también expresaron su interés sobre la falta de progreso hacia la consideración de opciones, en el contexto del derecho internacional, en la delimitación de la frontera marítima entre Guyana y Venezuela, como acordaron los cancilleres en su reunión del 17OCT2013. Ellos instaron a las dos Partes a llevar a cabo negociaciones con mayor conveniencia hacia la conclusión de un acuerdo de delimitación marítima”*

### III. CONCLUSIONES.-

- La Reclamación Territorial Esequiba es una controversia entre el Estado Venezolano y el Estado de la República Cooperativa de Guyana; no está involucrada la CARICOM.
- El procedimiento para resolver la controversia territorial está establecido en el Acuerdo de Ginebra del 17FEB1966, que por decisión de las Partes, actualmente se encuentra en la instancia del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas.
- Venezuela no es Parte de la Convención de Viena sobre el Derecho de los Tratados del 23MAY1969, ni tampoco es Parte de la Convención sobre el Derecho del Mar de 1982; mientras que Guyana si lo es. Sin embargo, ambas naciones son miembros de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA); en consecuencia, ambos países están comprometidas a la solución pacífica de las controversias.
- Los gobiernos de Guyana, a partir del año 1969, siempre han buscado apoyo de las Comunidades Británicas. El primer apoyo oficial fue de la Comunidad Británica de Países Caribeños, durante la Quinta Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno realizada en Puerto España, Trinidad-Tobago, del 3-6 FEB1969. El primer apoyo oficial de la CARICOM fue durante la Tercera Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno realizada en Ocho Ríos, Jamaica, del 16-18NOV1982. El apoyo de la Comunidad Británica (COMMONWEALTH) fue materializado durante la XVI reunión de Jefes de Gobierno realizada en Durban, Sur África, del 12-14NOV1999.
- La sede de la CARICOM se encuentra en Georgetown, Guyana.
- Al revisar los textos de los comunicados emitidos y registrados por la CARICOM, encontramos posiciones oficiales de apoyo a la soberanía e integridad territorial de Guyana; **pero también encontramos pronunciamientos de preocupación, esperanza y satisfacción por el compromiso de ambos países para buscar una solución pacífica y satisfactoria a la controversia territorial.**
- Hasta el año 2014 están registradas 8 reuniones de Jefes de Gobierno de la Comunidad Británica Caribeña, 10 reuniones especiales de los Jefes de Gobierno de la Comunidad del Caribe, 35 reuniones regulares de la Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM, 25 reuniones ínter sesionales de la Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM y 17 reuniones del Consejo de Relaciones Exteriores y de la Comunidad (COFCOR).
- En los comunicados de los Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM de los años 2001, 2013 y 2014 se infieren párrafos que molestan los esfuerzos de ambos países para solucionar pacíficamente la controversia territorial, la cual debe resultar aceptable para ambos países, según lo convenido en el Acuerdo de Ginebra del 17FEB1966. Destacándose el comunicado del año 2001, donde **erróneamente se asume la zona marítima de Guyana.** También vale la pena señalar el comunicado de la 15a COFCOR del 2012 (*no registrada en los comunicados de los Jefes de Gobierno*) expresando que **no hay disputa territorial entre Guyana y Venezuela.**
- Cada vez que se realicen acciones o actuaciones referentes a los espacios geográficos, acuáticos y terrestres, relacionados con la Zona en Reclamación; el Gobierno de Venezuela debe fijar su posición oficial.

## **ANEXO ALFA**

### **COMUNICADOS DE LA CARICOM RELACIONADOS CON LA RECLAMACION ESEQUIBA.**

Es necesario tomar en cuenta que la prelación es: Primero los comunicados de los Jefes de Gobierno (*conferencias de Jefes de Gobierno*) y después los emitidos por la Comisión de Ministros de la Comunidad; y que el primer Comunicado de los Jefes de Gobierno de la CARICOM donde se menciona la Reclamación Esequiba fue emitido en Ocho Ríos, Jamaica, el 18NOV1982. Y el primer Comunicado de la Reunión Intersesional de los Jefes de Gobierno fue emitido el 23MAR1993 en Roseau, Dominica, mientras que el primer Comunicado de la Comisión de Ministros de Relaciones Exteriores de la Comunidad fue emitido el 13MAY1998 en Paramaribo, Surinam. Sin embargo, es oportuno recordar que antes de que se constituyera la CARICOM, durante la Conferencia de Jefes de Gobierno de los países de la Comunidad Británica Caribea, reunidos en Puerto España, Trinidad, el 03FEB1969, se refirió a la controversia Esequiba.

#### **PRESS RELEASES ISSUED DURING THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, 3-6 FEBRUARY 1969, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.**

The Conference heard from the Prime Minister of Guyana an account of recent developments in Guyana's relations with Venezuela. **The Conference was gravely concerned over the most recent threats posed to Guyana's territorial integrity** and at the most recent instances of interference in her internal affairs as reported by the Prime Minister. The Conference **considered that this situation constitutes a serious danger to the peace of the area** and deplored any action of an aggressive or hostile nature calculated to further endanger a peaceful resolution of outstanding difficulties. **Participating Governments pledged to do all in their power to ensure a settlement of the controversy by peaceful means and in accordance with agreed procedures.**

#### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 16-18 NOVEMBER 1982, OCHO RIOS, JAMAICA**

In recalling the resolution passed at the Eighth Meeting of the Heads of Government held in Georgetown in April 1973, which, in dealing with mutual assistance against external aggression, declared inter alia that political independence and territorial integrity of Member States are essential prerequisites for the achievement of the economic objectives of the Community, the Conference discussed developments in the relations between Guyana and Venezuela in the light of the controversy which had arisen as a result of the Venezuelan contention that the 1899 Arbitral Award, on the basis of which the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela was settled, was null and void.

Recalling its concern for the **sanctity of treaties** and **for defined and demarcated boundaries**, the Conference noted the grave effect that this controversy is having on the relations between CARICOM States and Venezuela and took note of the unqualified undertaking given by the Venezuelan Government to **eschew the use of force as a means of settling the controversy**. The Conference also **called upon Venezuela to desist from further action or threats of action likely to affect the economic development of Guyana.**

The Conference urged Guyana and Venezuela to continue their **pursuit of a peaceful settlement**

**of the controversy in accordance with the terms of the Geneva Agreement of 1966 so as to arrive at a final decision as promptly as possible.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-8 JULY 1983, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Noting the statement by the President of Guyana that Venezuela is continuing certain activities inconsistent with Guyana's territorial integrity, the Heads of Government recalled their previously expressed concern for the sanctity of treaties and their respect for defined and demarcated boundaries, **and expressed and hope that the controversy would be quickly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Agreement.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 1984, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**

**Guyana 4-7JUL1984**

Heads of Government heard a statement made by the President of Guyana on developments in relation to the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela which had arisen as a result of the Venezuelan contention that the 1899 Arbitral Award, on the basis of which the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela was settled, was null and void.

