



EMBASSY OF MEXICO IN BELIZE
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MEXICO CELEBRATES 35 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP WITH BELIZE

Belmopan, September 27, 2016

The Embassy of Mexico announces that a special program has been prepared to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Mexico and Belize.

On September 21, 1981, Belize joined the concert of Independent Nations and Mexico was the first country to establish Diplomatic Relations with the new member. As a relevant aspect of its foreign policy, Mexico has always upheld the principles of International Law which have also been at the core of the Mexico-Belize bilateral relationship.

On the occasion of the 35th Anniversary of our friendship, the Mexican Embassy informs of the ceremonial visit to Belize City by the “*ARM Bicentenario de la Independencia PO-163*” vessel from the Mexican Navy. The “*Independencia*” is an oceanic patrol built at the Mexican Shipyards in Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, and was launched on the occasion of the Second Centennial of the beginning of the Mexican War of Independence. The “*Independencia*” is assigned to the Mexican Gulf Fleet, and it is 86 m. long, 10 m. wide, it has a 10 m. draft and has a displacement of 1,680 tons. The vessel will dock at the port of Belize on Friday 30, 2016.

On Friday, the general public will be welcomed aboard by the crew from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and earlier in the day an official ceremony will take place at 11:00 a.m. with the presence of H.E. the Governor General, Sir Colville Young; H.E. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Wilfred Elrington; Mrs. Kim Simplis Barrow, Special Envoy for Women and Children; H.E. the Ambassador of Mexico to Belize, Mr. Carlos Quesnel-Melendez; the Director General for Latin America and Caribbean Affairs from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, H.E. Ambassador Reyna Torres-Mendivil, and H.E. Admiral Arturo David Lendeché-Sofán, Commandant of Mexico’s Gulf’s Fleet.

As part of its cultural program, the Embassy of Mexico has organized a performance by members of the Mexican Navy’s Chamber Orchestra and Chorus

at the Bliss Theatre at 1:00 p.m. on Friday 30, 2016. Additionally, an exchange between members of the Chamber and the community of local student/musicians will take place under the coordination of the Music Director of NICH, Mr. Colville Young Jr.

This historic visit is a token of the friendship that unites our countries and peoples as well the beginning of a year-long celebration. Other events will follow.

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