

Resolution Authorizing the Ratification by Belize of the Agreement Establishing the Free Trade Area Between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Dominican Republic and its Protocol Motion, 2021.

WHEREAS, the Agreement Establishing the Free Trade Area between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Dominican Republic (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) which was signed on 22nd August 1998, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and its Protocol which was signed on 28th April 2000;

AND WHEREAS, the objectives of the Agreement and its Protocol are the establishment of a Free Trade Area between the Parties; the promotion and expansion of the sale of goods originating in the territories of the Parties through, inter-alia, free access to the markets of the Parties, elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade, and the establishment of a system of rules of Origin, Customs Cooperation, and the Harmonization of Technical, Sanitary, and Phyto-Sanitary Procedures; the progressive liberalization of trade in services; the liberalization of the movement of capital between the Parties and the promotion and protection of investments; the promotion of the active participation of private economic agents, including the promotion and establishment of joint ventures; the promotion and development of cooperative activities in agriculture, mining, industry, construction, tourism, transportation, telecommunications, banking, insurance, capital markets, professional services, and science and technology; and the discouragement of anti-competitive business practices between and within the Parties;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Belize is desirous of ratifying the Agreement and its Protocol pursuant to Article 22 of the Agreement and Article XI of the Protocol;

AND WHEREAS, section 61(A)(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the ratification of any treaty by the Government of Belize;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to ratify the Agreement Establishing the Free Trade Area between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Dominican Republic and its Protocol, a full text of which are hereto annexed.