

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS OF DECREE LAW N. 286-2009 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNTRY VISION AND ADOPTION OF A NATION PLAN TO HONDURAS

By 2022, it is expected that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Honduras has fully completed the restructuring and repositioning of the diplomatic delegations abroad in accordance to changes in economic and commercial geography that is experiencing the world and the need for these resources to work more actively for the promotion and knowledge of the qualities of Honduras in the rest of the world.

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SUMMARY OF CONTENTS 286-2009 DECREE LAW ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VISION OF COUNTRY AND ADOPTION OF A PLAN OF NATION TO HONDURAS

PURPOSE OF THE LAW.

Create and structure the conditions for the effective development of the country's vision to 2038 and National Plan to 2022.

BASIC DEFINITIONS

Country Vision: Image objective of social, political and economic characteristics that the country must achieve, through the implementation of successive national plans and government plans consistent with each other, describing the social aspirations in each area and establish for each **28-year cycle**.

Nation Plan: Document that sets out the strategic priorities that address the challenges faced by the country around which should run the public and private action that is directed to meeting the intermediate objectives of the vision of the country. The national plan is formulated for a period of **12 years**.

Government Plan: Set of policies, programs and projects that each government administration, regardless of political party to submit it and run. The government plan will be valid for **4 years**.

The Country Vision, the Nation Plan and the Government Plan are the three complementary elements of development planning process.

Strategic Objective: The development process should aim at reducing the vulnerabilities of the country, its dependence on external financing and enhancing the productive capacities of the various operators in our society.

All ministries, institutions and state agencies are indebted to adapt their systems work, programs and projects implemented by regional schemes, to the provisions of this law.

DEVELOPMENT REGIONS

REGION	NAME OF THE REGION	BASIN	SUBREGIONS
FIRST REGION	Sula Valley Region	Ulúa Chamelecón Motagua	1. Sula Valley 2. Comayagua Valley 3. Otoro Valley & west
SECOND REGION	Aguan Valley Region & Honduran Caribbean	Aguan Sico Paulaya	4. Aguan Valley 5. Aguan Valley 6. Nombre de Dios Mountains Chain
THIRD REGION	Biosphere Region	Patuca Plátano Coco o Segovia Warunta Nakunta Cruta & Mocerón	7. North of Olancho 8. Olancho Valley 9. Plátano River Biosphere 10. The Mosquitia
FOURTH REGION	South Region	Choluteca Goascoran Negro Sampile	11. Central District 12. Fonseca Gulf
FIFTH REGION	Lempa Region	Lempa	
SIXTH REGION	Mesoamerican Reef Region	Bay islands	

DEVELOPMENT REGIONS MAP



SOURCE: Prepared by the Directorate of Border Demarcation. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Honduras based on information from the regions contained in Vision Development Country and Nation Plan.

ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS:

- a) Strategic planning: Presidency of the Republic, the executive, legislative and judicial branches, political parties, civil society, business organizations, churches, private enterprise, local authorities, NGOs, international cooperation agencies.
- b) Development of the planning process (three instances): Council of Nation Plan, National Council of Competitiveness and Innovation, sector Cabinets and Regional Development Councils.

AIMS (4) AND GOALS (23) OF NATIONAL PRIORITY

AIMS	GOALS
<p>1. Honduras without extreme poverty, educated and healthy with established systems of social welfare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eradication of extreme poverty. • Reduce to less than 15% the percentage of households in poverty situation. • Increase the average schooling to 9 years. • Reaching 90% of health coverage. • Universalizing retirement and pension scheme.
<p>2. Honduras developing in democracy, safety and without violence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven democratic electoral processes, continuous and transparent concluded after 2009. • Reduce the homicide rate per hundred thousand to a level below the international average. • Reduce the rate of social conflict to less than 6%. • Reduce to less than 5% the number of land without title. • Improving the protection of borders as a condition for external avoidance increased domestic confidence • The national agricultural potential land available for land reform programs up to 90%
<p>3. Honduras generating productive and decent employment opportunities, which benefits from sustainable natural resources and minimize their environmental vulnerability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the unemployment rate to 2% and the rate of Employment sub invisible to 5% of the employed population. • Expanding the exports / GDP to 75%. • Increase of 80% participation rate for renewable energy generation in the matrix of the countries elected. • Locate 400,000 hectares of land under irrigation, taking care 100% of the national food demand. • Increase the rate of damming and water use to 25% reaching 1.6million hectares of land suitable for forestry in the process of ecological restoration and productive by accessing the international market for carbon credits. • Increasing the position of Honduras in the global climate risk index to a level higher than 50.
<p>4. Honduras with a modern, transparent State responsible, efficient and competitive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the status of Honduras in the global competitiveness index up to 5.5. • Reaching a 90% of public officials benefiting from a stable system of civil service that rewards competence, capability and performance. • Have reached a decentralization of public investment of 40% to the municipal level. • Develop key processes of care for citizens in government institutions by electronic means. • Takes the position of Honduras in the index of control of corruption, governance indicators of World Bank, to 90-100 level, of the percentile scale.

