

Oslo, // January 2005

Your Excellency.

Thank you for your letter of 30 November.

I would like to take this opportunity to state that we very much share your concerns about the democratic processes in Nicaragua. A stable and functioning democracy in Nicaragua is in the interest both of the Nicaraguan people and of the whole of Central America.

As you know, Norway is actively supporting democracy and good governance efforts in your country, both through our bilateral co operation programme and together with multilateral partners. We support these efforts because we believe that democracy is the only road to a more just, equitable and stable society and thus to poverty eradication. I can assure you that Norway strongly supports Nicaragua's efforts to further its economic and social development on the basis of stable democratic institutions and the rule of law.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Petersen

H.E. Mr. Norman Caldera Cardenal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua Managua, Nicaragua