They **noted with satisfaction the unqualified undertaking given by the Venezuelan Government to eschew the use of force as a means of settling the controversy.**

Heads of Government further noted that Guyana and Venezuela has referred the choice of a means of settlement of controversy to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of the 1966 Geneva Agreement. **They expressed the hope that Venezuela would desist from any action or threat of action which was likely to affect the economic development of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF SIXTH MEETING OF CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 1-4 JULY 1985, ST. PHILIPS, BARBADOS.**

**Guyana**

On receiving a report on recent developments in the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela, the Heads of Government reaffirmed their previously stated position on the issue.

**They noted with satisfaction that relations between the two countries had improved and that both sides had declared their firm intention to maintain this new climate through dialogue and ready cooperation.**

They welcomed that determination as well as the steps being taken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to choose, in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Agreement, a means of peaceful settlement of the controversy which had arisen as a result of the Venezuela contention that the 1899 Arbitral Award was null and void.

**They regretted the maintenance of exclusionary provisions in some regional treaties and arrangements, despite previous calls for their removal. They urged, once again, in accordance with the principle of universality, that these restrictions be eliminated to allow those States, which are desirous of adhering to those regional treaties and arrangements, to do so.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 1-4 JULY 1986, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA**

**Guyana/Venezuela.**

Heads of Government adhered to their previously stated position on the controversy which had arisen as a result of the territorial claim advanced by Venezuela against Guyana.

**They noted the attempts being made by the two countries to resolve the issues and encouraged their continuing search for a peaceful solution.** They commended the parties for cooperating fully with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the discharge of the mandate, given under the terms of the Geneva Agreement of 1966, to choose a means of settlement.

Heads of Government **welcomed the recent improvement in Guyana/Venezuela relations** and expressed the hope that this would lead to increased friendship and cooperation between them.

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 29 JUNE-3 JULY 1987, 7CASTRIES, SAINT LUCIA**

**Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

The Heads **welcomed the present state of improved relations between Guyana and Venezuela as reflected in the successful visit by His Excellency President Hugh Desmond Hoyte to Venezuela, as well as in the agreements signed and the increase in cooperation in several areas.**

The Conference particularly welcomed the fact the both President Hoyte and President Jaime Lusinchi of Venezuela reiterated **the determination of their respective Governments to cooperate fully with the United Nations Secretary-General in his efforts to assists the parties in finding as acceptable solution to the existing problem.** The Heads reaffirmed their desire for a peaceful settlement of the controversy in accordance with the Geneva Agreement of 1966.

**Communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community , 4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda**

**Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

The Heads welcomed the **continued improvement in relations between Guyana and Venezuela, as demonstrated in the expanding and deepening network of bilateral cooperation.**

With regard the controversy between the two countries, the Heads also noted the reiteration, by the Presidents of Guyana and Venezuela, of their determination to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the fulfillment of the mandate given by him by Article IV (2) of the Geneva Agreement.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 3-7 JULY 1989, GRAND ANSE, GRENADA**

**Guyana/Venezuela.**

The Heads of Government **welcomed the continuing improvement in relations between Guyana and Venezuela** manifested in the intensification of existing forms of cooperation for their mutual benefit and in their search for new ones.

With regard to the controversy between these two states, they noted that both **Guyana and Venezuela continued to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations** in his discharge of the mandate given him by the Geneva Agreement of 1966 for choosing a means of peaceful settlement.



**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 31 JULY-02  
AUGUST 1990, KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**Guyana/Venezuela.**

Heads of Government examined recent developments in the relations between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Venezuela and recorded their **satisfaction with the fact that the bases of co-operation have been strengthened** by the continuation of mutually beneficial functional co-operation in a number of relevant areas.

With regard to the controversy, they noted that the process initiated with the **appointment of Mr. Alister Mc Intyre as the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to perform the functions of "good officer"** has been further reinforced as a result of meetings and exchanges of views between him and officials of both Governments.

Heads of Government welcomed these developments and agreed that they indicated a **continuation of the cordial and expanding relations between Guyana and Venezuela.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF  
THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 26  
FEBRUARY 1991, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE  
OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 2-4 JULY 1991, BASSETERRE,  
ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

**GUYANA/VENEZUELA RELATIONS.**

Heads of Government reviewed the status of relations between Guyana and Venezuela, recording their satisfaction **with the continued expansion of functional cooperation in several areas, including the private sector, the military, health, education, and energy sectors.**

Heads of Government welcomed the efforts undertaken by the personal representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Alister McIntyre, to maintain and advance the search for a solution to the controversy.

In taking note of these several developments, Heads of Government **reaffirmed support for the territorial integrity of Guyana, and expressed confidence that the fulfillment of the McIntyre Process would lead to a resolution of the controversy to the satisfaction of both countries.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRD INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF  
THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 19  
FEBRUARY 1992, KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**Events in Venezuela, 3-4 February 1992**

Heads of Government **condemned the attempt by a dissident group of the Venezuelan Military to overthrow the democratically elected government of President Carlos Andres Perez.** They expressed their relief at the successful suppression of the revolt, and welcomed the triumph of constitutional order in Venezuela. They were pleased to reiterate the solidarity of the Caribbean Community with democratic Venezuela, and looked forward to the continued positive development of relations between that country and CARICOM.

**CARICOM/VENEZUELA RELATIONS 13a 29JUN-2JUL1992 Port Spain TT**

Heads of Government welcomed the progress made towards the conclusion of an Agreement

between the Caribbean Community and the Republic of Venezuela on trade and Investment. They urged that the necessary action be undertaken in good time to enable the Agreement, the draft of which was finalized by the CARICOM/Venezuela Joint Council in June 1992 to enter into force by 1 January 1993.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 29 June-2 July, 1992, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

**CARICOM/VENEZUELA RELATIONS**

Heads of Government welcomed the progress made towards the conclusion of an Agreement between the Caribbean Community and the Republic of Venezuela on trade and Investment. They urged that the necessary action be undertaken in good time to enable the Agreement, the draft of which was finalized by the CARICOM/Venezuela Joint Council in June 1992 to enter into force by 1 January 1993.

**GUYANA/VENEZUELA**

Heads of Government reviewed the developments in the relations between Guyana and Venezuela.

