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RELEASE IN FULL

Turks & Caicos

10-20

Statement Regarding Drug Cooperation Agreements and Extension Thereof with the United Kingdom on Behalf of Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Agreements and Extensions are as Follow:

1.	Anguilla	signed: March 11, 1987
		extended: 27 June 1988
		23 September1988
		22 December 1988
		23 June 1989
		21 December 1989
2.	British Virgin Islands	signed: 14 April 1987
		extended: 10 November 1988
		10 May 1989
		9 November 1989
3.	Cayman Islands	signed: 26 July 1984
		extended: 29 November 1985
		28 May 1986
		26 November 1986
		29 May 1987
		27 November 1987
		25 May 1988
		28 November 1988
		25 May 1989
		28 November 1989
4.	Montserrat	signed: 14 May 1987
		extended: 26 August 1988
		28 February 1989
		30 August 1989
5.	Turks and Caicos Islands	signed: 18 September 1986
		extended: 20 January 1988
		20 July 1988
		19 January 1989

Explanation of Agreements

The five agreements, which are identical in all substantive respects, establish a procedure for expedited access to bank and business records located in the dependencies. The agreements generally provide that when the Attorney General of the United States has reason to believe that documentary information relevant to the resolution of a narcotics investigation is located within one of the dependencies, he may request that information from the Attorney General's office of that country. The agreements are not reciprocal, in that only the governments of the dependencies are obligated to provide

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assistance. In consideration for such assistance, the United States government agrees to use the procedures outlined in the agreements as the exclusive means for obtaining documentary information from those dependencies in connection with U.S. narcotics-related investigations that come within the scope of the agreement.

Background Information on Negotiations

In July of 1984, an agreement was concluded with the UK on behalf of the Cayman Islands. That agreement provided that model for the four subsequent agreements. All the agreements were made temporary (each expiring 15 months after becoming effective unless extended by the mutual agreement of the signatory governments) in the hope that they would soon be superceded by a Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.

Effect of Agreement

The agreements establish a procedure for expedited access to bank and business records located in the dependencies, thus facilitating United States investigations and proceedings that relate to drug trafficking. The agreements were concluded on a temporary basis with a view to the eventual conclusion of a Law Enforcement Treaty applicable to all the dependencies. Such a Treaty has been signed and forwarded to the Senate for consideration, but not yet ratified.

Legal Authority

The legal authority for the agreements derives from the authority of the President to conduct the foreign relations of the United States (Article 2, Section 2 of the United States Constitution) and from his duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed" (Article 2, Section 3 of the United States Constitution). The legal authority to extend the agreements is based upon the above as well as upon Paragraph 10 of each of the agreements which provides that the agreement may be extended by mutual agreement of the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom on behalf of the dependency in question.