•Phone: 822-0094 or 0092

•Fax: 822-2671

• website: www.belize.gov.bz

PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Belize and the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) Sign Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters

Belize City. September 29, 2020. 8:00 a.m.

On Monday, September 28, Hon. Wilfred Elrington, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize, signed a *Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Government of Belize and the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)*. His Excellency Remus Li-Kuo Chen, Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Belize, was present to witness the signing on behalf of the Taiwanese Government, during a ceremony held at the Laing Building.

The Treaty had been previously signed by Taiwanese Minister H.E. Ching-Hsiang Tsai, whose signature was witnessed by the H.E. Diane Haylock, Ambassador of Belize to Republic of China (Taiwan). It will serve as the legal framework for more effective collaboration between the respective legal authorities on requests for legal assistance, in connection with investigations, court proceedings or prosecutions. The agreement is based on the principle of reciprocity.

The successful signing of the Treaty marks yet another significant milestone of the trusted relations between the Government of Belize and the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

Ends