Heads of Government expressed their **satisfaction with the positive expansion of functional cooperation in several areas between the two countries** and also took note of the inter-play of current developments within the general context of the bilateral relationship.

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their confidence that Guyana and Venezuela would continue to explore all initiative under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to advance the McIntyre Process in the search for a peaceful resolution of the controversy arising from the Venezuelan territorial claim.**

In taking note of these several developments, Heads of Government reaffirmed their support for the territorial integrity of Guyana.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 22-23 MARCH 1993, ROSEAU, DOMINICA**

**Guyana-Venezuela Relations 23MAR1993.**

The Conference noted with appreciation that the United Nations Secretary-General has agreed to the continued appointment of Sir Alister Mc Intyre as his representative in the Good Offices procedure in connection with the Guyana-Venezuela territorial controversy.

The Conference also noted the initiative taken by President Jagan early in his tenure of office to visit Venezuela in March 1993, to **demonstrate his Government's commitment to continued cordial and productive relations between Guyana and Venezuela.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 5-8 JULY 1993, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**

**Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

Heads of Government **noted the continuing cordial development in Guyana-Venezuela relations.** They took note of the contribution of the official visit by President Cheddi Jagan to Venezuela to that process and the fruitful exchanges which have taken place in both the public and private sectors since then.

Heads of Government welcomed the decision of the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela to pursue actively the search for a peaceful resolution to the controversy over the border under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General through the Good Offices of Sir Alister Mc Intyre. They expressed the hope that discussions within the Good Offices procedure would continue to be

valuable.  
Heads of **Government reaffirmed support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 11-12 MARCH 1994, KINGSTOWN, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 1994, BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS**

#### **GUYANA/VENEZUELA RELATIONS.**

Heads of Government considered a report ON Guyana/Venezuela relations and **noted the positive state of relations which exists between the two neighboring countries.** They expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Good Offices process of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General which aims at a peaceful and enduring resolution of the controversy. Heads of Government also noted that bilateral relations between Guyana and Venezuela are progressing normally.

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SIXTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 16-17 FEBRUARY 1995, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 1995, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA**

#### **GUYANA/VENEZUELA RELATIONS.**

Heads of Government noted the report of the President of the Guyana on recent developments in Guyana-Venezuela relations and took note of Guyana's apprehension at the concept of "globality" being advanced by Venezuela to guide the management of Guyana-Venezuela relations.

Heads of Government welcomed Guyana's intention to establish a Parliamentary Select Committee on Border Affairs to deal with this issue. They also **welcomed Guyana's continued commitment to the McIntyre Process as the means of resolving the border controversy and reaffirmed their support for Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE SEVENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 29 FEBRUARY-1 MARCH 1996, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 3-6 JULY 1996, BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS**

#### **Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

Heads of Government noted the status of Guyana/Venezuela relations and expressed **their**

**support for the McIntyre Process, under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General, as the mechanism for peacefully resolving the border controversy.**

They also **reaffirmed their strong support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 20-21 FEBRUARY, 1997, ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 30 JUNE-4 JULY 1997, MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA**

#### **GUYANA-VENEZUELA.**

Heads of Government noted that the **relations between Guyana and Venezuela were cordial** and continued to progress through dialogue and mutual understanding although certain irritants continued to be present in these relations.

They expressed their satisfaction that the solution to the controversy continued to be dealt with under the aegis of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and in this regard, they **welcomed the role of the good officer, Sir Alister McIntyre in this process.**

They **reaffirmed their full support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana and reiterated their desire for a peaceful settlement of the Guyana-Venezuela controversy.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CONCLUSION OF THE NINTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA, 2-3 MARCH 1998.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS, 12-13 MAY 1998, PARAMARIBO, SURINAME**

#### **GUYANA/VENEZUELA**

The Ministers noted that **the relations between Guyana and Venezuela were good** and that the two countries were continuing to work towards the further strengthening of existing programmes of functional cooperation. They also took note of the fact that Venezuela was the first country to send a message of congratulation to the newly elected Government in Guyana following the December 15, 1997 National and Regional elections in Guyana.

They noted that the discussions under the aegis of the Secretary-General of the United Nations were proceeding in a cordial and positive atmosphere.

The Ministers **reaffirmed their full support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and reiterated their commitment to a peaceful settlement to the Guyana/Venezuela controversy.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 30 JUNE - 4 JULY 1998, CASTRIES, SAINT LUCIA**

#### **GUYANA/VENEZUELA**

Heads of Government noted the existing **climate of friendly relations** between Guyana and Venezuela conducted in an atmosphere of respect and mutual understanding.

In that context, they noted further, that the Government of Venezuela was the first to send its congratulations to President Janet Jagan following the general and regional elections which took place in December 1997.

They expressed satisfaction over the progress being made under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary-General, through his good officer, Sir Alister McIntyre for a solution of the controversy.

The **reaffirmed their firm support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE TENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM) 4-5 MARCH 1999, PARAMARIBO, SURINAME**

**Guyana/Venezuela**

Heads of Government noted the existing climate **of friendly relations** between Guyana and Venezuela conducted in an atmosphere of respect and mutual understanding.

In that context, they welcomed the commitment of the newly-elected President of Venezuela, His Excellency Hugo Chavez Frias, towards the establishment of a High Level Bilateral Commission to further promote consultation and cooperation between the two countries.

They expressed satisfaction over the progress being made under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary General, through his good officer, Sir Alister McIntyre as was stated in the Joint Communiqué issued in Caracas, on the occasion of President Jagan's visit to Venezuela and the goodwill expressed in the interview between the Presidents of both countries on the occasion of the swearing-in ceremony of the President of Venezuela on 2 February 1999.

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their support for the manner in which both countries had been striving to resolve their outstanding issues and reiterated their support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR) 13-14 MAY 1999, BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

**GUYANA/VENEZUELA**

The Ministers took note of the **existing good relations** between Guyana and Venezuela. In this regard, they welcomed the recent visit to Guyana by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, Dr. Jose Vicente Rangel for the Establishment and Inaugural Meeting of a High Level Bilateral Commission which covers a wide range of areas of cooperation.

They anticipated that the implementation of the Work Programme of this Bilateral Commission would contribute in a significant and positive manner to the enhancement of functional cooperation between the two countries.

The Ministers noted that the discussions under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary- General were proceeding in a cordial and positive atmosphere.

