

FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

SECOND SESSION (1982)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION NO. 5

WHEREAS the existing boundary between Guyana and Venezuela was definitively laid down by a unanimous international Arbitral Award in 1899, was jointly demarcated on the ground by a Venezuelan/British Mixed Boundary Commission during the years 1901 - 1905, was actively and positively observed and respected by both sides and the international community for over six decades since 1899 and is still so observed and respected by Guyana and the international community;

WHEREAS under Article 13 of the Treaty of Washington 1897 Venezuela and the United Kingdom undertook to consider the said Arbitral Award "as a full perfect and final settlement of all the questions referred to the Arbitrators" who made the said Award;

WHEREAS contrary to the foregoing and in breach of the said Treaty, in 1962 Venezuela challenged the Arbitral Award of 1899 on a wholly untenable contention that it was null and void:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly -

- (i) re-affirms the continuing validity in its entirety of the existing boundary between Guyana and Venezuela;
- (ii) rejects the untenable claim by Venezuela to the territory of Guyana;
- (iii) directs that the Guyana Government seek the support of the international community through and at all forums, including the United Nations;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED, That this National Assembly constitutes a Parliamentary Committee consisting of members of the Assembly to be known as "The Parliamentary Committee on the Territorial Integrity of Guyana" for the purpose of keeping under constant review developments relating to Venezuela's untenable claim; and that no determination of the claim shall be made without the approval of the National Assembly.

Passed by the National Assembly on 1982-07-08


F. A. NARAIN
Clerk of the National Assembly