



Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin
America and the Caribbean

OPANAL GENERAL CONFERENCE
XXIII Regular Sessions
21-22 August 2013
Buenos Aires, Argentina

RESOLUTION CG/Res.554

**STRATEGIC AGENDA OF THE AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The General Conference,

Considering that OPANAL's vision for the future is based on the following guiding principles: to ensure strict and full implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; to achieve negative security assurances by nuclear-weapon-states to all States in the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean (NWFZLAC); to effectively contribute to total and general nuclear disarmament by promoting actions in the multilateral arena that support the negotiation and adoption of a legally-binding instrument; to continue to work on the effective functioning of the Control System; to promote greater cooperation and coordination with the different NWFZs, relevant international organizations and civil society; to continue to promote greater participation of Member States in OPANAL work and the reinforcement of the Secretariat General; to encourage nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education, and the dissemination of the important work of the Agency;

Taking into account the 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Secretary-General's Reports;

Acknowledging the revitalization of OPANAL and the construction of its agenda over the last three years;

Highlighting the substantive and growing participation of all Member States within OPANAL and in the implementation of its agenda;

Emphasising the importance of the oneness of the Zone, being this understood as a whole and not as the sum of its parts, therefore any violation of the military denuclearized status of the Zone, in any part of its territory, would represent the breaking of the whole Zone;

Recalling the importance that Nuclear Weapon States modify or withdraw their interpretative declarations, some of which represent reservations to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco in order to offer unconditional negative security assurances to States in the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Reiterating the Declaration of the 33 OPANAL Member States adopted in September 2011, in which they express their conviction on the importance to start negotiations for a universal legally binding instrument aimed at banning nuclear weapons and to join forces in favour of such priority objective;

Emphasising the progress made in the consolidation of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean (NWFZLAC);

Reiterating the Member States' commitment to participate in the Working Groups formed in 2013 under its mandate, at its session held on 13 November 2012, for the strengthening of the activities of the Agency and the consolidation of the NWFZLAC;

Stressing the relevance of the Commemoration of the 45th Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the International Seminar "The Experience of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean and the perspective towards 2015 and beyond", held on 14-15 February 2012; and the importance of the debates and conclusions derived from it, which have contributed to define OPANAL's Agenda;

Reaffirming that peace, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education programmes contribute decisively to promote the cause of general and complete disarmament;

Acknowledging the importance of the relation between OPANAL and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC); particularly, the cooperation efforts to articulate a common position regarding nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation matters, as CELAC stated in its Special Communiqué on the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons in 2011, reiterating it in the Santiago Declaration adopted at the 1st CELAC Summit of Heads of State, held on 26-28 January 2013 in Santiago, Chile; and the CELAC Declaration on Nuclear Disarmament adopted on 20 August in Buenos Aires, Argentina;

Reaffirming that cooperation with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, relevant International Organizations and instances of Civil Society is indispensable to implement concrete measures towards nuclear disarmament; and acknowledging the progress made in collaborating with them in the last few years,

Resolves:

1. **To consider** the recommendations contained in the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Secretary-General's Reports that are related to the items on the Agenda of OPANAL.
2. **To urge** Member States to continue to participate actively within OPANAL Organs and ad-hoc instances.
3. **To continue to promote** actions for the consolidation of the sense of belonging to the Zone and its oneness among all OPANAL Member States.
4. **To reaffirm the commitment** to join forces with the International Community to move forward towards the negotiation of a universal legally-binding instrument aimed at banning nuclear weapons.
5. **To urge** Member States to continue to participate in the Working Groups formed under its mandate in order to make progress on the development of proposals and the assessment and analysis of substantive matters to the Agency.
6. **To exhort** Member States to continue to support the efforts of the Agency in the field of Education, especially regarding the design and implementation of OPANAL elementary course on "Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education".
7. **To instruct** the Council and the Secretariat General to continue the rapprochement process with CELAC in order to define mechanisms for continuing to articulate joint efforts towards Nuclear Disarmament in the Region.
8. **To urge** Signatory States to Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco to modify or withdraw interpretative declarations made when signing and/or ratifying such instruments in order to offer unconditional negative security assurances to the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean.

9. **To promote** concrete actions for the cooperation and coordination with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, States, International Organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations in order to move forward towards achieving the ultimate objective, a nuclear-weapon-free world.
10. **To instruct** the Council to develop, according to this Resolution, a Strategic Plan proposal with a long-term vision having general and complete disarmament as its final objective, such proposal shall be submitted for the consideration of the General Conference.
11. **To request** the Secretariat General to inform all Member States, relevant International Organizations and Civil Society Organizations about the content of this Resolution.

(Adopted at the 115th Session
held on 22 August 2013)