**They reaffirmed their support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and reiterated their commitment to the peaceful settlement of the Guyana/ Venezuela controversy.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 1999, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.**

**Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

Heads of Government noted the existing **friendly relations** between Guyana and Venezuela conducted in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

In this regard, they welcomed the official visit to Venezuela in 1998 of Her Excellency, President Janet Jagan and her attendance at the inauguration of the President of Venezuela, His Excellency, Hugo Chavez Frias.

They also noted with pleasure that the Foreign Minister of Venezuela, the Honorable Jose Vicente Rangel had paid an official visit to Guyana in March, 1999.

They anticipated that the implementation of the Work Programme of the High Level Bilateral Commission that had been official established in March 1999, during the visit of Minister Rangel, would contribute in a significant and positive manner to the enhancement of functional cooperation between the two countries.

They expressed satisfaction over the progress being made under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary-General, through his good officer, Sir Alister McIntyre for a solution to the controversy.

**They reaffirmed their firm support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela.**

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago, 26-27 October 1999.**

**GUYANA-VENEZUELA RELATIONS**

Heads of Government noted that 3 October 1999 had marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Paris Arbitral Award by which the existing boundary between Guyana and Venezuela was defined by unanimous judgement.

They also **viewed with concern the fact that Venezuela had reiterated its contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 is null and void and continues to advance its claim to the Essequibo region of Guyana.**

Heads of Government further noted **the commitment of the two countries to the good offices process of the United Nations Secretary-General.**

In this regard, Heads of Government **fully endorsed the Resolution approved by the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians in Grenada on 15 October 1999**, a copy of which is appended to this Communique.

They **reiterated their firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana and their desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy.**

**ASSEMBLY OF CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY PARLIAMENTARIANS.....15OCT1999**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** Venezuela continues to advance her claim to the Essequibo Region of Guyana, a claim which amounts to no less than five-eighths of Guyana's territory;

**AND WHEREAS** this claim completely disregards the fact that the existing boundary was defined by the unanimous judgment of an international arbitral tribunal given in Paris in 1899, and jointly demarcated on the ground by officials of the United Kingdom and Venezuela and accepted thereafter by the international community as both the *de facto* and *de jure* boundary between Guyana and Venezuela;

**NOTING** that following continued agitation by Venezuela, the Geneva Agreement signed on February 17, 1966 between the United Kingdom, British Guiana and Venezuela established a Mixed Commission of Guyanese and Venezuelan representatives charged with the task of seeking a satisfactory solution for the peaceful settlement of the controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom which had arisen as the result of the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 about the frontier between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void;

**NOTING** the failure of the Mixed Commission and the further agreement by Guyana and Venezuela within the context of Article IV(2) of the 1966 Geneva Agreement to refer the decision as to the means of settlement to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

**NOTING** that the relations between the two countries have been conducted over recent years in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect and through the development of programmes of functional co-operation;

**FURTHER NOTING** the commitment of the two countries to the good offices process of the UN Secretary-General;

**RECOGNISING** the consistent and firm support of the Member States of the Caribbean Community for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and their stated desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians urge the Governments of the Community to **reiterate their unwavering support for and solidarity with the Government of Guyana in the face of the controversy;**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution be communicated to the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community.**

Approved by the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians, Grenada, this 15th day of October, 1999.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ELEVENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 13-14 MARCH 2000, BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.**

#### **Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government reiterated their continued desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary General.

Heads of Government noted with satisfaction the **continued improvement in functional cooperation** and relations in general between Guyana and Venezuela with the establishment of the High Level Bilateral Commission between the two countries.

**In restating their firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana they recalled the decision of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Durban, South Africa in November 1999 to establish a Ministerial Group on Guyana to monitor further developments in respect of the existing controversy.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 9 MAY 2000, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**Guyana/Venezuela:**

The Ministers reiterated their firm **support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

They recalled that in November 1999 the Commonwealth Heads of Government had established a Ministerial Group on Guyana to monitor further developments in respect of the existing controversy. They also recalled that the Foreign Ministers of the Non Aligned Movement, at their meeting in Cartagena in April 2000, fully supported the parties in their commitment towards a peaceful settlement to the controversy within the framework of the Good Officer process of the United Nations.

The Ministers **welcomed the progress being made under the High Level Bilateral Mechanism** and viewed this as a positive indication of the interest of both countries in promoting closer relations and enhanced functional cooperation.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 2-5 July, 2000.**

**GUYANA/VENEZUELA.**

Heads of Government expressed their **satisfaction with the continued efforts** being made by Guyana and Venezuela in advancing their programmes of functional cooperation under the High Level Bilateral Commission.

They noted the importance of this mechanism to the strengthening of relations between the two countries.

Heads of Government noted with **concern however, reports that Venezuela had protested against the signing of an Agreement in May 2000 establishing the company Beal-Guyana Launch Services**, for the development of a rocket launch site in the Essequibo which has attracted much needed foreign investment to contribute to Guyana's national development efforts.

Heads of Government reaffirmed their full **support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana** and for a peaceful and satisfactory resolution of the controversy under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary-General, a process to which both Guyana and Venezuela remained committed.

They welcomed the news conveyed by the Commonwealth Secretary-General that a Meeting of the Commonwealth Ministerial Committee on Guyana would be convened in September 2000.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF 12<sup>TH</sup> INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 16 FEBRUARY 2001, ST. MICHAEL, BARBADOS**

**GUYANA-VENEZUELA**

Heads of **Government welcomed the stated commitment of the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela to continue to work towards enhancing functional cooperation** between their two countries and the maintenance of a positive and amicable environment in which their bilateral relations could be further developed.

Heads of Government were informed by Guyana of the publicly stated **opposition by the Government of Venezuela to foreign investments in the Essequibo region as well as reports of the intention of Venezuela to execute an exploratory programme for**



**hydrocarbons in an offshore area that includes part of the maritime zone of Guyana.**

Heads of Government reaffirmed their **support for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity, including the maritime zone of Guyana, and for the Good Officer process under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary-General.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 23 MAY 2001, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Ministers noted with **satisfaction the continuing commitment of the Governments of Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela** both to the deepening and strengthening of their bilateral relations, including in areas of functional cooperation, and to the continuation of the Good Officer Process under the aegis of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as the means for the peaceful settlement of the controversy between the two countries.

Ministers however noted with **concern Venezuela's continuing attempts to deter foreign investment in the Essequibo.**

Ministers were also **concerned by reports of Venezuela's intention to execute an exploratory programme for hydrocarbons in an offshore area that comprises part of Guyana's maritime zone and noted that any such action would constitute a violation of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity and would be in breach of accepted norms of international law.**

Ministers welcomed the support of the Commonwealth Ministerial Group on Guyana for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.

