

Letter dated 15 April 2010 Naval Force

From: Directorate General of Maritime Interests of the Ecuadorian Navy

To: National Director of the Aquatic spaces

In confirmation of the delegation granted by the Minister of National Defense to this Director General, to transmit and subscribe the acts related to the authorization for the ingress of foreign ships with scientific, cultural or tourism intentions to the territorial seas, the coasts and islands of the Galapagos Archipelago, Director, attached you will find the "Acuerdo Ministerial" in which gives authorization for a group of scientists aboard R/V Melville operated by Scripps Institution of Oceanography to carry out a scientific investigation, specifically with the purpose acquiring multibeam bathymetry, and side scan sonar bathymetry of the ocean floor, north of the Galapagos from 18 May to 20 June 2010.

God, Homeland and Freedom

Angel Sarzosa  
Director General

Document 2  
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Acuerdo No. 111-2010

Based on Note Verbal No. ECO 126/2009 of the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2009, the US Embassy through the Ecuadorian Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented a solicitation set forth to obtain authorization so that a group of scientist aboard R/V Melville operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography carry out a scientific investigation, specifically with the purpose of acquiring multibeam bathymetry, and side scan sonar bathymetry of the ocean floor, north of Galapagos from 18 May to 20 June 2010.

By means of doc. No. MAE/PNG/DIR-2010-07732 of 26 March 2010, the National Park of Galapagos, informs this directorate that it has proceeded to grant permit no. PC-15-10 dated 16 March 2010 to Sirs (Drs.) Karen Harpp, Denise Geift (Dennis Geist) and Daniel Fornari, for the scientific visit aboard R/V Melville.

That the petitioners comply with all of the legal requirements listed by the Maritime Police Code and the Rules and Regulations for the granting of permits to foreign ships to visit with the purpose to carry out scientific, cultural or tourism in the territorial seas, coasts and islands of the Galapagos Archipelago put in the regulation set force through Executive Decree No. 1234 of the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2006, published in the Official Register No. 238 the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2006.

That through Ministerial agreement No. 143 of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2002, the Minister of National Defense, delegates the Director General of Marine Interests that in his name and representation proceed and endorse the acts in relation with the authorization for the ingress of foreign ships with scientific, cultural and tourism purposes in the territorial seas and coast and islands of the Galapagos Archipelago.

With use of the inherent power delegated and the compliance of that noted in Article 184 of the Maritime Police Code.

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Art. No. 1. - Authorize a group of scientists aboard R/V Melville operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography to carry out a scientific investigation, specifically with the purpose of acquiring multibeam bathymetry, and side scan sonar bathymetry of the ocean floor, in the area north of Galapagos from 18 May to 20 June 2010.

Art. No. 2. - The United States Embassy in Quito is committed to coordinate the participation of Eng. Carlos Martillo Bustmante, delegated by the Naval Oceanographic Institute obligating the interested parties to cover the costs of mobilization (travel), food and board as needed.

Art No. 3 – The United States Embassy in Quito, is committed to submit to the Director General of Marine Interests of the Naval Force in immediate form two copies of the preliminary reports compiled from the investigation, two complete copies of all the photographs and films taken, as well as the final results in the Spanish language that were obtained during the investigation.

Art No. 4 – During your stay in territorial waters and Galapagos National Park zones, the visitors shall abide by strict compliance to all the legal norms, regulations and measures related to the conservation and preservation of the Park, established in Article 186 of the Maritime Police Code and carry out the payment of taxes determined the Ecuadorian legislation.