

Guatemala City, December 20, 2021

Honorable Parliamentary/ Distinguished Leader:

I have the honor to invite you to participate at the important Parliamentary Forum on Intelligence and Security of the United States co-organized by the Presidency of the Republic of Guatemala, the Congress of the Republic, Congressman Robert Pittenger, and the regional office of Crime Stoppers for the Caribbean, Bermuda and Latin America, to be held on March 7 and 8, 2022 in Guatemala City, at the Campus of the Congress of the Republic.

I call on all countries in the region to come to Guatemala in order to improve practical knowledge and a stronger collaboration among parliamentarians in the region to counter the difficult challenge of preventing and combating organized crime and its illicit activities that use increasingly sophisticated technologies and new methodologies.

From Guatemala, we will seek to strengthen the inter-parliamentary and multisectoral alliance to consolidate peace, security and the international and regional legal order. The transnational advance of organized crime forces us to provide coordinated responses among all countries and expand our cross-border coordination.

Parliamentarians and experts from different countries, government officials, international organizations, civil society and representatives of the private sector will participate in this forum, who will address issues such as cyber security, money laundering, illicit trade, illicit economies, crypto currencies, 5G technology, drug trafficking, illegal migration, risk investments and other issues related to the fight against terrorism and organized transnational crime.

Your assistance and participation in this dialogue is essential to find joint and effective responses to the new global security threats that affect the development of all the countries.

Hoping to have your presence, I greet you with my highest consideration.

PARLIAMENTARY SHIRLEY RIVERA ZALDAÑA President-elect Period 2022-2023