

**Agreement entered into by the Three branches of government  
Before the Honduran People to  
Strengthen Judicial Independence and Impartiality**

**CONSIDERING:** That the Government of Honduras in the present century have been advocating reforms of government structure and the improvement of citizen relations in order to strengthen their governance.

**CONSIDERING:** That Judicial Independence and Impartiality is a key component of governance that can only be achieved through political vision and will and be shared by all three branches of government.

**CONSIDERING:** That the power to render justice emanates from the people and is rendered free of charge by independent judges and magistrates subject only to the Constitution and Laws.

**CONSIDERING:** That Judicial Independence and Impartiality require the Judiciary to:


- Contribute to the bounds of power and the institutional power, protecting individual rights and the security of person and property;
- Guarantee legal certainty to attract investment and ultimately contribute to the economic development of the country and the reduction of poverty;
- Fight public and private corruption which will improve its credibility before its citizens.

Therefore, we recognize the need that the Executive and Legislative powers give their full support to the Judicial Power, in order to achieve Independence and Impartiality in the administration of Justice; which will lead to the creation of an adequate environment of legal certainty and to the strengthening of the Rule of Law.

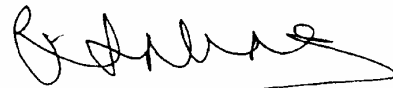
Consequently, We **Agree to:**

1. Undertake all necessary effort to allocate to the Judicial power the budgetary resources which are necessary and consistent with the reform of the administration of Justice;
2. Promote the adoption of all the necessary laws which derived from the constitutional reform that initiated this historical transformation of this branch of government;
3. Strongly support the processes pertaining to the technical and scientific evaluation as well as the transparent selection of all justice actors and for the institutional strengthening of the judicial system;
4. Respect the independence of all Magistrates, Judges, and Judicial employees of the Republic;
5. Contribute to the implementation the actions identified by the Judicial Power in the strategic Plan for Judicial Independence.

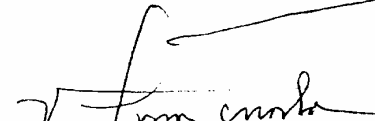
In witness thereof, the Presidents of all Three Branches of the Government endorsing the present document, and as witnesses of the members who form the Coalition for the Strengthening of Justice, this day the tenth of April of the year two thousand and two, in the City of Tegucigalpa, Republic of Honduras.



Ricardo Maduro Joest




Porfirio Lobo Sosa




Vilma Cecilia Morales M.

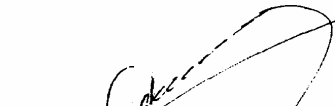
**Witnesses of Honor: Coalition for the Strengthening of Justice**



Lic. José León Aguilar  
Presidente de la Coalición



+ Cardenal Oscar A. Rodríguez S.D.B.  
Presidente Conferencia Episcopal




Lic. Guadalupe León  
Director Ejecutivo AMHON



Lic. Alberto Galeano H.  
Representante FIDE



Lic. Reina Rivera Joya  
Directora Ejecutiva CIPRODEH



Dr. Ramón Custodio  
Comisionado Nacional de los  
Derechos Humanos