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## **Guatemala Joins Signatory Nations Of O.a.s. Inter-american Convention**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Jan. 29, John Schwank Duran, Guatemala's ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS) signed the OAS Inter-American Convention. The accord is intended to facilitate and strengthen private enterprise in the hemisphere. According to the ambassador, "This convention on juridical status and rights of private companies across international borders ensures the participation of foreign enterprises in the development of our countries." The convention was approved in 1984 by representatives of Latin American governments during the Third Inter-American Conference on Private International Law, which took place in Bolivia. Thus far, the governments of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay and Venezuela are signatories. Only Mexico has ratified the convention. (Basic data from AFP, 01/29/91)

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