

November 12, 2012

The Honorable Edgar Barquín
President
Banco de Guatemala
Guatemala City
Guatemala

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to express my deepest sympathy for the tragic human losses and suffering caused by the earthquake affecting the Pacific coast of Guatemala and the San Marcos Department. Our thoughts are with all the victims of this catastrophe, as well as with those now working to help them.

Please let me assure you that, if needed, the IMF stands ready to assist Guatemala, including through its emergency lending facilities and, more generally, in its quest for macroeconomic stability, long-term growth, and poverty reduction.

I would also like to thank you for all your support in the preparation of my visit, which unfortunately had to be postponed given the grave emergency that the earthquake represented to the Guatemalan authorities. I hope to have the opportunity to meet you personally in your beautiful country in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Naoyuki Shinohara