

TREATY BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND
THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA
RESPECTING THE SETTLEMENT OF THE
BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE COLONY OF
BRITISH GUIANA AND THE UNITED
STATES OF VENEZUELA.

Signed at Washington, February 2, 1897.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Washington, June 14, 1897.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the United States of Venezuela, being desirous to provide for an amicable settlement of the question which has arisen between their respective Governments concerning the boundary between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela, have resolved to submit to arbitration the question involved, and to the end of concluding a Treaty for that purpose have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Sir Julian Paunce-

SU Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda y los Estados Unidos de Venezuela, deseando estipular el arreglo amistoso de la cuestión que se ha suscitado entre sus respectivos Gobiernos acerca del límite de la Colonia de la Guayana Británica y los Estados Unidos de Venezuela, han resuelto someter dicha cuestión á arbitramento, y á fin de concluir con ese objeto un Tratado, han elegido por sus respectivos Plenipotenciarios:

Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda al Muy Honorable Sir Julian Pauncefote, Miembro

fote, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath and of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States;

And the President of the United States of Venezuela, Señor José Andrade, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Venezuela to the United States of America;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

An Arbitral Tribunal shall be immediately appointed to determine the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela.

ARTICLE II.

The Tribunal shall consist of five Jurists: two on the part of Great Britain, nominated by the Members of the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, namely, the Right Honourable Baron Herschell, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and the Honourable Sir Richard Henn Collins, Knight, one of the Justices of Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature; two on the part of Venezuela, nomi-

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del Muy Honorable Consejo Privado de Su Majestad, Caballero Gran Cruz de la Muy Honorable Orden del Baño y de la Muy Distinguida Orden de San Miguel y San Jorge, y Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad en los Estados Unidos;

Y el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de Venezuela, al Señor José Andrade, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Venezuela en los Estados Unidos de América;

Quienes, habiéndose comunicado sus respectivos plenos poderes, que fueron hallados en propia y debida forma, han acordado y concluido los Artículos siguientes:—

ARTICULO I.

Se nombrará inmediatamente un Tribunal Arbitral para determinar la línea divisoria entre la Colonia de la Guayana Británica y los Estados Unidos de Venezuela.

ARTICULO II

El Tribunal se compondrá de cinco Juristas; dos de parte de la Gran Bretaña nombrados por los miembros de la Comisión Judicial del Consejo Privado de Su Majestad, á saber, el Muy Honorable Barón Herschell, Caballero Gran Cruz de la Muy Honorable Orden del Baño, y el Honorable Sir Richard Henn Collins, Caballero, uno de los Justicias de la Corte Suprema de Judicatura de Su Majestad; dos de parte de Venezuela, nombrados, uno por el Presi-

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nated, one by the President of the United States of Venezuela, namely, the Honourable Melville Weston Fuller, Chief Justice of the United States of America, and one nominated by the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, namely, the Honourable David Josiah Brewer, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America; and of a fifth Jurist to be selected by the four persons so nominated, or in the event of their failure to agree within three months from the date of the exchange of ratifications of the present Treaty, to be selected by His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway. The Jurist so selected shall be President of the Tribunal.

In case of the death, absence, or incapacity to serve of any of the four Arbitrators above named, or in the event of any such Arbitrator omitting or declining or ceasing to act as such, another Jurist of repute shall be forthwith substituted in his place. If such vacancy shall occur among those nominated on the part of Great Britain, the substitute shall be appointed by the members for the time being of the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, acting by a majority, and if among those nominated on the part of Venezuela, he shall be appointed by the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, acting by a majority. If such vacancy shall occur in the case of the fifth Arbitrator, a substitute shall be selected in the manner herein provided for with regard to the original appointment.

dente de los Estados Unidos de Venezuela, á saber, el Honorable Melville Weston Fuller, Justicia Mayor de los Estados Unidos de América, y uno por los Justicias de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos de América, á saber, el Honorable David Josiah Brewer, Justicia de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos de América; y de un quinto Jurista, que será elegido por las cuatro personas así nombradas, ó, en el evento de no lograr ellas acordarse en la designación dentro de los tres meses contados desde la fecha del canje de las ratificaciones del presente Tratado, por Su Majestad el Rey de Suecia y Noruega. El Jurista á quien así se elija será Presidente del Tribunal.

En caso de muerte, ausencia ó incapacidad para servir de cualquiera de los cuatro Arbitros arriba mencionados, ó en el evento de que alguno de ellos no llegue á ejercer las funciones de tal por omisión, renuncia ó cesación, se substituirá inmediatamente por otro Jurista de reputación. Si tal vacante ocurre entre los nombrados por parte de la Gran Bretaña, elegirán al sustituto, por mayoría, los que fueren entonces miembros de la Comisión Judicial del Consejo Privado de Su Majestad; y si ocurriere entre los nombrados por parte de Venezuela, el sustituto será elegido por los Justicias de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos de América por mayoría. Si vacare el puesto de quinto Arbitro, se le elegirá sustituto del modo aquí estipulado en cuanto al nombramiento primitivo.

ARTICLE III.

The Tribunal shall investigate and ascertain the extent of the territories belonging to, or that might lawfully be claimed by, the United Netherlands or by the Kingdom of Spain respectively at the time of the acquisition by Great Britain of the Colony of British Guiana, and shall determine the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela.

ARTICULO III.

El Tribunal investigará y se cerciorará de la extensión de los territorios pertenecientes á las Provincias Unidas de los Países Bajos ó al Reino de España respectivamente, ó que pudieran ser legítimamente reclamados por aquéllas ó éste, al tiempo de la adquisición de la Colonia de la Guayana Británica por la Gran Bretaña, y determinará la línea divisoria entre la Colonia de la Guayana Británica y los Estados Unidos de Venezuela.

ARTICLE IV.

In deciding the matters submitted, the Arbitrators shall ascertain all facts which they deem necessary to a decision of the controversy, and shall be governed by the following Rules, which are agreed upon by the High Contracting Parties as Rules to be taken as applicable to the case, and by such principles of international law not inconsistent therewith as the Arbitrators shall determine to be applicable to the case:—

ARTICULO IV.

