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Belize and the EU Hold Second “Article 8” Political Dialogue Session

The Second political dialogue session between the European Union and Belize took place in Belize City on Monday, 13 April 2015.

The dialogue offers a platform for consultations over a broad range of issues, as well as an opportunity to take stock of progress made concerning 'essential elements' of the Cotonou Agreement, including respect for human rights, rule of law, democratic principles and good governance. The meeting focused on the current status of the Belize Guatemala Process, Energy, Climate Change, Security, the Post 2015 Development Agenda, Human Rights, Schengen Visa Waiver, Preparations for EU-CELAC Summit in June 2015 and Updates on Regional Processes.

Minister Wilfred Elrington led the discussion on the recent developments in the process to resolve the Guatemalan Claim to Belizean Territory.

The EU expressed its continued support for the process through the auspices of the Organization of American States (OAS).

The Cotonou Agreement is the legal framework agreement covering political, development and trade relations between Belize and the European Union, of which Belize is a signatory.

Belize was represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Wilfred Elrington, accompanied by Minister Lisel Alamilla. The EU was represented by H.E. Paola Amadei, EU Ambassador to Belize, accompanied by H.E. Dolf Hogewoning, Netherlands Ambassador and H.E. Peter Hughes, British High Commissioner.

In welcoming the EU Delegation, Minister Elrington stated: “The partnership that exists between Belize and the European Union is an essential one, and we welcome the opportunity to share with our European partners our work in strengthening relations between our peoples.”

EU Ambassador Amadei said, “I am delighted to be in Belize to further build on our excellent bilateral relationship and to progressively discuss key regional and global issues such as security and climate change, which affects all of our citizens. I also look forward to the setting of dates for the referendum with regard to the Belize-Guatemala territorial dispute.”

**For more information Contact
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