BELIZE

Capital: Belmopan

GEODATA

Area 22.963 km²

Population 206,000 (1994)

Population growth 2.42% (1995 est.)

Major languages English (official), Spanish, Mayan, Garifuna (Carib)

Major religions Roman Catholic (62%), Anglican (12%), Methodist (12%), Mennonite (4%)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Representative democracy

Head of government

Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister

Dean Barrow

Democratic institutions

Bicameral legislature, multiparty system

UN Human Development Index

Belize ranks 29th among 174 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

High Commissioner Gavin Stewart The Canadian High Commission to Belize c/o The Canadian High Commission P.O. Box 1500 Kingston 10, Jamaica

Tel.: (809) 926-1500 Fax: (809) 926-1702

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$552.3 million US (1994)

GDP growth rate

1.6% (1994)

GDP per capita

\$2,681 US (1994 est.)

Main exports

Sugar, bananas, fish products, garments, citrus concentrate

Main imports

Machinery and transportation equipment, food, fuels, chemicals, manufactured goods

Main exports to Canada

\$11.7 million (1995), including raw cane sugar, cane molasses, lobster and other sea crustaceans, orange juice

Main imports from Canada

\$4.2 million (1995), including petroleum and bituminous oils, malt, telephone equipment, lard

Canadian overseas development assistance

\$1.07 million (1994-95)