Al decidir los asuntos sometidos á los Arbitros, estos se cerciorarán de todos los hechos que estimen necesarios para la decisión de la controversia, y se gobernarán por las siguientes reglas en que están convenidas las Altas Partes Contratantes como reglas que han de considerarse aplicables al caso, y por los principios de derecho internacional no incompatibles con ellas, que los Arbitros juzgaren aplicables al mismo:—

Rules.

(a.) Adverse holding or prescription during a period of fifty years shall make a good title. The Arbitrators may deem exclusive political control of a district, as well as actual settlement thereof, sufficient to constitute adverse holding or to make title by prescription.

(b.) The Arbitrators may recognize and give effect to rights and claims resting on any other

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Reglas.

(a.) Una posesión adversa o prescripción por el término de cincuenta años constituirá un buen título. Los Arbitros podrán estimar que la dominación política exclusiva de un distrito, así como la efectiva colonización de él, son suficientes para constituir una posesión adversa ó crear título de prescripción.

(b.) Los Arbitros podrán reconocer y hacer efectivos derechos y reivindicaciones que se

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ground whatever valid according to international law, and on any principles of international law which the Arbitrators may deem to be applicable to the case, and which are not in contravention of the foregoing rule.

(c.) In determining the boundary-line, if territory of one Party be found by the Tribunal to have been at the date of this Treaty in the occupation of the subjects or citizens of the other Party, such effect shall be given to such occupation as reason, justice, the principles of international law, and the equities of the case shall, in the opinion of the Tribunal, require.

ARTICLE V.

The Arbitrators shall meet at Paris, within sixty days after the delivery of the printed arguments mentioned in Article VIII, and shall proceed impartially and carefully to examine and decide the questions that have been, or shall be, laid before them, as herein provided, on the part of the Governments of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela respectively.

Provided always that the Arbitrators may, if they shall think fit, hold their meetings, or any of them, at any other place which they may determine.

All questions considered by the Tribunal, including the final decision, shall be determined by a majority of all the Arbitrators.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall name one person

apoyen en cualquier otro fundamento válido conforme al derecho internacional, y en cualesquiera principios de derecho internacional que los Arbitros estimen aplicables al caso y que no contravengan á la regla precedente.

(c.) Al determinar la línea divisoria, si el Tribunal hallare que territorio de una parte ha estado en la fecha de este Tratado ocupado por los súbditos ó ciudadanos de la otra parte, se dará á tal ocupación el efecto que, en opinión del Tribunal, requieran la razón, la justicia, los principios del derecho internacional, y la equidad del caso.

ARTICULO V.

Los Arbitros se reunirán en Paris dentro de los sesenta días después la entrega de los argumentos impresos mencionados en el Artículo VIII, y procederán á examinar y decidir imparcial y cuidadosamente las cuestiones que se les hayan sometido ó se les presentaren, según aquí se estipula, por parte de los Gobiernos de Su Majestad Británica y de los Estados Unidos de Venezuela respectivamente.

Pero queda siempre entendido que los Arbitros, si lo juzgan conveniente, podrán celebrar sus reuniones, ó algunas de ellas, en cualquier otro lugar que determinen.

Todas las cuestiones consideradas por el Tribunal, inclusive la decisión definitiva, serán resueltas por mayoría de todos los Arbitros.

Cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes nombrará como su

as its Agent to attend the Tribunal, and to represent it generally in all matters connected with the Tribunal.

Agente una persona que asista al Tribunal y la represente generalmente en todos los asuntos conexos con el Tribunal.

ARTICLE VI.

The printed Case of each of the two Parties, accompanied by the documents, the official correspondence, and other evidence on which each relies, shall be delivered in duplicate to each of the Arbitrators and to the Agent of the other Party as soon as may be after the appointment of the members of the Tribunal, but within a period not exceeding eight months from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty.

ARTICULO VI.

Tan pronto como sea posible después de nombrados los miembros del Tribunal, pero dentro de un plazo que no excederá de ocho meses contados desde la fecha del canje de las ratificaciones de este Tratado, se entregará por duplicado á cada uno de los Arbitros y al Agente de la otra parte, el Alegato impreso de cada una de las dos Partes, acompañado de los documentos, la correspondencia oficial y las demás pruebas, en que cada una se apoye.

ARTICLE VII.

Within four months after the delivery on both sides of the printed Case, either Party may in like manner deliver in duplicate to each of the said Arbitrators, and to the Agent of the other Party, a Counter-Case, and additional documents, correspondence, and evidence, in reply to the Case, documents, correspondence, and evidence so presented by the other Party.

If in the Case submitted to the Arbitrators either Party shall have specified or alluded to any report or document in its own exclusive possession, without annexing a copy, such Party shall be bound, if the other Party thinks proper to apply for it, to furnish that Party with a copy thereof, and either Party may call upon the

ARTICULO VII.

Dentro de los cuatro meses siguientes á la entrega por ambas Partes del Alegato impreso, una ú otra podrá del mismo modo entregar por duplicado á cada uno de dichos Arbitros, y al Agente de la otra Parte, un contra-Alegato y nuevos documentos, correspondencia y pruebas, para contestar al Alegato, documentos, correspondencia y pruebas presentados por la otra Parte.

Si en el Alegato sometido á los Arbitros una ú otra Parte hubiere especificado ó citado algún informe ó documento que esté en su exclusiva posesión, sin agregar copia, tal Parte quedará obligada, si la otra cree conveniente pedirla, á suministrarle copia de él; y una ú otra Parte podrá excitar á la otra, por medio de los Arbitros,

other, through the Arbitrators, to produce the originals or certified copies of any papers adduced as evidence, giving in each instance notice thereof within thirty days after delivery of the Case, and the original or copy so requested shall be delivered as soon as may be, and within a period not exceeding forty days after receipt of notice.

ARTICLE VIII.

It shall be the duty of the Agent of each Party, within three months after the expiration of the time limited for the delivery of the Counter-Case on both sides, to deliver in duplicate to each of the said Arbitrators, and to the Agent of the other Party, a printed argument showing the points, and referring to the evidence upon which his Government relies, and either Party may also support the same before the Arbitrators by oral argument of counsel; and the Arbitrators may, if they desire further elucidation with regard to any point, require a written or printed statement or argument, or oral argument by counsel upon it; but in such case the other party shall be entitled to reply either orally or in writing, as the case may be.

