

April 30, 2020

**SUBJECT: A MESSAGE TO OUR VALUED INVESTMENT STAKEHOLDERS**

Dear Valued Investment Stakeholder,

Greetings from the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE)!

Belize has been in a national state of emergency since April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, as a direct mitigating response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As we prepare for the post-COVID-19 world, I take this opportunity to share my Team's continued commitment to fostering trade, investment, entrepreneurship and capacity development, as a statutory body under the Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade and Commerce under the Government of Belize (GOB).

While COVID-19 has created a new normal on how business will be conducted in the future, the Government of Belize (GOB) remains vigilant in its efforts to curtail the effects of the pandemic in Belize, inclusive of various fiscal and economic stimulus packages. This is to ensure that the Belizean economy shows resilience to cushion against the impacts yet to be measured from the pandemic.

Nevertheless, Belize remains ripe for investments within our priority investment sectors. This experience has solidified our continued competitive advantages in the key areas of Agribusiness, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Offshore Outsourcing Services, Sustainable Energy, Light Manufacturing and Logistics, as well as our mainstay industry of Tourism and Leisure which has been impacted greatly but is expected to rebound post-COVID-19. While we are cognizant that the world will be different, we foresee tremendous opportunities in continued digital transformation and e-commerce in Belize.

That said, I reiterate our Team's continued commitment to your investment projects. Belize is proactively creating a more conducive investment climate, through the ongoing initiative of establishing our first National Investment Policy and Strategy (NIPS) to ensure our competitiveness is assured as opportunities become even more attractive. I encourage you to maintain close contact with our Team at BelizeINVEST who remain on standby and ever-ready to facilitate your business development needs virtually.

In closing, I cannot emphasize enough that the true impacts of recovery and transformation can only be realized through the continued public and private collaboration of all stakeholders involved within our business ecosystem. As such, we look forward to continue collaborating and to working with you in realizing the various investment opportunities that await you in Belize.

I thank you for your continued engagement and anticipate the day to come very soon that we continue to advance socio-economic growth and development in Belize hand-in-hand.

Please do continue to stay safe and best wishes.

Yours in Development,



Dr. Leroy G. Almendarez  
Executive Director  
BELTRAIDE