



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

Inf.14/2016
25 May 2016

Report of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) regarding resolution 70/36 entitled “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 7 December 2015

Article 1 of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – Treaty of Tlatelolco –, regarding the obligations of the Contracting Parties, covers all aspects concerning the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

The activities prohibited in Article 1 are addressed to *the Parties themselves, directly or indirectly, on behalf of anyone else or in any other way*. Consequently, States Party undertake to impede that individuals, including terrorists, produce, test, acquire or deploy nuclear weapons within their national territories.

The purpose of the Control System (Article 12) of the Treaty is to verify that *none of the activities prohibited in Article I of this Treaty are carried out in the territory of the Contracting Parties with nuclear materials or weapons introduced from abroad (...)*. This includes the obligation of States Party to negotiate agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency – IAEA – for the application of safeguards to their nuclear activities (Article 13). All the States Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco have concluded safeguards agreements with the IAEA.

Moreover, the Parties undertake to submit to OPANAL *semi-annual reports stating that no activity prohibited under the Treaty has occurred in their respective territories*. This covers the acquisition of nuclear weapons by terrorists.

The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – OPANAL – draws attention to resolution CG/Res.419 entitled “Illicit trafficking in Nuclear Materials” (annexed), adopted at the XVII session of the General Conference of OPANAL, in Panama, in 2001. By resolution CG/Res.419, the General Conference of OPANAL resolved *To make a call to the Members of OPANAL to adopt measures to prevent and impede the illicit trafficking of nuclear material for terrorist actions and other non-peaceful uses, and to increase security at the nuclear facilities and of materials used for such purpose.*

OPANAL also adopted resolution CG/Res.457 entitled “Havana Declaration” (annexed), during the XVIII session of the General Conference, in Havana, on 5 November 2003, in which the Member States of the Agency assumed the commitment to *Strengthen national nuclear control and verification systems to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear material.*

The Treaty of Tlatelolco entered into force in 1969. During these 47 years, there has not been any transgression to its provisions, including the acquisition of nuclear weapons by terrorists.