Ministers **reiterated their unswerving support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**OECS-Venezuela**

Ministers received information **on maritime boundary delimitation issues in the Eastern Caribbean relating to Venezuela.** They stressed that the situation was of great concern and importance to all Member States. They agreed to keep developments related to these issues under review.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 3-6 JULY 2001, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their solidarity with Guyana in its determination to counter the threat posed to its sovereignty and territorial integrity as a result of Venezuela's non-acceptance of the Arbitral Award of 1899, which definitively settled the border between the two countries.**

They **regretted the constraints posed by Venezuela's claim to Guyana's development, particularly in the Essequibo region. They supported the position taken by Guyana that the Geneva Agreement does not preclude it from fully exploiting all of its natural resources.**

Heads of Government **welcomed the continuing commitment of the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela to the good offices** procedure established under the aegis of the

United Nations Secretary-General.

They **encouraged both countries to continue to avail themselves of this mechanism with a view to finding a peaceful settlement of the existing controversy.**

#### **OECS-Venezuela.**

Heads of Government were **made aware of important issues surrounding the delimitation of maritime areas in the Eastern Caribbean between certain CARICOM Member States and Venezuela.** They **rejected the public statements made by the President of Venezuela, regarding the geographic feature that he referred to as Bird Island.**

Heads of Government stressed that any future discussions on this issue must be conducted in accordance with applicable principles of international law. In this regard, they highlighted the critical importance of the UN Law of the Sea Convention 1982, as the universal instrument representing the codification of international law of the sea. Heads of Government declared their **support for the maritime integrity of the affected Member States of the Community,** including relevant maritime areas and called on all states to respect the rules and principles contained in the Convention.

#### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 13TH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 3-5 FEBRUARY 2002, BELIZE CITY**

#### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 6-7 MAY 2002, CASTRIES, SAINT LUCIA**

#### **Guyana-Venezuela**

Ministers **reaffirmed their support for the preservation of Guyana's territorial integrity and its sovereign right to develop all of its territory.**

They noted with **satisfaction the renewed commitments of Guyana and Venezuela to the Good Offices** procedure established by the United Nations Secretary General in accordance with the Geneva Agreement.

The **Ministers welcomed the recent reactivation of the High Level Bilateral Commission and expressed the hope that this mechanism would lead to the further development of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.**

#### **Bird Rock**

Ministers discussed Bird Rock in relation to the delimitation of maritime areas in the Eastern Caribbean between several CARICOM Member States and Venezuela. They **declared their support for the maritime integrity of affected Member States of the Community, and called for discussions with Venezuela to be based on applicable international law.**

They re-affirmed the centrality of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to the successful resolution of the issues.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA, 3-5 JULY 2002.**

**Guyana/Venezuela**

The Conference **welcomed the efforts of Guyana and Venezuela to improve their bilateral relations** as exemplified by the accession of Guyana to the Caracas Energy Cooperation Agreement in December 2001 and the convening of the Second Meeting of the Guyana-Venezuela High-Level Bilateral Commission earlier this year.

Heads of Government noted with **satisfaction the renewed commitment of the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela to the Good Offices** of the United Nations Secretary-General. They reaffirmed **their support for the territorial integrity of Guyana and its sovereign right to develop all of its territory.**

**OECS/Venezuela (Bird Rock)**

With respect to the OECS/Venezuela (Bird Rock) issue, it was noted that at the Fifth Meeting of the Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) , Ministers agreed that there was need for further legal and technical work to be done to inform CARICOM=s strategy and approach. The OECS Secretariat, at the request of the COFCOR, transmitted pertinent documentation to the CARICOM Secretariat and will cooperate in further consultations for this analysis to be undertaken.

**Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to the development of an appropriate strategy in relation to Bird Rock, particularly in the interest of the OECS countries.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTEENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 14-15 FEBRUARY 2003, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**Guyana/Venezuela.**

The Conference reaffirmed its **support for Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as its right to develop all of its territory.**

With regard to the controversy arising from Venezuela's claim to almost two thirds of Guyana's territory, the Conference noted with **satisfaction that the parties remain committed to the Good Officer process under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary General to assist in the search for a peaceful solution.**

The Conference also **noted the progress made by the two countries, within the High Level Bilateral Commission** established by them, towards closer economic and technical cooperation.

The Conference reaffirmed its **support for the maintenance of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS, 8-9 MAY 2003, KINGSTOWN, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES.**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Ministers welcomed the ongoing efforts being made by Guyana and Venezuela to strengthen their bilateral relations. They noted with **satisfaction that the recent visit of the Venezuelan Foreign Minister, His Excellency Roy Chaderton Matos**, had resulted in a renewed commitment by both countries to the continuation of dialogue and to the early convening of meetings under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary-General, the acceleration of functional

cooperation within the Guyana/Venezuela High Level Bilateral Commission, and the forging of expanded trade and economic links.

Ministers reaffirmed their unswerving **support for Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as its right to develop all its natural resources.**

#### **Bird Rock**

Ministers reviewed the foreign policy implications of the situation regarding Bird Rock and its attendant maritime boundary delimitation issues which arise between Venezuela and several CARICOM Member States of the Eastern Caribbean.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 2-5 JULY 2003, MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA.

#### **Guyana/Venezuela.**

Heads of Government **welcomed recent developments in the relations** between Guyana

and Venezuela, which had resulted in a renewed commitment by the two countries to work towards the maintenance of friendly relations and to develop and intensify functional and economic cooperation.

Heads of Government noted with **satisfaction that both countries had agreed to renew and reinvigorate consultations under the United Nations Good Offices Process.** They reaffirmed their firm **support for the maintenance of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana and its right to develop the resources of its territory.**

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTEENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 25-26 MARCH 2004, BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

#### **Guyana/Venezuela.**

Heads of Government noted with **satisfaction the further development of cordial and cooperative relations** between Guyana and Venezuela as a result of the recently concluded visit in Guyana of the Venezuelan President His Excellency Hugo Chavez.

They also noted that the visit had reaffirmed the determination of both countries to continue the search for a peaceful settlement of the controversy under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General.

Heads of Government **reiterated their full support for the preservation of Guyana's sovereignty and its right to the unrestricted development of all its territory for the benefit of its people.**

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 22-23 APRIL 2004, CHRIST CHURCH, BARBADOS

#### **Guyana/Venezuela Relations.**

Ministers received an update on the relations between Guyana and Venezuela and noted that those relations reached a high point in the visit to Guyana by the President of Venezuela in February 2004.

