



Memorandum from the General Secretariat of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean prepared for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

1. Pursuant to the request of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the General Secretariat of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) presents a description of the most relevant political developments that have taken place since the Review Conference of 2005.

States acceding to the Treaty of Tlatelolco

2. The universality of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in the region has been achieved.
3. To date, all 33 States in the Latin American and the Caribbean region have signed and ratified the Treaty of Tlatelolco and are now full Parties to the Treaty.
4. There are two Additional Protocols in the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

-Additional Protocol I establishes the status of military denuclearization of territories within the treaty's zone of application that are under the administration of states that, de jure or de facto, are responsible for them. This protocol has been signed and ratified by the United Kingdom, Holland, France and the United States of America.

-Additional Protocol II requires the nuclear powers to commit to not using nuclear weapons against any of the States Parties to the treaty. It is directed at the Nuclear Weapon States officially recognized by the international community and has been signed and ratified by China, the United States of America, France, the United Kingdom and the Russian Federation.

5. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, adopted resolution CG/Res.515, "Interpretative Declarations of the Nuclear Powers to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco", that urges the States possessing nuclear weapons which, having ratified Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, have done so with unilateral interpretations that affect the status of denuclearization established by the Treaty, to modify or withdraw said unilateral interpretations.

Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco

6. First amendment (resolution 267 (E-V)), which adds to the official title of the Treaty the words “and the Caribbean”:
 - Signed by Bahamas, Bolivia, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, and Saint Kitts and Nevis.
 - Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.
7. Second amendment (resolution 268 (XII)), which replaces paragraph 2 of former article 25 of the Treaty:
 - Signed by Bolivia, Grenada, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic and Saint Kitts and Nevis.
 - Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.
8. Third amendment (resolution 290 (E-VII)), which amends articles 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20 of the Treaty:
 - Signed by Bolivia, Haiti, Honduras and Saint Kitts and Nevis
 - Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) international nuclear safeguards

9. Article 13 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that “Each Contracting Party shall negotiate multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of its safeguards to its nuclear activities”. In fulfillment of that mandate, the following States have concluded agreements with IAEA:
 - Haiti in March 2006
10. To date, all 33 States Members of OPANAL have signed safeguards agreement with IAEA
11. Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay have ratified the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguards Agreements. Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico and Dominican Republic have signed the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguards Agreements.
12. In April 2006, the Secretary General participated in the IAEA regional seminar “Verifying Compliance with Nuclear Non-Proliferation Commitments: Strengthened Safeguards, Small Quantities Protocols and Additional Protocols” held in Quito, Ecuador.
13. The Deputy Secretary General participated in the IAEA regional seminar “About the application of the IAEA Safeguard System in the States of Central America and the Caribbean with limited nuclear material and activities, which took place in Santo Domingo, July 2008.

Strengthening of OPANAL

The topic of the strengthening of OPANAL has been under continuous review by the General Secretariat, the Council, the General Conference and Member States of OPANAL:

14. The XIX Regular General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Santiago, Chile in November 2005, approved resolution CG/Res.478 on the strengthening of OPANAL, which clearly defines the future activities of OPANAL and of the General Secretariat and establishes the need of increase the participation of OPANAL in international forums and organizations and its cooperation with other regional and international agencies.
15. **Santiago de Chile Declaration.** The XIX Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Santiago de Chile, adopted resolution CG/Res.487, dated 8 November 2005, which approved the Santiago de Chile Declaration, in which the Conference reaffirms the importance of strengthening OPANAL as an appropriate political and legal forum for ensuring complete respect for the Treaty of Tlatelolco in its zone of application and encourage cooperation with international organizations responsible for disarmament and nonproliferation, as well as with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones. In the same direction, resolution CG/Res.513 “Strengthening of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean”, was approved in the XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL that took place on 26 November 2009.
16. The Council of OPANAL approved in December 2006, resolution C/Res.42 on the strengthening of OPANAL, which call on Member States to establishes information campaigns about the Treaty of Tlatelolco and OPANAL.
17. Taking into account the topic of the strengthening of OPANAL, the General Conference designated by acclamation H.E. Ambassador Perla Carvalho Soto as Deputy Secretary General from January 1, 2008, to November 30, 2009. (CG/Res.496)
18. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, elected by acclamation H.E. Ambassador Gioconda Ubeda Rivera from Costa Rica as Secretary General for the period from 1 February 2010 to 31 December 2013. (CG/Res.524)
19. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Mexico City in November 2009, elected Costa Rica and Guatemala to replace Argentina and Mexico as Members of the Council for the 2010-2013 term. With these new members from Central America, OPANAL searches to increase the participation of countries from all parts of the continent. (CG/Res.519)
20. Taking into account the topic of the strengthening of OPANAL, and in compliance with resolution CG/Res. 479 (XIX/05) “Education for Peace, Disarmament and Nuclear Non-Proliferation”, adopted in Santiago de Chile, the General Secretariat of OPANAL organized in March 2009 a course about “The Nuclear Issues” with the objective of providing an overview of the nuclear issue, directed to representatives from Member States. The course was imparted online in September 2009 for the first time, especially directed to governmental servants, political advisers, legislators and members of the armed forces of all Member States.

21. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, adopted resolution CG/Res.518, “Education for Peace, Disarmament and Nuclear Non-Proliferation”, which reiterates the importance of continuing the work of dissemination of the Treaty of Tlatelolco among civil society and academic institutions, by promoting activities that contribute to education for peace, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As part of this effort, the Secretariat General has programmed two more courses online about “The Nuclear Issues” for personal of the Member States. The first one is going to be imparted in English so it can reach more personal from the Caribbean States.
22. The General Secretariat coordinated the production of a documentary about Nuclear Disarmament, specially created for its use in primary and secondary academic levels in Member States. The objective is to create conscience of the importance of nuclear disarmament in children between 10 and 14 years old.

Treaty of Tlatelolco and Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

23. To date, all 33 Members of OPANAL are Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
24. The States parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, represented at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation for Nuclear Weapons which took place in Vienna, 30 April – 11 May 2007, submitted a Working Paper. The document presented eight concrete proposals aimed at promoting closer cooperation between the various nuclear-weapon-free zones (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.71)
25. OPANAL submitted a working paper with the contributions of the Latin American and Caribbean States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco for the III Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which took place in New York, 4 - 15 May 2009. (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.III/WP.32)
26. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, adopted resolution CG/Res.516, “2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons”, that the only real guarantee against their use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is their total elimination and absolute prohibition. It urges the States possessing nuclear weapons to comply immediately with the obligations contracted by means of Article VI of the NPT and to implement without delay the measures on nuclear disarmament adopted by the NPT Review Conferences of the years 1995 and 2000, particularly the 13 practical measures in the latter, which constitute an effective manner of advancing in nuclear disarmament. It demands to the States possessing nuclear weapons that they provide negative security guarantees to the States that do not possess nuclear weapons that are Parties to the NPT, in addition to the commitments acquired within the framework of the Security Council, by means of a universal, unconditional and legally binding treaty.

Nuclear testing and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

27. Article 18 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco permits under very strict conditions nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Nevertheless, the fact that the Latin American and Caribbean States have signed and ratified the Treaty of Tlatelolco and are therefore full parties to that Treaty, which definitively prohibits the parties from developing or possessing nuclear weapons, may be interpreted as a prohibition against nuclear test.
28. The General Secretariat of OPANAL has promoted the signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty among the Member States. The Secretary General participated in the seminar “Promotion of the Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in the Caribbean Region,” held in Mexico City and organized by Canada, Mexico and the CTBTO, October 2006.
29. In addition, the following Latin American and Caribbean States have to date signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.
30. The General Secretariat of OPANAL condemned the nuclear test conducted by North Korea in 2006. “Declaration on the Nuclear Explosion conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”, S/Inf.961.
31. The Council of OPANAL, as the political organ of the Agency, condemned the nuclear test conducted in May 2009 by North Korea. The document also reaffirmed the OPANAL Council’s firmest disapproval of the conduction of all kinds of nuclear weapon testing in any part of the world. (C/Res. 50)

Nuclear-weapon-free zones

32. During the period since 2005, the General Secretariat of OPANAL has maintained regular contact with other nuclear-weapon-free zones in order to increase cooperation and exchange information in the subject of nuclear disarmament.
33. The General Secretariat of OPANAL participated in the Conference on the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, which was held on 26, 27 and 28 April 2005 and presided by Mexico, with the participation of the States parties and signatories to the Treaties of Tlatelolco (1967), Rarotonga (1985), Bangkok (1995) and Pelindaba (1996), which have established nuclear-weapon-free zones, and Mongolia, for the purpose of strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone regime and contributing to the disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation processes. The meeting concluded with the Declaration of Tlatelolco (Doc.CZLAN/CONF/5).
34. The Council of OPANAL approved Resolution C/Res.41 “Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone” dated 11 September 2006, in which welcomes the establishment of the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone and congratulates the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan for assuming the commitment.

