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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **GOB and UNDP to Develop Partnership to Support Good Governance Reform**

*Belmopan. April 18, 2023.*

Hon. Henry Charles Usher, Minister of Constitutional and Political Reform, met with representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on April 13.

The meeting focused on discussions on the way forward regarding strengthening good governance and accountability and finding innovative solutions to address pressing issues in Belize. Key topics included the work of the Good Governance Unit in addressing corruption and the importance of leveraging technology and data to improve governance outcomes.

In emphasizing the Government of Belize's commitment to improving governance and accountability, Minister Usher noted that effective governance is critical for the country's social and economic development and highlighted the importance of transparency, citizen engagement, and anti-corruption measures.

One of the points of discussion was the development of a roadmap for good governance in Belize. The roadmap will be based on international best practices and will consider the specific challenges and opportunities facing Belize. The UNDP's knowledge and resources, including its extensive network of governance specialists and its background in assisting with governance reforms in other nations, will support the partnership.

Minister Usher was accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Constitutional and Political Reform. The UNDP representatives included Linda Maguire, Deputy Director for Latin America and the Caribbean; Denise Antonio, Resident Representative; Ian King, Deputy Resident Director; and Richard Kelly, Programme Specialist.

#### **Ends**

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