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Contadora And Support Group Prepare U.N. Resolution On Salvadoran Human Rights Situation

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On Nov. 25 U.N. Ambassadors of Contadora and Support Group nations circulated a draft resolution on the Salvadoran human rights situation. The document emphasizes the incapacity of the Salvadoran legal system to investigate, bring to trial, and punish persons responsible for human rights abuses. In this regard, Salvadoran authorities are called on to speed up legal reforms to facilitate these processes. Next, the document expresses "profound regret" that peace talks between the government and the FMLN-FDR (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Democratic Revolutionary Front) have not yet been resumed. The rights of the Salvadoran people to freely choose their economic, political and social systems without foreign interference was reaffirmed in the draft resolution. These rights, it said, can be grounded only on a genuinely democratic process in which all citizens enjoy necessary safeguards to effectively participate. The Salvadoran government is called on to bring legislation into line with enforcement of internationally recognized human rights, and to implement necessary economic and political reforms to resolve problems causing the national conflict, with special emphasis on agrarian reform.

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