ARTICLE IX.

The Arbitrators may, for any cause deemed by them sufficient, enlarge either of the periods fixed by Articles VI, VII, and VIII by the allowance of thirty days additional.

á producir los originales ó copias certificados de los papeles aducidos como pruebas, dando en cada caso aviso de esto dentro de los treinta días después de la presentación del Alegato; y el original ó la copia pedidos se entregarán tan pronto como sea posible y dentro de un plazo que no exceda de cuarenta días después del recibo del aviso

ARTICULO VIII.

El Agente de cada Parte, dentro de los tres meses después de la expiración del tiempo señalado para la entrega del contra-Alegato por ambas Partes, deberá entregar por duplicado a cada uno de dichos Arbitros y al Agente de la otra Parte un argumento impreso que señale los puntos y cite las pruebas en que se funda su Gobierno, y cualquiera de las dos Partes podrá también apoyarlo ante los Arbitros con argumentos orales de su Abogado; y los Arbitros podrán, si desean mayor esclarecimiento con respecto á algún punto, requerir sobre él una exposición ó argumento escritos ó impresos, ó argumentos orales del Abogado; pero en tal caso la otra Parte tendrá derecho á contestar oralmente ó por escrito, según fuere el caso.

ARTICULO IX.

Los Arbitros por cualquier causa que juzguen suficiente podrán prorogar uno ú otro de los plazos fijados en los Artículos VI, VII, y VIII, concediendo treinta días adicionales.

ARTICLE X.

The decision of the Tribunal shall, if possible, be made within three months from the close of the argument on both sides.

It shall be made in writing and dated, and shall be signed by the Arbitrators who may assent to it.

The decision shall be in duplicate, one copy whereof shall be delivered to the Agent of Great Britain for his Government, and the other copy shall be delivered to the Agent of the United States of Venezuela for his Government.

ARTICULO X.

Si fuere posible, el Tribunal dará su decisión dentro de tres meses contados desde que termine la argumentación por ambos lados.

La decisión se dará por escrito, llevará fecha y se firmará por los Arbitros que asientan á ella.

La decisión se extenderá por duplicado; de ella se entregará un ejemplar al Agente de la Gran Bretaña para su Gobierno, y el otro se entregará al Agente de los Estados Unidos de Venezuela para su Gobierno.

ARTICLE XI.

The Arbitrators shall keep an accurate record of their proceedings, and may appoint and employ the necessary officers to assist them.

ARTICULO XI

Los Arbitros llevarán un registro exacto de sus procedimientos y podrán elegir y emplear las personas que necesiten para su ayuda.

ARTICLE XII.

Each Government shall pay its own Agent and provide for the proper remuneration of the counsel employed by it, and of the Arbitrators appointed by it or in its behalf, and for the expense of preparing and submitting its Case to the Tribunal. All other expenses connected with the Arbitration shall be defrayed by the two Governments in equal moieties.

ARTICULO XII.

Cada Gobierno pagará á su propio Agente y proveerá la remuneración conveniente para el Abogado que emplee y para los Arbitros elegidos por él ó en su nombre, y costeará los gastos de la preparación y sometimiento de su causa al Tribunal. Los dos Gobiernos satisfarán por partes iguales todos los demás gastos relativos al arbitramento.

ARTICLE XIII.

The High Contracting Parties engage to consider the result of the proceedings of the Tri-

ARTICULO XIII.

Las Altas Partes Contratantes se obligan á considerar el resultado de los procedimientos

lunal of Arbitration as a full, perfect, and final settlement of all the questions referred to the Arbitrators.

del Tribunal de Arbitramento como arreglo pleno, perfecto y definitivo de todas las cuestiones sometidas á los Arbitros.

ARTICLE XIV.

The present Treaty shall be duly ratified by Her Britannic Majesty and by the President of the United States of Venezuela, by and with the approval of the Congress thereof, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in London or in Washington within six months from the date hereof.

In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Treaty and have hereunto affixed our seals.

Done in duplicate, at Washington, the second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

(L.S.)

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

(L.S.)

JOSE ANDRADE.

ARTICULO XIV.

El presente Tratado será debidamente ratificado por Su Majestad Británica y por el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de Venezuela con la aprobación del Congreso de ellos, y las ratificaciones se canjearán en Londres ó en Washington dentro de los seis meses contados desde la fecha del presente Tratado.

En fé de lo cual los respectivos Plenipotenciarios hemos firmado este Tratado y le hemos puesto nuestros sellos.

Hecho por duplicado en Washington, á dos de Febrero, de mil ochocientos noventa y siete.

(L.S.)

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

(L.S.)

JOSÉ ANDRADE.

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AWARD OF THE TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION CONSTITUTED UNDER ARTICLE I OF THE TREATY OF ARBITRATION SIGNED AT WASHINGTON, BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA, REGARDING THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE COLONY OF BRITISH GUIANA AND THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA, DECISION OF 3 OCTOBER 1899*

SENTENCE DU TRIBUNAL ARBITRAL, ÉTABLI EN VERTU DE L'ARTICLE I DU TRAITÉ D'ARBITRAGE, SIGNÉ À WASHINGTON, ENTRE LA GRANDE BRETAGNE ET LES ÉTATS-UNIS DU VENEZUELA, RELATIVE À LA FRONTIÈRE ENTRE LA COLONIE DE GUYANE BRITANNIQUE ET LES ÉTATS-UNIS DU VENEZUELA, DÉCISION DU 3 OCTOBRE 1899**

Determination of borders – question of the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela.

Maintenance of navigation rights for merchant ships of all nations on rivers Amakuru and Barima – rights of British and Venezuelan ships on shared rivers.

Délimitation frontalière – question de la ligne frontière entre la colonie de la Guyane britannique et les États-Unis du Venezuela.

