



XVIII Regular Session of the General Conference
Havana, Cuba, 5-6 November 2003.

RESOLUTION CG/Res.448
STRENGTHENING OF OPANAL

The General Conference,

Conscious of the importance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco as a model for motivating and promoting other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in the world, whose intention is to eliminate the nuclear threat through disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation;

Bearing in mind Resolutions 339 (E-X), 358 (XV), 368 (E-XII), 388 (XVI) and 418 (XVII) related to the mandate conferred upon the Council and the General Secretariat of the Agency with the purpose of continuing the study for the promotion of measures and actions aimed at strengthening OPANAL;

Considering the fulfillment of operative paragraph 1 of Resolution 418 (XVII) in document C/DT/55 Rev. 3 of the Secretary General, submitted to the Council, "on the specific objectives for the holding of an International Conference of Parties to Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones", indicating the advances and deliberations on this topic and the need to obtain the consensus of the Member States in order to carry out joint actions during the period 2004-2005;

Emphasizing the steps taken by the Secretary General to convene an International Conference of States Parties and Signatories to treaties for the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones;

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary General for the signing, on 11 February 2003, of the Cooperation Agreement with the Islands of the Pacific (Treaty of Rarotonga), which furthers

compliance with operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of Resolution 418 (XVII) with the aim of increasing exchanges of information and experiences with other NWFZs;

Highlighting the work realized performed by the Secretary General for the signing of the Agreement on Cooperation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) on 18 September 2002, which strengthens and underscores the relations of OPANAL with new international agencies created to supervise disarmament, non-proliferation and control measures of armaments, in accordance with Article 20 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Also highlighting the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), on 29 April 2003, complying with operative paragraph 4.2 of Resolution 418 (XVII) and paving the way for co-operation mechanisms between both Agencies;

Having studied the Memorandum of the Secretary General (Doc. CG/564 Rev.) on the Strengthening of OPANAL,

Resolves:

1. **To request** the Secretary General to continue the process of consultation with the Member States of OPANAL and the Regional Organizations directly involved in the promotion of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones taking in consideration the holding of an International Conference of Parties and Signatories of Treaties that establish NWFZ informing the Council and the next session of the General Conference.
2. **To entrust** the Secretary General with the formulation of a program that will continue to increase exchanges of information and experiences with other NWFZs in relation to areas of common interest, in particular the banning of nuclear tests, non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and, if applicable, the establishment of cooperation programs in the sphere of the competences that the Treaty of Tlatelolco confers on OPANAL.
3. **To request** the Secretary General to design mechanisms for cooperation with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the

Caribbean in order to carry out joint activities as part of the objectives defined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 29 April 2003.

4. **To reiterate** to the Secretary General the formulation, as soon as possible, of a program for strengthening the institution of OPANAL that includes the support of a small group of experts to increase the Agency's capacity for analysis in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
5. **To establish** even closer cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and request the Secretary General to hold consultations with the authorities of that Agency with regard to the functioning of the Control System established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco in the light of its recent amendments and to submit to the Council a report of the advisability of updating the Cooperation Agreement between both parties signed in October 1972.
6. **To urge** the Secretary General to continue maintaining exchanges of information with non-governmental organizations linked to the field of disarmament, on topics of interest to OPANAL which, with the approval of the Council, he considers pertinent to present to the Member States of the Agency, in accordance with Article 11 (5) of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
7. **To entrust** the Secretary General with the formulation of a work program to reinforce cooperation with other agencies of the region, such as the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC), on the basis of objectives in line with the aims of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and which take into account financial consequences for the budget of the Agency.
8. **To urge** the Secretary General to submit to the Council a detailed program with the objectives and aims of his participation in international forums and agencies, as well as the reports and results of same. His participation should be supported by objectives in line with the aims of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and which take into account financial consequences for the budget of the Agency.
9. **To invite** the Secretary General to submit to the Council a program of activities in the medium and long terms that contributes to strengthening the relations of the Agency with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.

10. **To instruct** the Secretary General to inform all the Member States of the content of this resolution.
11. **To express** its broadest recognition for the work performed by the Secretary General in compliance with Resolution 418 (XVII).

(Adopted by acclamation at the 102nd Session
held on November 6, 2003)