Ministers were informed that the two countries remained committed to the peaceful settlement of the border controversy through the Good Offices role of the United Nations Secretary General.

Ministers **reiterated their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

### **Bird Rock**

In relation to Bird Rock, a small geographic feature not far from Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis and Antigua and Barbuda, Ministers noted with **concern the recent authorization of funds by the government of Venezuela for the establishment of a scientific naval base on Bird Rock designed to bolster its claim to sovereignty over the rock.**

Ministers called for an early discussion on the matter between Venezuela and the affected States to be conducted in accordance with the principles of international law. They emphasized the centrality of the UN Law of the Sea Convention and called on all States to respect this universal instrument as the codification of international law and practice on matters relating to the world's seas and oceans.

### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 2004, ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA**

#### **Guyana/Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government **expressed their satisfaction at the existing cordial relations** between Guyana and Venezuela. They noted with **satisfaction, the commitment by the two countries to accelerate their bilateral cooperation programme under the aegis of the Guyana/Venezuela High Level Bilateral Commission** and to continue the dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations Good Offices process aimed at a peaceful settlement of the controversy.

**Heads of Government reaffirmed their support for Guyana in the maintenance of its sovereignty and territorial integrity including its right to the unimpeded development of the resources of its entire territory.**

### **Bird Rock**

Heads of Government **expressed solidarity with Antigua and Barbuda and other OECS countries with regard to their concern over Venezuela's maritime claims in respect of Bird Rock.** They urged the speedy settlement of this matter in accordance with the principles of international law.

They decided that the OECS and CARICOM Secretariats should institutionalize their collaboration on this matter.

### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SIXTEENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 16-17 FEBRUARY 2005, PARAMARIBO, SURINAME**

### **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 1-2 JUNE 2005, FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA, THE BAHAMAS**

#### **GUYANA-VENEZUELA**

The Ministers noted with **satisfaction that relations** between Guyana and Venezuela continued to be cordial.

They underscored the importance of the ongoing dialogue at the level of Heads of State and Ministers of Foreign Affairs in promoting this cordiality and noted that such dialogue had resulted in a renewal of commitment to a peaceful settlement of the controversy through the mechanism of the United Nations Good Offices Process and to functional cooperation under the aegis of the Guyana/Venezuela High Level Bilateral Commission.

The Ministers **reiterated their full support for the preservation of Guyana's sovereignty and its right to the unrestricted development of all its territory for the benefit of its people.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 3-6 JULY 2005, GROS ISLET, SAINT LUCIA.**

**Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government noted with **satisfaction that relations** between Guyana and Venezuela continued to be cordial.

They underscored the importance of the ongoing dialogue at the level of Heads of State and Ministers of Foreign Affairs in promoting this cordiality, and noted that **such dialogue had resulted in a renewal of commitment to a peaceful settlement of the controversy through the mechanism of the United Nations Good Offices Process (GOP) and to functional cooperation under the aegis of the Guyana-Venezuela High-Level Bilateral Commission.**

Heads of Government reiterated their **full support for the preservation of Guyana's sovereignty and its right to the unrestricted development of all its territory for the benefit of its people.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 17TH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE, 9-10 FEBRUARY 2006, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**PetroCaribe**

The Heads of Government had full discussions with regard to the PetroCaribe Agreement.

The Heads of Government welcomed the willingness of Trinidad and Tobago to facilitate the PetroCaribe Agreement, particularly through its indication of support for the application for a suspension of the Common External Tariff in that regard.

The Heads of Government also agreed that the **Task Force on Regional Energy Policy should meet as a matter of urgency to discuss several related issues.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE CARICOM COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 24-25 APRIL 2006, POINT SALINES, GRENADA.**

**Guyana/Venezuela**

The Ministers noted with **satisfaction that goodwill and friendship continued** to characterize relations between Guyana and Venezuela.

They noted that the recent convening of the Fourth Meeting of the Guyana/Venezuela High Level Bilateral Commission was demonstrative of the will of both countries to further consolidate bilateral relations on the basis of mutual respect and commitment to shared principles. They

**recognized the importance of this meeting in providing impetus to the search for a peaceful resolution of the controversy under the aegis of the United Nations Good offices Process and the intensification of bilateral co-operation within the framework of the Guyana/Venezuela High Level Bilateral Commission.**

The Ministers reaffirmed **their unwavering support for the maintenance of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to the development of its resources in the entirety of its territory.**

#### **Bird Rock**

The Ministers noted the maritime boundary delimitation issues relating to the geographical feature in the Caribbean Sea known as Bird Rock.

The Ministers noted that the indication by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States that it intended to hold dialogue at the highest level with Venezuela on this issue.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 3-6 JULY 2006, BIRD ROCK, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

#### **5. Treaty on Security Assistance among CARICOM Member States**

Signed by Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago on 6 July 2006

#### **Guyana/Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government were **encouraged by the level of dialogue and engagement which now characterize the relations between Guyana and Venezuela.** They noted in particular the agreements reached by the two countries in several areas of functional co-operation under the aegis of the High Level Bilateral Commission which last met in March 2006 and their renewed commitment to the United Nations Good Offices Process with the view to achieving a peaceful settlement to the controversy which exists between them. Heads of Government **reiterated their firm support for the maintenance of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity and for its right to the development of its entire territory.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 12-14 FEBRUARY 2007, KINGSTOWN, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

#### **BORDER ISSUES**

##### **Guyana/Venezuela**

The Conference noted with **satisfaction that goodwill and friendship continued** to characterize relations between Guyana and Venezuela and noted the commitment of the two states to the United Nations Good Offices process aimed at finding a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 is null and void.

In this connection, the Conference noted with regret, the passing of Ambassador Oliver Jackman who was the Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the Good Offices Process. They noted the positive contribution made by Ambassador Jackman to that process.

The Conference reaffirmed its **unwavering support for the preservation of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to the development of its resources in the entirety of its territory.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 10-11 MAY 2007, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

The Ministers expressed **satisfaction with the efforts made by Guyana and Venezuela to maintain good relations** and reiterated **their full support for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

They noted **the endeavours being made by the two countries within the ambit of the Geneva Agreement to find a means of settlement of the controversy** that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the 1899 Arbitral Award is null and void.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 1-4 JULY 2007, NEEDHAM'S POINT, BARBADOS**

**BORDER ISSUES**

**Guyana/Venezuela Relations**

The Conference expressed **satisfaction with the efforts made by Guyana and Venezuela to maintain good relations**

The Conference further noted the **endeavours being made by the two countries within the ambit of the Geneva Agreement**, to find a means of settlement of the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the 1899 Arbitral Award is null and void.

