

04-34

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 16, 2003

Excellency:

In connection with your representation of Cuban interests in the United States, I have the honor to refer to the Maritime Boundary Agreement between the United States of America and the Republic of Cuba, signed at Washington on December 16, 1977, and the agreement of those two governments in Article V to apply the terms of that Agreement provisionally from January 1, 1978, for a period of two years pending the entry into force of the Agreement permanently on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification. I refer further to the subsequent agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Cuba to continue to apply the Maritime Boundary Agreement provisionally for successive periods of two years, most recently by agreement of November 19 and December 21, 2001, to December 31, 2003.

His Excellency

Christian Blickenstorfer,

Ambassador of Switzerland.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I have the honor to propose that the terms of the Maritime Boundary Agreement of December 16, 1977, continue to apply provisionally from January 1, 2004, for a period of two years, pending entry into force of the Agreement permanently on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification.

If the above-mentioned proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Cuba, I have the further honor to propose that this note and your affirmative reply on behalf of the Cuban Interests Section shall constitute an Agreement between the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Cuba, which shall enter into force on the date of the reply, effective from January 1, 2004.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'MS' or similar, written in a cursive style.

**U.S. Department of State
Office of Language Services
Translating Division**

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**Republic of Cuba
Ministry of Foreign Relations
Office of North American Affairs**

No. 3868

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba presents its compliments to the Embassy of Switzerland, and has the honor to refer to the communication of December 16, 2003, from the Department of State of the United States of America regarding the Maritime Boundary Agreement between the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America.

The Ministry wishes to inform the Embassy, so that it may, in turn, notify the authorities of the Department of State of the United States of America, that the Government of the Republic of Cuba has decided to accept the proposal by the Government of the United States of America to extend the Maritime Boundary Agreement concluded between the two governments on December 16, 1977, for a period of two years, to enter into force on the date of this proposal, with effect from January 1, 2004.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Switzerland the assurances of its highest consideration.

Havana, December 30, 2003

Embassy of Switzerland,
Havana.