Conservation des droits de navigation pour les navires marchands de toutes les nations sur les fleuves Amakuru et Barima – droits des navires britanniques et vénézuéliens sur les fleuves transfrontaliers.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, on the 2nd day of February, 1897, a Treaty of Arbitration was concluded between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the United States of Venezuela in the terms following:—

Ratifications exchanged at Washington, June 14, 1897.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the United States of Venezuela, being desirous to provide for an amicable settlement of the question which has arisen between their respective Governments concerning the boundary between the Colony of British Guiana

* Reprinted from *British and Foreign State Papers*, Compiled by The Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign Office, vol. 92, London, 1903, H. M. Stationery Office, p.160.

** Reproduit de *British and Foreign State Papers*, Compilé par The Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign Office, vol. 92, London, 1903, H. M. Stationery Office, p.160.

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and the United States of Venezuela, have resolved to submit to arbitration the question involved, and to the end of concluding a Treaty for that purpose have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Sir Julian Pauncefote, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath and of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States;

And the President of the United States of Venezuela, Señor José Andrade, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Venezuela to the United States of America;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following Articles:—

ART. I. An Arbitral Tribunal shall be immediately appointed to determine the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela.

II. The Tribunal shall consist of five Jurists: two on the part of Great Britain, nominated by the members of the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, namely, the Right Honourable Baron Herschell, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and the Honourable Sir Richard Henn Collins, Knight, one of the Justices of Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature; two on the part of Venezuela, nominated, one by the President of the United States of Venezuela, namely, the Honourable Melville Western Fuller, Chief Justice of the United States of America, and one nominated by the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, namely, the Honourable David Josiah Brewer, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America; and of a fifth Jurist to be selected by the four persons so nominated, or in the event of their failure to agree within three months from the date of the exchange of ratifications of the present Treaty, to be selected by His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway. The Jurist so selected shall be President of the Tribunal.

In case of the death, absence, or incapacity to serve of any of the four Arbitrators above named, or in the event of any such Arbitrator omitting or declining or ceasing to act as such, another Jurist of repute shall be forthwith substituted in his place. If such vacancy shall occur among those nominated on the part of Great Britain, the substitute shall be appointed by the members for the time being of the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, acting by a majority, and if among those nominated on the part of Venezuela, he shall be appointed by the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, acting by a majority. If such vacancy shall occur in the case of the

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fifth Arbitrator, a substitute shall be selected in the manner herein provided for with regard to the original appointment.

III. The Tribunal shall investigate and ascertain the extent of the territories belonging to, or that might lawfully be claimed by, the United Netherlands or by the Kingdom of Spain respectively at the time of the acquisition by Great Britain of the Colony of British Guiana, and shall determine the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela.

IV. In deciding the matters submitted, the Arbitrators shall ascertain all facts which they deem necessary to a decision of the controversy, and shall be governed by the following Rules, which are agreed upon by the High Contracting Parties as Rules to be taken as applicable to the case, and by such principles of international law not inconsistent therewith as the Arbitrators shall determine to be applicable to the case: —

Rules.

(a.) Adverse holding or prescription during a period of fifty years shall make a good title. The Arbitrators may deem exclusive political control of a district, as well as actual settlement thereof, sufficient to constitute adverse holding or to make title by prescription.

(b.) The Arbitrators may recognize and give effect to rights and claims resting on any other ground whatever valid according to international law, and on any principles of international law which the Arbitrators may deem to be applicable to the case, and which are not in contravention of the foregoing rule.

(c.) In determining the boundary-line, if territory of one Party be found by the Tribunal to have been at the date of this Treaty in the occupation of the subjects or citizens of the other Party, such effect shall be given to such occupation as reason, justice, the principles of international law, and the equities of the case shall, in the opinion of the Tribunal, require.

V. The Arbitrators shall meet at Paris, within sixty days after the delivery of the printed arguments mentioned in Article VIII, and shall proceed impartially and carefully to examine and decide the questions that have been, or shall be, laid before them, as herein provided, on the part of the Governments of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela respectively.

Provided always that the Arbitrators may, if they shall think fit, hold their meetings, or any of them, at any other place which they may determine.

All questions considered by the Tribunal, including the final decision, shall be determined by a majority of all the Arbitrators.

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Each of the High Contracting Parties shall name one person as its Agent to attend the Tribunal, and to represent it generally in all matters connected with the Tribunal.

VI. The printed Case of each of the two Parties, accompanied by the documents, the official correspondence, and other evidence on which each relies, shall be delivered in duplicate to each of the Arbitrators and to the Agent of the other Party as soon as may be after the appointment of the members of the Tribunal, but within a period not exceeding eight months from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty.

VII. Within four months after the delivery on both sides of the printed Case, either Party may in like manner deliver in duplicate to each of the said Arbitrators, and to the Agent of the other Party, a Counter-Case, and additional documents, correspondence, and evidence, in reply to the Case, documents, correspondence, and evidence so presented by the other Party.

If in the Case submitted to the Arbitrators either Party shall have specified or alluded to any report or document, in its own exclusive possession, without annexing a copy, such Party shall be bound, if the other Party thinks proper to apply for it, to furnish that Party with a copy thereof, and either Party may call upon the other, through the Arbitrators, to produce the originals or certified copies of any papers adduced as evidence, giving in each instance notice thereof within thirty days after delivery of the Case, and the original or copy so requested shall be delivered as soon as may be, and within a period not exceeding forty days after receipt of notice.

VIII. It shall be the duty of the Agent of each Party, within three months after the expiration of the time limited for the delivery of the Counter-Case on both sides, to deliver in duplicate to each of the said Arbitrators, and to the Agent of the other Party, a printed Argument showing the points, and referring to the evidence upon which his Government relies, and either Party may also support the same before the Arbitrators by oral argument of Counsel; and the Arbitrators may, if they desire further elucidation with regard to any point, require a written or printed statement or argument, or oral argument by Counsel upon it; but in such case the other Party shall be entitled to reply either orally or in writing, as the case may be.

IX. The Arbitrators may, for any cause deemed by them sufficient, enlarge either of the periods fixed by Articles VI, VII, and VIII by the allowance of thirty days additional.

X. The decision of the Tribunal shall, if possible, be made within three months from the close of the argument on both sides.

It shall be made in writing and dated, and shall be signed by the Arbitrators who may assent to it.

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The decision shall be in duplicate, one copy whereof shall be delivered to the Agent of Great Britain for his Government, and the other copy shall be delivered to the Agent of the United States of Venezuela for his Government.

