

Resolution Approving Statutory Instruments Formally Signed into Law and Published in the Gazette to Give Effect to the Conservation Commitments Specified in Clause 1, Milestone 1 and Clause 2, Milestone 2 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement Motion, 2022.

WHEREAS, Belize entered into a Conservation Funding Agreement with Belize Blue Investment Company LLC, a Delaware limited liability company on the 4th of November 2021;

AND WHEREAS, Article 2.1 of the Conservation Funding Agreement requires Belize, the Government of Belize and each of its Agencies, to comply with the Conservation Commitments specified in Exhibit A of the Conservation Funding Agreement;

AND WHEREAS, Clause 1, Milestone 1 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement provides that no later than six (6) months after signing the Agreement, the National Assembly shall approve and the Government shall formally sign into law and *Gazette* the commitment made by the Government on 2nd April 2019, to expand High Protection for Biodiversity Zones to 11.6% of Belize's Ocean;

AND WHEREAS, Clause 2, Milestone 2 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement provides that no later than six (6) months after signing the Agreement, the National Assembly shall approve and the Government shall formally sign into law and *Gazette* the designation of all remaining public lands within the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System as strict mangrove reserves as outlined in Decision 43 COM 7B.21, which law shall include a permanent ban on the sale of public lands within the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System;

AND WHEREAS, to give effect to the Conservation Commitments under Clause 1, Milestone 1 and Clause 2, Milestone 2 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement, Belize published in the *Gazette* and formally signed into law the following Statutory Instruments on the 21st day of April, 2022–

- (a) Fisheries Resources (High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserves) Order, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 69 of 2022);
- (b) Fisheries (South Water Caye Marine Reserve) (Amendment) Order, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 70 of 2022);
- (c) Fisheries (Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve) (Amendment) Order, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 71 of 2022);
- (d) Forests (South Water Caye Forest Reserve, Sapodilla Cayes Forest Reserve and Bacalar Chico Forest Reserve) Order, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 72 of 2022);

- (e) Fisheries Resources (High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserves) Regulations, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 73 of 2022);
- (f) Fisheries (South Water Caye Marine Reserve) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 74 of 2022);
- (g) Fisheries (Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (Statutory Instrument No. 75 of 2022);

AND WHEREAS, for the purposes of the National Assembly confirmatory approval, by letter dated 28th April 2022, Belize Blue Investment Company LLC granted a six-month waiver of compliance with Milestone 1 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement and Milestone 2 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement, as set out above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable Senate approves the Statutory Instruments published in the *Gazette* and formally signed into law on the 21st day of April 2022, to give effect to the Conservation Commitments specified in Clause 1, Milestone 1 and Clause 2, Milestone 2 of Exhibit A of the Conservation Agreement.