35. The Deputy Secretary General of OPANAL convened to an informal meeting of the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, which was held on 8 October 2008 in New York, in order to consolidate a mechanism of coordination for the preparation of the II Conference on the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish NWFZs and Mongolia, before the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
36. The Council of OPANAL approved Resolution C/Res.47 “Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia” dated 17 April 2009 which welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.
37. OPANAL was represented by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the Conference on Disarmament, in the Meeting of Focal Points of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones and Mongolia, which was held on 27 and 28 April 2009 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. It discussed the issues of implementation of the Tlatelolco Declaration of 2005 as well as preparations for the II Conference of the States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establishes Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.
38. The Council of OPANAL approved Resolution C/Res.52 “Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Africa” dated 20 August 2009 which welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Africa.
39. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, adopted resolution CG/Res.514, “Second Conference on the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones”, which recognizes the work of the Government of Chile in the co-ordination of the Second Conference on the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in April 2010 in New York, and requests the General Secretariat of the OPANAL to be aware and to inform all Member States of the preparations and results of the meeting.
40. The XXI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Mexico City in November 2009, adopted resolution CG/Res.517, “Coordination with other Nuclear Weapons Free Zones”, that establishes that the General Secretariat must continue with the co-ordination efforts with the different Nuclear Weapons Free Zones and Mongolia, and increase the bonds with the Focal Points.

Relations and activities with institutions and international organizations

41. OPANAL signed a cooperation agreement with Malaga University in October 2005, which establishes the development of cooperation programs and joint studies, exchange of information, cooperation in teaching and research in the area of nuclear disarmament and proscription of weapons of mass destruction (S/Inf.930)
42. OPANAL signed a cooperation agreement with the Latin American Parliament in November 2005, which establishes the consult and exchange of information in order to increase the cooperation, the formulation and execution of plans, programs, projects and specific activities in the fields of common interest and the contribution of both organisms to the institutional aims in favor of the development and integration of Latin America (S/Inf.950).

43. OPANAL signed a cooperation agreement with the U.N. Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin American and the Caribbean, which establishes that both agencies would work together on the promotion of academic and non-academic activities to foment education for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
44. On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and under the co-sponsorship of the Government of Mexico, the General Secretariat of OPANAL convened and organized an Academic Seminar, which was held on 14 and 15 February 2007, in Mexico, with the participation of renowned international speakers that talked about the importance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
45. On the occasion of the fortieth one anniversary for the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the General Secretariat of OPANAL organized the seminar on the subject “The Treaty of Tlatelolco”, which was held on 14 February 2008 with the participation of renowned experts in the field of nuclear disarmament and peaceful uses of nuclear technology.
46. The Deputy Secretary General participated in the Regional Seminar “Towards the year 2010: The role of the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty in the strengthening of NPT disarmament objectives”, which was held on 31 March and 1 April 2008, in Pretoria, South Africa.
47. On September 4 and 5 took place in Santiago, Chile, the International Seminar “The Nuclear Challenge”, organized by FLACSO, in collaboration with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Deputy Secretary General participated in the Panel “Promoting Non-Proliferation and Disarmament of nuclear weapons: the Role of international regimes and organizations.” (S/Inf.981)
48. The Deputy Secretary General participated en the “Regional Seminar on the strengthening of the Safeguard system of the IAEA in the Caribbean States with limited nuclear material and activities”, sponsored by the IAEA, which was held from 21 to 24 July 2008, in Dominican Republic.
49. The General Secretariat of OPANAL was represented by Brazil as Chairman on duty of the Council of OPANAL, in the meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on “Inter-American support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty” and “Disarmament and Nonproliferation Education” of the Organization of America States, which took place in Washington, D.C. on 28 January 2010.
50. The General Secretariat of OPANAL participated in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 on the Hemispheric Security Special Session of the Organization of American States “Consolidation of the Regime Established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” in fulfillment of the commitments assumed by the States of the Region in Resolution AG/2245 (XXXVI-0/06) and in the Declaration on Security in the Americas, Relative to the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

51. The Council of OPANAL approved Resolution C/Res.51 “Program of Work of the Conference on Disarmament for the 2009 Session” dated 8 June 2009, in which welcomes the approval of the Program of Work of the Conference on Disarmament for the 2009 session on May 29th, which allows the only multilateral disarmament negotiating forum to begin its work on all subjects of its agenda.
52. The General Secretariat and the Council of OPANAL had a special session held in the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, in order to welcome the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, on 4 August 2008. During his visit, Ban Ki-moon spoke about the importance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco as the pioneer in the establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
53. The General Secretariat and the Council of OPANAL had a special session in order to welcome the High Representative of the United Nations for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Sergio de Queiroz Duarte, and Dr. Tadatoshi Akiba, Mayor of Hiroshima, in OPANAL headquarters, 10 September 2009. In their speech, both made reference to the encouraging moment that for the topic of the nuclear disarmament that we are living and they spoke of the need to double efforts and to work hard in order to achieve nuclear disarmament.