XI. The Arbitrators shall keep an accurate record of their proceedings, and may appoint and employ the necessary officers to assist them.

XII. Each Government shall pay its own Agent and provide for the proper remuneration of the Counsel employed by it, and of the Arbitrators appointed by it or in its behalf, and for the expense of preparing and submitting its case to the Tribunal. All other expenses connected with the Arbitration shall be defrayed by the two Governments in equal moities.

XIII. The High Contracting Parties engage to consider the result of the proceedings of the Tribunal of Arbitration as a full, perfect, and final settlement of all the questions referred to the Arbitrators.

XIV. The present Treaty shall be duly ratified by Her Britannic Majesty and by the President of the United States of Venezuela, by and with the approval of the Congress thereof, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in London or in Washington within six months from the date hereof.

In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Treaty, and have hereunto affixed our seals.

Done in duplicate at Washington, the 2nd day of February, 1897.

(L.S.)

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

(L.S.)

JOSÉ ANDRADE

And whereas the said Treaty was duly ratified, and the ratifications were duly exchanged in Washington on the 14th day of June, 1897, in conformity with the said Treaty;

And whereas since the date of the said Treaty, and before the arbitration thereby contemplated had been entered upon, the said Right Honourable Baron Herschell departed this life;

And whereas the Right Honourable Charles Baron Russell of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice of England, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George has, conformably to the terms of the said Treaty, been duly nominated by the members of the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council to act under the said Treaty in the place and stead of the said late Baron Herschell;

And whereas the said four Arbitrators, namely: the said Right Honourable Lord Russell of Killowen, the Right Honourable Sir Richard Henn Collins, the Honourable Melville Weston Fuller, and the Honourable David Josiah Brewer, have, conformably to the terms of the said Treaty, selected his Excellency Frederic de Martens, Privy Councillor, Permanent Member of the Council of

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the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Russia, LL.D. of the Universities of Cambridge and Edinburgh, to be the fifth Arbitrator;

And whereas the said Arbitrators have duly entered upon the said Arbitration, and have duly heard and considered the oral and written arguments of the Counsel representing respectively Her Majesty the Queen and the United States of Venezuela, and have impartially and carefully examined the questions laid before them, and have investigated and ascertained the extent of the territories belonging to or that might lawfully be claimed by the United Netherlands or by the Kingdom of Spain respectively at the time of the acquisition by Great Britain of the Colony of British Guiana:

Now we, the undersigned Arbitrators, do hereby make and publish our decision, determination, and award of, upon, and concerning the questions submitted to us by the said Treaty of Arbitration, finally decide, award, and determine that the boundary-line between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela is as follows: —

Starting from the coast at Point Playa, the line of boundary shall run in a straight line to the River Barima at its junction with the River Mururuma, and thence along the mid-stream of the latter river to its source, and from that point to the junction of the River Haiowa with the Amakuru, and thence along the mid-stream of the Amakuru to its source in the Imataka Ridge, and thence in a south-westerly direction along the highest ridge of the spur of the Imataka Mountains to the highest point of the main range of such Imataka Mountains opposite to the source of the Barima, and thence along the summit of the main ridge in a south-easterly direction of the Imataka Mountains to the source of the Acarabisi, and thence along the mid-stream of the Acarabisi to the Cuyuni, and thence along the northern bank of the River Cuyuni westward to its junction with the Wenamu, and thence following the mid-stream of the Wenamu to its westernmost source, and thence in a direct line to the summit of Mount Roraima, and from Mount Roraima to the source of the Cotinga, and along the mid-stream of that river to its junction with the Takutu, and thence along the mid-stream of the Takutu to its source, thence in a straight line to the westernmost point of the Akarai Mountains, and thence along the ridge of the Akarai Mountains to the source of the Corentin called the Cutari River:

Provided always that the line of delimitation fixed by this Award shall be subject and without prejudice to any questions now existing, or which may arise, to be determined between the Government of Her Britannic Majesty and the Republic of Brazil, or between the latter Republic and the United States of Venezuela.

In fixing the above delimitation, the Arbitrators consider and decide that in times of peace the Rivers Amakuru and Barima shall be open to navigation by the merchant-ships of all nations, subject to all just regulations and to the payment of light or other like dues: Provided that the dues charged by the Republic of Venezuela and the Government of the Colony of British Guiana in respect of the passage of vessels along the portions of such rivers

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BRITISH GUIANA BOUNDARY

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respectively owned by them shall be charged at the same rates upon the vessels of Venezuela and Great Britain, such rates being no higher than those charged to any other nation: Provided also that no customs duties shall be chargeable either by the Republic of Venezuela or by the Colony of British Guiana in respect of goods carried on board ships, vessels, or boats passing along the said rivers; but customs duties shall only be chargeable in respect of goods landed in the territory of Venezuela or Great Britain respectively.

Executed and published in duplicate by us in Paris, this 3rd day of October, A.D. 1899.

F. DE MARTENS.
MELVILLE WESTON FULLER.
DAVID J. BREWER.
RUSSELL OF K^N.
R. HENN COLLINS.

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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND VENEZUELAN BOUNDARY
COMMISSIONERS WITH REGARD TO THE MAP OF THE BOUNDARY
[10 January 1905]**

(Published as Sessional Paper No. 266 of the Combined Court [of British Guiana], Annual Session, 1905)

In the City of Georgetown, Capital of the Colony of British Guiana, on the tenth (10th) day of the month of January 1905, met together Harry Innes Perkins, Companion of the Imperial Service Order of His Majesty King Edward VII, and Senior Commissioner of the Boundary Commission of the Colony with the Republic of Venezuela; Charles Wilgress Anderson, Second Commissioner of the same Colony; Doctor Abraham Tirado, Civil Engineer of the United States of Venezuela and Chief of the Boundary Commission between that Republic and the Colony of British Guiana; and Doctor Elias Toro, Surgeon Doctor of the Illustrious Central University of Venezuela, and Second Commissioner on behalf of that aforesaid Republic, with the object of stating in this Agreement the results of their work in the demarcation of the Boundary between the territories, and

