

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Belize First Executive Commission Meeting as Pro-Tempore President of the Mesoamerica Project**

*San Pedro, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024.*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade held the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee of the Mesoamerica Integration and Development Project (Mesoamerica Project) under the framework of Belize's Pro-Tempore Presidency jointly with Mexico as the Permanent President. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry, H.E. Amalia Mai, and the Director General for the Execution of Projects Abroad at AMEXCID, Mr. Tony Rojas, whereby member countries gave continuation to the institutional, social and economic priorities of the group.

The session was comprised of a presentation of national interests to Belize during its PPT, which included health, environment energy, inclusive of energy connectivity and energy efficiency, disaster risk management, food security, MSME's and women empowerment. To guide on these areas, Belize had representation from the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Dr. Natalia Beer; Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy, Logistics and E-Governance, Mr. Ryan Cobb; Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, Mr. Edgar Ek; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise, Mr. Emilio Montero.

The Government of Belize looks forward to share with the region best practices on malaria elimination and food security through urban gardens. We look forward to strengthening efforts in forestry mitigation and firefighting, as well as continuing work to promote regional electricity interconnection and renewable energies.

The Mesoamerica Project is an essential mechanism for dialogue and coordination that articulates integration efforts among the countries of the region to coordinate cooperation efforts and attract resources for development.

**END**