

August 19, 2026

**RE: The People of the United States Virgin Islands
P-769-25
United States**

Excellency:

I have the honor of addressing you, on behalf of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, to forward a copy of the relevant parts of a communication in which it is expressed the petitioner's willingness to initiate a friendly settlement process regarding the matter mentioned above.

Based on the petitioner's observations, the Commission has decided to make itself available to the parties to reach a friendly settlement of the matter.

I respectfully request that Your Excellency's government inform the Commission, within one month of the date of transmission of this letter, whether it is interested in pursuing a friendly settlement in accordance with Article 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

I also take this opportunity to respectfully inform you that the mere declaration of one party's willingness to proceed in the negotiation of a friendly settlement does not automatically initiate this mechanism, nor does it suspend the current regulatory deadlines. However, if the willingness of both parties to initiate a friendly settlement is formally confirmed, the Commission will promptly notify you of the initiation of said procedure, which will have the good offices of the IACHR, thus suspending contentious proceedings of the matter from that moment on.

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
VIA His Excellency Leandro Rizzuto
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the United States of America
to the Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

For more information on the friendly settlement process, I recommend consulting the *Handbook on Friendly settlement mechanism in the petitions and cases system* (available at the following link: http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/friendly_settlements/docs/handbook-fs-en.pdf), as well as the *Friendly Settlement Procedure Impact Report* (available at the following link: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/reports/pdfs/ImpactFriendlySettlement-2018.pdf>) and Resolution 3/20 on *Differentiated Actions to address the procedural backlog in friendly settlement agreement procedures* (available at the following link: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/decisions/pdf/Resolution-3-20-en.pdf>).

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Jorge Meza
Assistant Executive
Secretary

Enclosure