1st. Whereas the credentials which authorise them as lawful Representatives of their respective Governments have been regularly presented and accepted in conformity with the powers thereby conferred, and

2nd. Whereas the journey has been accomplished from the Akarabisi River to Roraima Mountain, and all the Astronomical, Geodesical, and Topographical observations at all the most important points along the Boundary line, as laid down by the Arbitral Award given in Paris on 3rd October, 1899, were taken during the same journey; and

3rd. Whereas the special instructions given to both Commissioners impose upon them for sake of greater clearness, the necessity of stating on a General Map of the Boundary, the results of the work done whereon can be seen all the details; and

4th. Whereas both Governments ought to possess authentic documents of like tenure which set forth their respective rights in the territory which has been demarcated, they agree and declare: – 1st. That they regard this Agreement as having a perfectly official character with respect to the acts and rights of both Governments in the territory demarcated; that they accept the points mentioned below as correct, the result of the mean of the observations and calculations made by both Commissioners together or separately, as follows:–

N. Latitude

Longitude W. of
Greenwich

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Akarabisi River Head	7° 08' 27.7"	60° 20' 51.1"
Akarabisi River Mouth	6° 55' 47.1"	60° 22' 01.7"
Camp No. 3	6° 55' 28.9"	60° 39' 12.8"
Camp No. 4 Awatabaru	6° 47' 04.8"	60° 46' 36.3"
Ekereku River Mouth	6° 43' 02.8"	60° 56' 23.7"
Wenamu River Mouth	6° 42' 40.9"	61° 08' 00.7"
Pathawaru, Wenamu River	6° 26' 02.3"	61° 07' 54.1"
Arawai Fall	6° 19' 36.5"	61° 09' 22.1"
Tshuau Village	6° 11' 45.8"	61° 07' 22.1"
Kuru Falls	6° 03' 42.5"	61° 16' 46.6"
Dead Man's Camp	5° 58' 06"	61° 22' 55.7"
Westernmost source	5° 56' 55.4"	61° 23' 24.7"
Paruima River Camp	5° 51' 01.7"	61° 03' 08.1"
Kamarang River Camp	5° 43' 27.2"	61° 04' 13.5"
Arriwa Matai	5° 36' 35"	61° 21' 15.3"
Yuranni River	5° 11' 00"	60° 58' 36.5"
Kamaiwawong Village	5° 06' 11.1"	60° 47' 45.3"
Boundary Mark Mt. Roraima	5° 10' 09.6"	60° 45' 58.2"

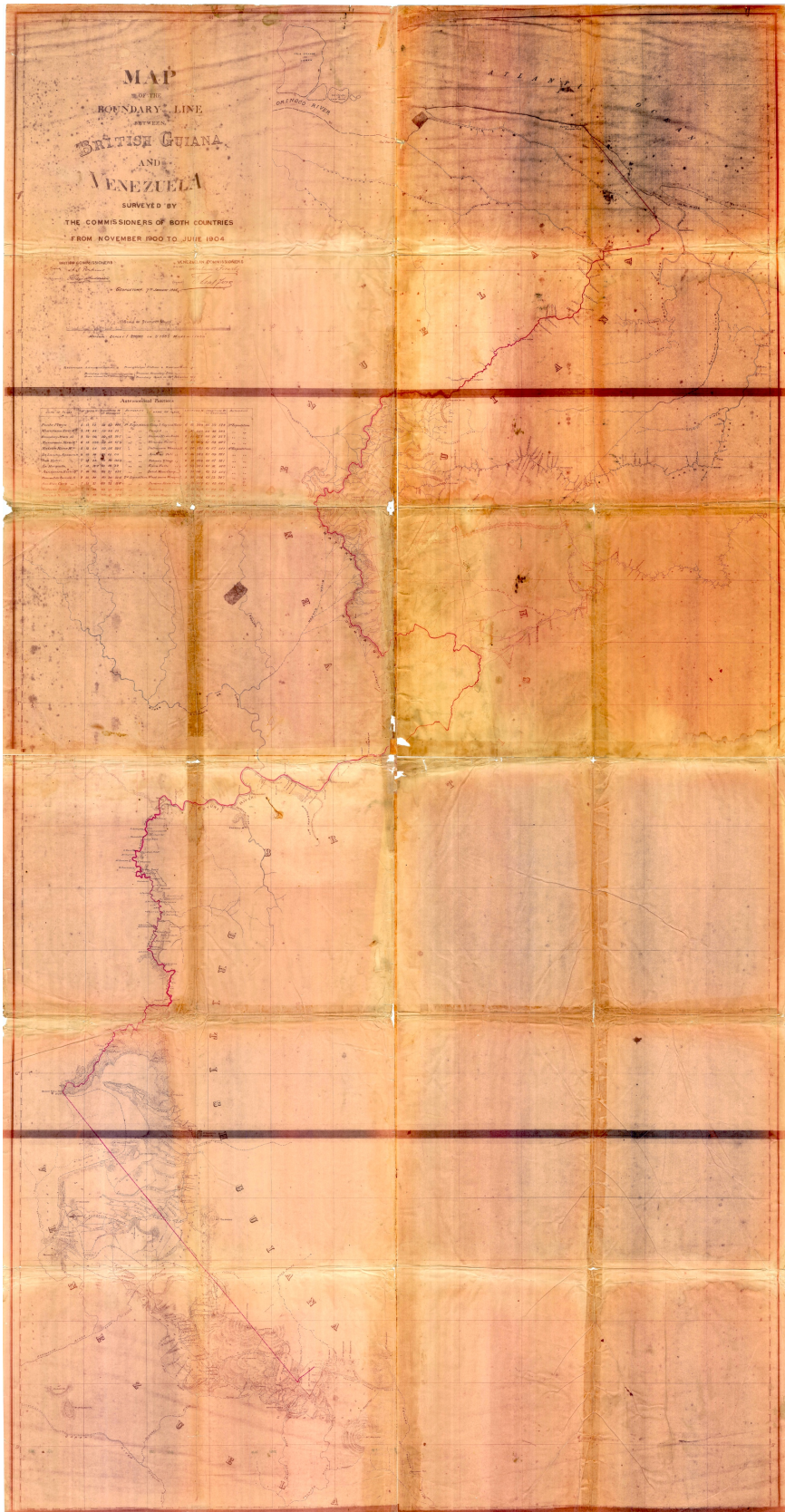
2nd. That the two maps mentioned in this Agreement, signed by both Commissioners, are exactly the same, one for the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and the other for that of Venezuela, containing all the enumerated details related to the demarcation, with the clear specification of the Boundary line according with the Arbitral Award of Paris.

