



# National Assembly of Belize

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### Members of Parliament attend FOPREL's Joint Inter-Parliamentary Committees Meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica

The Honourable Ramon Cervantes, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration and the Honourable Jorge Espot, Member for Cayo West, are attending the **Joint XIII Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee on Citizen Security and Administration of Justice and the VI Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee on Financial and Budgetary Affairs** of the Forum of Presidents of Legislative Powers of Central America, the Caribbean Basin and Mexico (FOPREL) today, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022, at the Legislative Assembly in Costa Rica.

The meeting is intended to promote coherent cybercrime legislation and support dialogue between legislators on legislation and international cooperation on cybercrime and electronic evidence. Parliamentarians of the member countries of FOPREL will gather a clear understanding of the requirements of national legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence, including with respect to the rule of law, human rights and data protection standards and harmonization with international standards. They will also be able to identify steps towards further strengthening national legislation and they will obtain the necessary information on the advantages of the Budapest Convention and the accession procedure. At the end of the meeting, the Parliamentarians will sign a **Resolution on Legislative Cooperation Actions in the Field of Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence**. On Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Hon. Cervantes and Hon. Espot attended the Official Opening of the Regional Forum of the Americas for Cooperation Against Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence that was held at the Convention Center in Costa Rica.

The Hon. Cervantes is the Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development and the Hon. Espot is the Chairman of the House Standing Committee on National Security and Immigration. They are accompanied by Mrs. Clarita Pech, Deputy Clerk to the National Assembly. The cost of their travels was provided by FOPREL and the Council of Europe. The delegation will return to Belize on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**National Assembly**