LIST OF THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF DEVELOPMENT:

- Focus on human development and equitable and comprehensive.
- Respect for human person dignity.
- Solidarity and equity as criteria for state intervention
- Subsidiary as a State policy
- Freedom as part of human development
- Human development as a process generating opportunity.
- Economic growth as a means to generate development.
- Democracy and political pluralism.
- Citizen participation as a means of governance
- Gender equity as a central focus.
- Respect for and preservation of culture and customs of ethnic groups.
- Integrity and transparency as the basis of performance.
- Macroeconomic stability as an indispensable element of growth.
- Sustainable development in harmony with nature.
- Decentralization of management and development decisions
- Shared management of public-private development.
- Planning for development

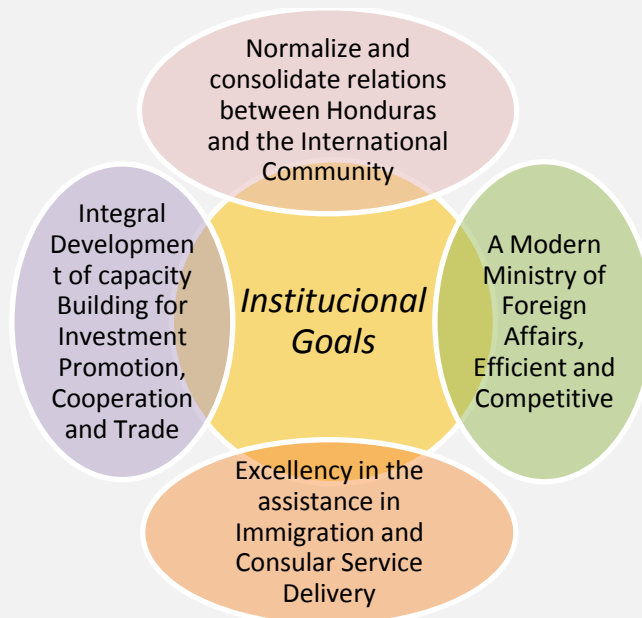
STRATEGIC OUTLINES FOR NATION PLAN

- Sustainable development of the population.
- Democracy, citizenship and governance.
- Poverty reduction, generator active and equal opportunities.
- Education and culture as a means of social emancipation.
- Health as a foundation for improving living conditions.
- Security as a condition of development.
- Regional development, natural resources and environment.
- Engine production infrastructure and economic activity.
- Macroeconomic stability as the basis of domestic savings.
- Competitiveness, country image and development of productive sectors.
- Climate adaptation and mitigation

THE ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE NATION PLAN

DESCRIPTION OF INSTITUTIONAL GOALS:

- Normalize and consolidate relations between Honduras and the International Community: For this purpose it is essential to redesign the Foreign Service not only from the point of view of the kind of diplomatic official but also a relocation of diplomatic missions, depending on the commercial, financial and investment interests of the country.
- Integral Development of capacity Building for Investment Promotion, Cooperation and Trade: Modernizing the Legal and Regulatory Framework for Investment in Honduras (now the project of a new law is the National Congress for its endorsement), Institutional Development to attract and sustain investments in Honduras (Develop and Adopt a National Policy and Strategy, a Single Window for Foreign Direct Investment), Business Intelligence as the basis for the competitive development of Honduras (Creation of the Center for Economic and Business Research and the Directorate General of Investment Promotion), National Policy on External Cooperation.
- Excellency in the assistance in Immigration and Consular Service Delivery: Policies and Regulatory Framework for Migration and Consular Services (National Policy on Migration and Consular Services, Migrant Protection Law and New Consular Tariff Law), Institutional Strengthening (Reinforcement of Directorate General of Consular Affairs, Immigration Programme, Consular Services and Development, Implementation of the Consular Audit Process and Consular Auditor, Regional Integration for migratory Protection), Communications (Voice of the Migrant), Family, Remittances, attention to “returned migrants”.
- A Modern Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Efficient and Competitive: Physical Spaces, Technology and Telecommunications, Diplomatic Academy (Professional Certification Program in Foreign Policy, Professional Certification Program on Investment Promotion and External Cooperation, Professional Certification Program Consular Services), an effective Communication.



SOURCE: Extracted from the presentation made by Mr. Alden Rivera, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, as part of the training week for consular staff, May 2010.

Functions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs within the framework of the National Competitiveness Council and Development: To make recommendations to the Ministry of Industry and Trade, about regions around the world with growth potential through trade and investment,

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also a member of the Security Cabinet, National Defense and Governance, together with the Ministry of Government and the Ministry of Defense and Security.

"Efforts are needed to provide a favorable environment for investors in the development of productive projects in those economic activities in which Honduras can develop its competitive advantages before countries in Central America and others out of the region, taking advantage the growth of new markets"

Honduras permanently needs to have an instance of thought that, on a continuous action base, with access to comprehensive and sufficient information can detect new emerging opportunities for the country in areas such as: production, services, new markets, new business alliances, existing markets and new ways of using resources that allows the formulation of policies on: investments, education curriculum development, distribution networks, marketing systems. The key: to guide the country towards a successful insertion in the economy world.

One of the strategies to implement consist in the implementation of the **One Stop Window (VUI)** for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to centralize in one place all information, rules and regulations connected with the establishment and expansion of FDI. This new concept will allows the simplification of procedures, reducing transaction costs, time saving, provision and access to permanent services 24x7 (24 hours, 7 days of the week).

It is important to take into consideration the Business Intelligence Cycle, which is developed as follows:

- International Legal Framework for Investment and Trade Promotion.
- Country Profiles and Import- Export Records
- Database of national and international companies with interests in the region
- Project Development and Investment Opportunities in Honduras
- Managing Foreign Investment Services at regional and global level

In addition, Honduras is preparing to carry out the mega event "**Honduras is Open for Business, A time of Change, an Opportunity Horizon**", between 4 and 5 of November 2010, in San Pedro Sula Honduras.

In order to positioning Honduras internationally as an attractive destination for tourism and investment, It needs to develop a specialized campaign to promote internationally, based on the design of a country image aimed to exploit its natural riches, political stability, investment opportunities, cultural /artistic events and quality of its human resources.

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