3rd. That they sign in their own handwriting four copies of this Agreement, two in the English and two in the Spanish language, to be delivered one copy in each language, to their respective Governments.

(Signed) H.I. Perkins (Signed) Abraham Tirado
Senior Boundary Commissioner

(Signed) C. Wilgress Anderson (Signed) Elias Toro
Junior Boundary Commissioner

ANNEX 3



No. 8192. AGREEMENT¹ TO RESOLVE THE CONTROVERSY BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND OVER THE FRONTIER BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND BRITISH GUIANA. SIGNED AT GENEVA, ON 17 FEBRUARY 1966

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in consultation with the Government of British Guiana, and the Government of Venezuela ;

Taking into account the forthcoming independence of British Guiana ;

Recognising that closer cooperation between British Guiana and Venezuela could bring benefit to both countries ;

Convinced that any outstanding controversy between the United Kingdom and British Guiana on the one hand and Venezuela on the other would prejudice the furtherance of such cooperation and should therefore be amicably resolved in a manner acceptable to both parties ;

In conformity with the agenda that was agreed for the governmental conversations concerning the controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom over the frontier with British Guiana, in accordance with the joint communiqué of 7 November, 1963, have reached the following agreement to resolve the present controversy :

Article I

A Mixed Commission shall be established with the task of seeking satisfactory solutions for the practical settlement of the controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom which has arisen as the result of the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899² about the frontier between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void.

Article II

(1) Within two months of the entry into force of this Agreement, two representatives shall be appointed to the Mixed Commission by the Government of British Guiana and two by the Government of Venezuela.

(2) The Government appointing a representative may at any time replace him, and shall do so immediately should one or both of its representatives be unable to act through illness or death or any other cause.

¹ Came into force on 17 February 1966, the date of signature, in accordance with article VII.
² *British and Foreign State Papers*, Vol. 92, p. 160 (see also United Kingdom : *Treaty Series No. 5* (1897), C. 8439, for text of Treaty of 2 February 1897).

(3) The Mixed Commission may by agreement between the representatives appoint experts to assist the Mixed Commission, either generally or in relation to any individual matter under consideration by the Mixed Commission.

Article III

The Mixed Commission shall present interim reports at intervals of six months from the date of its first meeting.

Article IV

(1) If, within a period of four years from the date of this Agreement, the Mixed Commission should not have arrived at a full agreement for the solution of the controversy it shall, in its final report, refer to the Government of Guyana and the Government of Venezuela any outstanding questions. Those Governments shall without delay choose one of the means of peaceful settlement provided in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(2) If, within three months of receiving the final report, the Government of Guyana and the Government of Venezuela should not have reached agreement regarding the choice of one of the means of settlement provided in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, they shall refer the decision as to the means of settlement to an appropriate international organ upon which they both agree or, failing agreement on this point, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. If the means so chosen do not lead to a solution of the controversy, the said organ or, as the case may be, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall choose another of the means stipulated in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, and so on until the controversy has been resolved or until all the means of peaceful settlement there contemplated have been exhausted.

Article V

(1) In order to facilitate the greatest possible measure of cooperation and mutual understanding, nothing contained in this Agreement shall be interpreted as a renunciation or diminution by the United Kingdom, British Guiana or Venezuela of any basis of claim to territorial sovereignty in the territories of Venezuela or British Guiana, or of any previously asserted rights of or claims to such territorial sovereignty, or as prejudicing their position as regards their recognition or non-recognition of a right of, claim or basis of claim by any of them to such territorial sovereignty.

(2) No acts or activities taking place while this Agreement is in force shall constitute a basis for asserting, supporting or denying a claim to territorial sovereignty in the territories of Venezuela or British Guiana or create any rights of sovereignty in those territories, except in so far as such acts or acti-

vities result from any agreement reached by the Mixed Commission and accepted in writing by the Government of Guyana and the Government of Venezuela. No new claim, or enlargement of an existing claim, to territorial sovereignty in those territories shall be asserted while this Agreement is in force, nor shall any claim whatsoever be asserted otherwise than in the Mixed Commission while that Commission is in being.

Article VI

The Mixed Commission shall hold its first meeting at a date and place to be agreed between the Governments of British Guiana and Venezuela. This meeting shall take place as soon as possible after its members have been appointed. Thereafter the Mixed Commission shall meet as and when agreed between the representatives.

Article VII

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Article VIII

Upon the attainment of independence by British Guiana, the Government of Guyana shall thereafter be a party to this Agreement, in addition to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Venezuela.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Geneva this 17th day of February, 1966, in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland :

Michael STEWART
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

L. F. S. BURNHAM
Prime Minister of British Guiana

For the Government of Venezuela :

Ignacio IRIBARREN BORGES
Minister for Foreign Affairs

ANNEX 5

JRB/at

4 de abril de 1966

Excelentísimo Señor:

Tengo el honor de acusar recibo del texto del Acuerdo firmado en Ginebra el 17 de febrero de 1966 por el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Venezuela, el Secretario de Estado para las Relaciones Exteriores del Reino Unido y el Primer Ministro de la Guayana Británica. Se tomó nota de las obligaciones que eventualmente puedan recaer en el Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas en virtud del párrafo 2 del artículo IV del Acuerdo, y me complace informarle que dichas funciones son de tal naturaleza que pueden ser desempeñadas apropiadamente por el Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi consideración más distinguida.

