



PRESS RELEASE

Guatemala, November 10, 2011

EUROPEAN UNION INCREASES CONTRIBUTION TO CICIG

SIGNING A NEW AGREEMENT TO DONATE A FURTHER EUR 4 MILLION TO THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPUNITY

The European Union and the United Nations in Guatemala signed a new Contribution Agreement whereby the EU will donate EUR 4 million (approximately GTQ 44 million) to the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) to support the execution of its current mandate.

With this latest donation, the European Union contribution to CICIG reaches a total of approximately USD 14 million. This amount excludes the bilateral contributions made by European Union Member States to CICIG.

Rafael Seán Llarena, Chief of the European Union Delegation, emphasized that this donation is a sign of the EU's renewed commitment to the fight against impunity and reaffirms its support for justice system and security reform in Guatemala, also making it one of the principle CICIG donators.

René Mauricio Valdés, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Guatemala, expressed his happiness "with the gradual progress seen in the fight against impunity; the national bodies responsible for justice administration can take the credit". He also added that it was the road to follow to consolidate peace in Guatemala.

Francisco Javier Dall'Anese Ruiz, Commissioner of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG), expressed his gratitude for the generous support of the European Union and the national institutions represented by Attorney General of the Republic Claudia Paz y Paz and President of the Supreme Court of Justice Thelma Aldana, because "only by coordinating the State as a whole will it be possible to have a common front and a force with an identity that is capable of fighting and overcoming organized crime groups in the country".