The Conference **reiterated the full support of the Caribbean Community for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NINETEENTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM) 7-8 MARCH 2008, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**

**Guyana/Venezuela**

Heads of Government took note of the recent developments in Guyana/Venezuela relations and the efforts being made to resuscitate the United Nations Good Offices which is aimed at finding a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 is null and void.

Heads of Government expressed the view that it was therefore critical for a new Special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General **to be appointed as soon as possible in order to advance the Good Offices Process.**

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.**



**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 7-9 MAY 2008, BOLANS VILLAGE, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

The Ministers took note of the **efforts made by Guyana and Venezuela towards the maintenance of good relations between the two countries.**

They **expressed the hope that the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General within the ambit of the Geneva Agreement**, to which both countries remain committed, would be soon resuscitated with a view to finding a peaceful settlement to the border controversy.

The Ministers **reiterated their full support for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 1-4 JULY 2008, BOLANS, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

**Guyana/Venezuela**

Heads of Government took note of the recent developments in Guyana/Venezuela relations and the efforts being made to resuscitate the United Nations Good Offices Process which is aimed at finding a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 is null and void.

They expressed the view that it was therefore critical for a new Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to be appointed as soon as possible in order to advance the Good Offices Process.

Heads of Government re-affirmed their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTIETH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 12-13 MARCH 2009, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE.**

**BORDER ISSUES**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Heads of Government received an update on the relations between Guyana and Venezuela and in particular the **efforts between the two sides to identify a new Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to advance the Good Offices Process.** They underscored the need for that post to be filled at the earliest possible time.

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 8-9 MAY 2009, KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**GUYANA-VENEZUELA**

The Ministers recalled the decision of Heads of Government of CARICOM to **affirm their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.** They expressed **satisfaction with the efforts made by Guyana and Venezuela to maintain good relations and reiterated their full support for the maintenance of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

They noted that the issue was still before the United Nations and both countries were making efforts to identify a new special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to advance the Good Offices Process.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTIETH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 2-5 JULY 2009, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA**

**Border Issues**

**Guyana – Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government noted the impending consultations between Guyana and Venezuela on the identification of a candidate to perform the duties of a Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General with respect to the Good Offices Process and underscored the critical importance of the Special Representative in assisting the Secretary-General in the search for a practical solution to the controversy which was initiated by the contention of Venezuela that the Arbitral Award of 1899, which settled the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela, was null and void. **Heads of Government reaffirmed their view that the post needed to be filled at the earliest possible time. Heads of Government re-affirmed their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity, sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FIRST INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 11-12 MARCH 2010, ROSEAU, DOMINICA**

**BORDER ISSUES**

**Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

The Conference received an update on the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that **the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the territory between Guyana and Venezuela,** is null and void. It noted the positive public statement made by His Excellency President Hugo Chavez eschewing conflict with Guyana regarding the controversy and reiterating Venezuela's commitment to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General.

The Conference **expressed satisfaction with the efforts being made by both States and the United Nations Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative of the Secretary-General to support him in his role to assist Guyana and Venezuela in the search for a means of settlement of the controversy.**

The Conference **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty and its right to develop its resources in the entirety of its territory.**

**INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN CARICOM'S COFCOR XIII, ANOUNCE TO BE HELD EN DOMINICA 05-06MAY2010.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-7 JULY 2010, MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA**

## **BORDER ISSUES**

### **Guyana – Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government expressed satisfaction that since their last meeting, the United Nations Secretary-General had appointed Professor Norman Girvan as his Personal Representative to support him in his role as Good Officer to assist Guyana and Venezuela in the search for a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the **Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the territory between Guyana and Venezuela**, is null and void.

Heads of Government noted the **positive developments in the relations** between Guyana and Venezuela and the efforts being made by the two countries to further strengthen those relations and **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the maintenance and safeguarding of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM) 25-26 FEBRUARY 2011, ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA.**

## **BORDER ISSUES:**

### **Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government **expressed satisfaction that since their last meeting, the United Nations Secretary-General had appointed Professor Norman Girvan as his Personal Representative to support him in his role as Good Officer to assist Guyana and Venezuela in the search for a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the territory between Guyana and Venezuela, is null and void.**

Heads of Government noted **the positive developments in the relations between Guyana and Venezuela and the efforts being made by the two countries to further strengthen those relations.** They **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the maintenance and safeguarding of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 4-5 MAY 2011, FRIGATE BAY, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.**

## **Border Issues**

### **Guyana-Venezuela**

Ministers noted with **satisfaction the continued growth, maturity and deepening of relations** between the Republic of Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and expressed the view that this positive and sustained friendly climate in the relationship between the two countries was conducive to the realization of the mandate of the Good Offices Process.

Ministers **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the maintenance and safeguarding of Guyana's territorial integrity and sovereignty.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 30 JUNE - 4 JULY 2011, BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.**

**Venezuela**

Heads of Government **expressed grave concern over the illness of His Excellency Hugo Chavez**, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and dispatched the following message:

*"It is with grave concern that we, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) greet reports of the illness of His Excellency Hugo Chavez, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a close friend and committed partner of the Community.*

*We are confident that his resilience and strength will be of great assistance to him in this trying time and we look forward to his full and speedy recovery".*

**BORDER ISSUES**

**Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government **expressed their satisfaction that Guyana and Venezuela continued to enjoy exceptionally good relations.**

They noted that the two (2) countries remained committed to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) in **seeking a peaceful solution to the border controversy.**

They reaffirmed their unequivocal **support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 8-9 MARCH 2012, PARAMARIBO, SURINAM.**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Heads of Government took note of the **continued growing relations** between the Republic of Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. They **expressed the hope that the existing friendly relations will aid the efforts towards a resolution of the controversy that emerged from the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively established the boundary with Guyana, is null and void.**

Heads of Government reaffirmed their **support for the maintenance of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR) 3 -4 MAY 2012  
PARAMARIBO, SURINAME**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

The Council received an update on recent developments in Guyana/Venezuela relations. The Council noted that the **Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had submitted an objection to the consideration of Guyana's Submission for an extended continental shelf, a Submission made to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, pursuant to Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).**

The Council also noted **that there is no territorial dispute between Guyana and Venezuela, since the Arbitral Award of 1899 established the land boundary between both States.**

The Council expressed the hope that the Commission on the Limits of the Continental shelf would consider Guyana's Submission.

The Council reiterated the Community's **support for the maintenance of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana** and expressed the hope that the recent regrettable action of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela would not affect the otherwise exceptionally good relations that exist between Guyana and Venezuela. The Council further took note of the continued confidence that both States have in the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary General under the Geneva Agreement of 1966.

