

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

MEETING OF MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM (SICA) AND OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)

1. On June 16, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) or their representatives met in the city of Washington DC, United States of America.
2. They stated the commitment of both sub-regions for strengthening the political and economic dialogue, for promoting freedom, sustainable development and the welfare of each people of their states; as well as to continue to promote cooperation between both sub-regions, the relations of friendliness and the peaceful solution of disputes.
3. They restated the strategic nature of the SICA-CARICOM relationship and the integration processes they represent; they agreed to define courses of action to achieve compliance with the mandates of the Bi-regional Presidential and Ministerial Meetings that have been held up to this day and which demand a closer cooperation between the two blocs.
4. They stressed the importance of establishing synergies that will allow both parties to work in areas such as: Public Security, Climate Change and Integrated Disaster Risk Management, Social Development, Economic Development and Institutional Consolidation, among others.
5. They agreed to resume the commitments made in the I, II and III Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the member states of SICA and CARICOM. They also recognized the potential that the Action Plan, adopted in February 2007, has as a roadmap for strengthening the relations between both regional blocs of integration.

In that sense, they instructed the General Secretariat of SICA and the CARICOM Secretariat to complete the review and update process of this Plan of Action during the second semester of 2015.

6. They agreed to establish as soon as possible the Technical High Level SICA-CARICOM Committee, which is composed by both Secretariats and their respect Pro Tempore Presidencies or their representatives, as the Monitoring Mechanism of the Action Plan CARICOM-SICA. The resulting work of this Committee shall be approved by the Foreign Affairs Ministers SICA-CARICOM. The resulting work of this Committee shall be approved by the Foreign Ministers of SICA - CARICOM.
7. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of SICA and CARICOM expressed their satisfaction for the positive results of this meeting and agreed to engage in further consultations on the convening of the IV SICA-CARICOM Summit which will be held in a member country of CARICOM.
8. Finally, they thanked the Government of the Republic of Guatemala, in his capacity as President Pro Tempore of SICA, for the assistance and facilities given for the realization of such an important meeting.

Washington, D.C., United States of America, 16 June 2015