U Thant

Excelentísimo Señor
Dr. Ignacio Iribarren Borges
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores
Caracas
Venezuela

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JG/amw

cc: The Secretary-General
Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. Stavropoulos
Registry

4 April 1966

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the text of the Agreement signed at Geneva on 17 February 1966 by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom, by the Prime Minister of British Guiana and by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela. I have taken note of the responsibilities which may fall to be discharged by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under Article IV (2) of the Agreement, and wish to inform you that I consider those responsibilities to be of a nature which may appropriately be discharged by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. I would be most grateful if you could convey this information to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and to the Prime Minister of British Guiana.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant

His Excellency
The Rt. Hon. Lord Caradon
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of the United
Kingdom to the United Nations
845 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

ANNEX 6

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

15 December 2016

Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you regarding the controversy between Guyana and Venezuela, which has arisen as the result of the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 about the frontier between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void.

You will recall that, during our meeting on the margins of the seventy-first session of the United Nations General Assembly, I outlined to you my intention to conduct a stocktaking of the progress achieved in the current Good Offices Process. This stocktaking was to serve as the basis for my consideration of how I should proceed in the exercise of the responsibility conferred on me by Article IV (2) of the 1966 Geneva Agreement. As you will be aware, that provision vests me with the power to choose means for the settlement of the controversy from among those contemplated in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I have now completed that process of stocktaking. What stood out during the stocktaking is that, while substantive differences remain between Guyana and Venezuela, it has nevertheless been possible to maintain a Good Offices Process that has kept a form of dialogue going between the two countries throughout the last 25 years. For that, I wish to congratulate the Governments of your country and of Venezuela.

His Excellency
Mr. David Arthur Granger
President of the Republic of Guyana
Georgetown

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After careful analysis, I have arrived at certain conclusions regarding what constitute the most appropriate next steps. I have discussed my conclusions with the Secretary-General-designate, His Excellency Mr. António Guterres, since, upon the end of my tenure, it will fall to him to discharge the responsibilities that Article IV (2) of the Geneva Agreement places upon the Secretary-General.

Taking into account all factors – including, prominently, your Government's preference for the way forward regarding the Good Offices Process – I have reached the following conclusions, with which the Secretary-General-designate concurs.

Initially, the Good Offices Process will continue for one final year, until the end of 2017, with a strengthened mandate of mediation.

If, by the end of 2017, the Secretary-General concludes that significant progress has not been made toward arriving at a full agreement for the solution of the controversy, he will choose the International Court of Justice as the next means of settlement, unless your Government and the Government of Venezuela jointly request that he refrain from doing so.

Please note that I am making this way forward public.

The final year of mediation will be led by a Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, who will be appointed by Mr. Guterres, at his discretion, soon after taking office. The Personal Representative may make proposals on any aspect or aspects of the bilateral relationship between your country and Venezuela that may facilitate reaching a full agreement for the solution of the controversy. As a first step, the Personal Representative will discuss with both parties possible confidence-building measures to create a positive environment for bilateral dialogue. The Personal Representative will closely monitor those confidence-building measures.

I am pleased to express, on behalf of the Secretary-General-designate, his commitment to follow through on the way forward that is described above.

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The Secretary-General-designate and I would be most grateful for the understanding of your Government and of the people of Guyana. A negotiated settlement is in the best interest of your country as well as of Venezuela, given that a mutually agreed solution facilitates implementation. I hope that your Government and the people of Guyana will rest assured of my strong commitment and that of the Secretary-General-designate to see the controversy between your country and Venezuela resolved.

Once Mr. Guterres has taken office, he will communicate to your Government and the Government of Venezuela his choice for a Personal Representative, who will actively seek such a solution.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



BAN Ki-moon

ANNEX 7

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

30 January 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you regarding the controversy between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela which has arisen as the result of the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award of 1899 about the frontier between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void (“the controversy”).

As you will be aware, Article IV, paragraph 2 of the Agreement to Resolve the Controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over the Frontier between Venezuela and British Guiana, signed at Geneva on 17 February 1966 (the “Geneva Agreement”), confers upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations the power and the responsibility to choose, from among those means of peaceful settlement contemplated in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, the means of settlement to be used for the resolution of the controversy.

If the means so chosen does not lead to a solution of the controversy, Article IV, paragraph 2 of the Geneva Agreement goes on to confer upon the Secretary-General the responsibility to choose another means of peaceful settlement contemplated in Article 33 of the Charter.

As you will also be aware, former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon communicated to you and to the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela a framework for the resolution of the border controversy based on his conclusions on what would constitute the most appropriate next steps. Notably, he concluded that the Good Offices Process, which had been conducted since 1990, would continue for one final year, until the end of 2017, with a strengthened mandate of mediation. He also reached the conclusion that if, by the end of 2017, I, as his successor, concluded that significant progress had not been made toward arriving at a full agreement for the solution of the controversy, I would choose the International Court of Justice as the next means of settlement, unless the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela jointly requested that I refrain from doing so.

His Excellency
Mr. David Arthur Granger
President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana
Georgetown

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In early 2017, I appointed a Personal Representative, Mr. Dag Halvor Nylander, who engaged in intensive high-level efforts to seek a negotiated settlement.

Consistently with the framework set by my predecessor, I have carefully analyzed the developments in the good offices process during the course of 2017.

Consequently, I have fulfilled the responsibility that has fallen to me within the framework set by my predecessor and, significant progress not having been made toward arriving at a full agreement for the solution of the controversy, have chosen the International Court of Justice as the means that is now to be used for its solution.

At the same time, it is my considered view that your Government and that of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela could benefit from the continued good offices of the United Nations through a complementary process established on the basis of my powers under the Charter. A good offices process could be supportive in at least the different ways set out below.

Firstly, should both Governments accept the offer of a complementary good offices process, I believe this process could contribute to the use of the selected means of peaceful settlement.

In addition, should both Governments wish to attempt to resolve the controversy through direct negotiations, in parallel to a judicial process, a good offices process could contribute to such negotiations.

Thirdly, as the bilateral relationship between your Government and that of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is broader than the controversy, both Governments may wish to address through a good offices process any other important pending issues that would benefit from third-party facilitation.

I trust that a complementary good offices process would also contribute to the continuation of the friendly and good-neighbourly relations that have characterized exchanges between the two countries.

In closing, I should like to inform you that I will be making this way forward public. I have sent an identical letter to the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and I enclose a copy of that letter.

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Let me also express my sincere appreciation for the cooperation and commitment that your Government showed my Personal Representative, as he discharged his duties during the course of 2017.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

with the very warmest regards



António Guterres