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-THIRD REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 4-6 JULY 2012, GROS ISLET, SAINT LUCIA**

**Guyana-Venezuela Relations**

Heads of Government noted that since their last Meeting, **Guyana and Venezuela continued to work to preserve the excellent relations that currently exist between the two countries.**

They expressed satisfaction that Guyana and Venezuela remained committed to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General to aid them in the search for a solution to the controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that **the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the territory between Guyana and Venezuela,** is null and void.

Heads of Government **reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the maintenance and safeguarding of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 18-19 FEBRUARY 2013, PORT-AU-PRINCE, REPUBLIC OF HAITI**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

The Conference **expressed its satisfaction that Guyana and Venezuela continued to enjoy excellent relations** and were engaged in several activities aimed at increasing the level of cooperation between the two countries.

The Conference noted that Guyana and Venezuela remained committed to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General to aid them in the search for a solution to the

controversy that arose from the Venezuelan contention that **the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the territory between Guyana and Venezuela, is null and void.**

The Conference **reaffirmed the Community's unequivocal support for the maintenance and safeguarding of Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity**

**G: Chavez a true friend of CARICOM 06MARCH2013.**

(CARICOM Secretariat, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana) Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), His Excellency Michel Martelly, the President of Haiti, has stated that the name of His Excellency Hugo Chavez, the late President of Venezuela will be "etched in the history of this Region."

**In a note of condolence on behalf of CARICOM to the Government of Venezuela, the Chairman said the late President Chavez opened a new chapter in relations between the countries of CARICOM and Venezuela "with his generosity and deep interest in the welfare of the peoples of the Community."**

Following is the full text of the message:

As Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), it is with great sadness that I extend my deepest sympathies to the Government and People of Venezuela on the death of the President of the Bolivarian Republic, His Excellency Hugo Chavez.

President Chavez opened a new chapter in relations between the countries of CARICOM and Venezuela with his generosity and deep interest in the welfare of the peoples of the Community. His outstretched hand to support our countries during a time of great challenge will never be forgotten, in particular the generous assistance rendered by Venezuela to my country, Haiti, following the earthquake of 2010, as well as to other Member States of the Community.

His desire to improve the lives of the less fortunate in his country, the Caribbean and in Latin America was the hallmark of his political life and ensured that his name would be etched in the history of this Region.

May the Government and People of Venezuela and the family of Mr. Chavez find solace in the memory of a leader who successfully sought to change the lives of many for the better. I am confident that the inner strength and resilience of the Venezuelan people will ensure that they continue to build the society for which Hugo Chavez strived.

#### **COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 14-15 MAY 2013, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

##### **Guyana-Venezuela**

The Ministers noted that Guyana and Venezuela continued to enjoy excellent relations conducted through regular high level political consultations and a vibrant programme of functional cooperation.

They noted that both countries remained committed to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary General under the Geneva Agreement of 1966 and **reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 3-6 JULY 2013, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

The Heads of Government **expressed satisfaction over the excellent state of relations** between Guyana and Venezuela which has enabled the two countries to continue to implement a vibrant programme of cooperation.

The Heads of Government noted that both countries remained committed to the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary General under the Geneva Agreement of 1966 and **reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.**

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 10-11 MARCH 2014, BUCCAMERT, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Heads of Government **noted that Guyana and Venezuela had initiated dialogue following the detention on 10 October 2013 by a Venezuelan armed naval vessel of the seismic vessel, the RV Teknik Perdana which was under contract with Anadarko and which was conducting a multi-beam survey of the seafloor in Guyana's exclusive economic zone.**

Heads of Government also noted that the **Foreign Ministers of both countries met in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 17 October 2013 and agreed that the two countries would explore mechanisms within the context of international law to address the issue of maritime delimitation;** and that further **their technical teams would meet within a period of four months to exchange views on how such delimitation could proceed.** They further took note that **the Venezuelan Government had requested a postponement of the technical meeting given the political situation in that country.** Heads of Government **expressed the hope that the initiative to address the issue of maritime delimitation would not lose momentum.**

Heads of Government acknowledged that despite this incident, Guyana and Venezuela continued to maintain stable and satisfactory relations.

They **reiterated their support for the maintenance of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Guyana** and took note of the continued confidence that both States have in the Good Offices Process of the United Nations Secretary-General under the Geneva Agreement of 1966 with the re-appointment in October 2013 of Professor Norman Girvan as the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General in that Process.

Heads of Government expressed regrets over Professor Girvan's illness due to an accident last December in which he sustained serious injuries and conveyed their best wishes for his quick recovery.

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR), 20-21 MAY 2014 GEORGETOWN, GUYANA.**

**Guyana-Venezuela**

Foreign Ministers recognized the important role played by the late Professor Norman Girvan as the Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary General in the Good Offices Process. They noted that **Guyana and Venezuela remained committed to that Process with a view to reaching a peaceful solution to the claim by Venezuela that the Arbitral Award of 1899, that definitively delimited the boundary between the two countries, is null and void.**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, 01-04 JULY 2014, DICKENSON BAY, ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA.**

.Guyana-Venezuela.

Heads of Government reiterated their firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana and for the unhindered economic and social development of all of Guyana. They expressed their hope for an early resolution of the controversy which arose as a result of Venezuela's contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899, which definitively settled the boundary between the two countries, is null and void.

Heads of Government also expressed their concern over the lack of progress towards the consideration of options, within the context of international law, in delimiting the maritime boundary between Guyana and Venezuela as agreed by the Foreign Ministers following their meeting on 17 October 2014. They called upon the two sides to pursue the negotiations with greater expediency towards the conclusion of a maritime delimitation agreement.

**REUNIONES ESPECIALES:**

- 1a Reunión especial realizada el 15JUL1971 en Granada.
- 2ª Reunión " " entre el 26 y 27ENE1974 en Barbados.
- 3ª Reunión " " entre el 28 al 31OCT1992 en Trinidad y Tobago.
- 4ª Reunión " " entre el 17 y 18NOV1994 en Jamaica.
- 5ª Reunión " " el 16DIC1996 en Barbados.
- 6ª Reunión " " el 16ABR1999 en República Dominicana.
- **7ª Reunión " " entre el 26 al 27OCT1999 en Trinidad-Tobago.**
- 8ª Reunión " " el 16AGO2002 en Santa Lucía.
- 9ª Reunión " " entre el 13 y 14NOV2003 en Santa Lucía.
- 10ª Reunión " " entre el 08 y 09NOV2004 en Trinidad-Tobago.