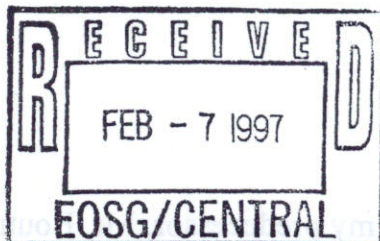


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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL



5 February 1997

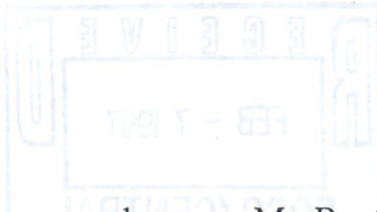
Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of the last two agreements pertaining to the Guatemala peace process which were signed by the Peace Commission of the Government of Guatemala and the General Command of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) under the auspices of the United Nations on 29 December 1996.

The Agreement on the Implementation, Compliance and Verification Timetable for the Peace Agreements was signed by the parties in Guatemala City on 29 December 1996 in the presence of the United Nations Moderator, Mr. Jean Arnault. This Agreement is a detailed guide for the implementation of all the commitments undertaken by the parties in agreements signed since 1994. It sets out a calendar for the phased implementation of these commitments from 1997 to the end of 2000 and for the establishment of the Follow-up Commission to ensure that the process is carried out effectively. The Agreement also requests the Secretary-General to establish a Mission to verify all the agreements, into which the current Human Rights Verification Mission, MINUGUA, is to be absorbed.

The Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace was signed in the National Palace of Guatemala City on 29 December 1996, in a formal ceremony attended by President Alvaro Arzú, by the heads of State of

His Excellency
Mr. Njuguna Moses Mahugu, O.G.W.
President of the Security Council
New York



numerous nations, and by my predecessor, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who was, in addition, a signatory of the Agreement. This Agreement brings into effect all the previous agreements encompassing military, political, social, economic and environmental issues and binds them into a comprehensive nation-wide agenda for peace. It is a milestone both for Guatemala, where it ends 35 years of internal conflict, and for Central America, where it ends the last war in the isthmus and thus completes the principal task which the Presidents of the region set themselves when they signed the Esquipulas II agreement in 1997.

As requested by A/RES/51/198, I shall submit recommendations shortly to the General Assembly on how the structure and staffing of the current MINUGUA should be redesigned to allow the new Mission to fulfil the new responsibilities arising from the signing of peace.

I should be grateful if you could convey the contents of this letter and its enclosures to the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Kofi A. Annan

His Excellency
Mr. Njogu Moses Mahiga, O.G.W.
President of the Security Council
New York