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### **On the Electoral Process and Democratic Transition in Guatemala**

The USG-BC believes that democracy and the democratic process is a cornerstone to prosperity and sustainable development.

Guatemala held a transparent presidential run-off on August 20<sup>th</sup>. We strongly believe it is time to focus on a smooth and robust transition process and on building a strategic agenda to foster economic development and a stronger environment for investment, productivity and growth.

Furthermore, we are concerned with recent judicial actions that put our Electoral Process in peril. We request that the courts ensure that such actions respect the Constitution and constitutional legislation, afford individuals and organizations a due process and not interfere with the democratic transfer of power. The newly elected authorities should take office in January, 2024 - as mandated by law.

The business community understands the importance of having political stability and respect for the rule of law and stands by the will of the Guatemalan people and its newly elected officials.

September 12, 2023