



Paraguay/Advisory Panel Position Paper

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I. Background Information on Paraguay involvement and relevance with Advisory Panel on the Question of South America

First and foremost, Paraguay is a landlocked country in south-central South America. It is bordered by Brazil, Argentina and Bolivia and its capital is constitutionally known as Asuncion. Its population is approximately 7.3 million. The country has been constructed and formed through highly significant conflicts such as the catastrophic War of the Triple Alliance (1864-1870) which remarkably impacted its population and geographical distribution. Santiago Pena, who is a member of the ruling Colorado Party, has been the current president since April 2023. Pena, who defends democracy over dictatorship and autocracy, believed that compatible reforms and adjustments, and dedication to parliamentary principles has been the key to the prosperous success of Paraguay particularly in areas such as, addressing corruption, expanding trade and economic growth in general. However, it has been reported that regardless of efforts made into combating these issues, Paraguay is still facing challenges including high levels of corruption and inequality.



Furthermore, Paraguay carries a geopolitical and economic significance in the South American region. Paraguay holds a vital part in relevant subregional negotiations with the nations of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Bolivia regarding the maintenance and related charges for the utilization of the Paraguay and Parana rivers, that offer entrance to the Atlantic. In addition, Paraguay is a founding member and President of MERCOSUR, the South American Common Market, which grants Paraguay tremendous opportunities for growth as it endeavors to negotiate a free trade agreement with the European Union.



Additionally, just like Bolivia encounters difficulties maintaining judicial independence and accountability, Paraguay also struggles upholding regional stability and forensic unity. Therefore Paraguay and Bolivia have been involved in initiatives to address corresponding problems. With respect to the second issue that the APQSA is intending to tackle, Paraguay has been a part of various respective organizations and conventions that aim to endorse peace such as Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) which has assisted in the implementation of the Joint Declaration of Argyle for dialogue and peace between Guyana and Venezuela. Lastly, while Paraguay's role in combating the ELN insurgency in Colombia is more indirect compared to other neighboring nations, it has still conveyed its support to Colombia's transition to peace.

II. Past Achievements and Attempts of Country/Organization on the Issues

A. Maintaining judicial independence and accountability in Bolivia:

- Paraguay had significant contributions regarding the maintenance of forensic independence, accountability and transparency through their active participation and signature in treaties such as Inter-American Convention against Corruption which aims to combat corruption, illicit activity and promote jurisdictional impartiality.
- Paraguay was also a foremost signatory of the Inter-American Convention on Execution of Preventive Measures supervised by the Organization of American States (OAS) which aims to uphold judicial sovereignty and prevent any kind of legal inconsistency around South-American states including Bolivia.
- They have also interpreted a crucial role in the establishment of the American Convention of the Human Rights (Pact of San Jose, 1969) precisely in Article 8 which grants the right to a fair trial and Article 25 which emphasizes on the liberty of judicial protection. The implementation of this respective convention has vastly contributed to the development of Bolivia surrounding this particular concern.
- Paraguay has participated in judicial-building programs and implemented such initiatives, precisely under the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) which prioritizes training and instructing significant actors of the judiciary system, incorporating judges with an aim to enhance legal facilities. While there is no specific program targeting Bolivia, these judicial-building programs have advanced regional reforms.

B. Eliminating the possibility of armed conflict between Venezuela and Guyana:

- Paraguay has not been thoroughly involved in combating the possibility of armed conflict between Venezuela and Guyana and therefore no achievements or attempts towards the concern.
- Nevertheless, Paraguay exhibited indirect support upon the issue through promoting peaceful resolutions for territorial disputes with their contribution in OAS's initiatives.



C. Tackling the ELN insurgency in Colombia:

- Paraguay is an integral part of the broader international community which conducts such peace initiatives, as highlighted by multilateral organizations and negotiations including ones supervised by WOLA.
- While Paraguay hasn't been directly engaged in tackling the ELN insurgency in Colombia, it has shown support for Colombia's reconciliation efforts in a broader context.

III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Country/Organization on the Issues

A. Maintaining judicial independence and accountability in Bolivia:

- Regardless, of the fact that this is a national issue concerning Bolivia, the negative impacts of the jurisdictionary issue to the South American has been reported in terms of illicit trade and crime spreading over neighboring nations around the region due to weak judicial accountability.
- Paraguay anticipates rebuilding trust for the judicial system in Bolivia by exhibiting accountability, impartiality, transparency and commitment to judiciary principles.
- Therefore, Paraguay would call for international cooperation, collaboration and generation of partnerships in order to gather judgements and perspectives of each nation upon the issue that is currently being addressed and alleviate the possibility of complications this issue might provoke, escalating in the region.
- Paraguay would request the implementation of comprehensive robust monitoring mechanisms with an objective to surveil forensic actions and prohibit any kind of misconduct.
- These monitoring mechanisms will only be initiated with the consent of Bolivia and will be supervised by the UN and Sixth Committee (Legal Committee) which are closely involved in the ongoing situation.
- Paraguay would also recommend the strengthening of constitutional defenses, precisely to prohibit any terms of political interference.

B. Eliminating the possibility of armed conflict between Venezuela and Guyana:

- Paraguay would call for diplomatic and parliamentary involvement, explicitly with a perspective to conduct an international conference or summit between the representatives of affiliated nations, Venezuela and Guyana to prevent any possibility of armed conflict and territorial dispute.
- Paraguay encourages unbiased negotiations to settle a mutually benevolent solution.
- Paraguay would request to be an arbitrator between Venezuela and Guyana since they hold a strong communication with Paraguay and to advance a more peaceful resolution within the involvement of a neighboring nation.



- Paraguay would also suggest for both affiliated countries to stand by International Court of Justice's determinations upon the territorial dispute around the Essequibo region.
- Paraguay would further suggest for both Venezuela and Guyana to seek assistance from major administrations like the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) in order to minimize the military aggravation and exacerbations.
- Paraguay would like to emphasize on the significance of the implementation of a treaty which would regard the establishment of initiatives like joint border patrols.

C. Tackling the ELN insurgency in Colombia:

- Paraguay aims to fully address the ELN insurgency in Colombia, while remaining devastated by the impacts it creates for the Colombian community and neighboring nations.
- Paraguay would suggest regional cooperation to tackle the issue multinational to reach a more peaceful resolution regarding the ELN insurgency.
- They would also suggest the deployment of advanced surveillance systems around the border areas that are previously affected by the ELN.
- These surveillance systems will only be facilitated with the seal of approval of Colombia.

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