

Resolution Authorising the Ratification of the Agreement on the Return or Sharing of Recovered Assets Motion, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Agreement on the Return or Sharing of Recovered Assets (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) is grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas which established the CARICOM, and the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy, adopted by the Conference of Heads of Government at its 24th Inter-sessional Meeting held in 2013, which underscored the importance of asset recovery as an effective tool against organized crime;

AND WHEREAS, the Agreement was signed by the Government of Belize in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye at the 33rd Inter-sessional Meeting of the CARICOM Heads of Government on 2nd March 2022;

AND WHEREAS, the object of the Agreement is to combat crime comprehensively, especially corruption, money laundering, the trafficking of illicit drugs and illicit firearms, ammunition and explosives, the proliferation of small arms, ammunition and weapons of mass destruction, organized crime, cybercrime, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, as well as terrorism in all forms and manifestations, including its financing and other offence;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Belize is desirous of ratifying the Agreement pursuant to Article 16 of the said Agreement;

AND WHEREAS, section 61A(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution provides that the Senate has the power to authorise the ratification, including adhesion or accession, of any treaty by the Government of Belize;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Honourable Senate, having examined the said Agreement, authorises the Government of Belize to ratify the Agreement on the Return or Sharing of Recovered Assets, a full text of which is hereto annexed.