OPANAL



Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean

General Conference

XXVIII Session 3 November 2023 Agenda Item 15 CG/Res.13/2023

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Resolution

Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL

The General Conference,

Considering that all international organizations need an appropriate physical space as headquarters;

Considering that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – Treaty of Tlatelolco, in its Article 7 establishes that "the headquarters of the Agency shall be Mexico City";

Recalling that the Treaty of Tlatelolco entered into force on April 29, 1969, and that on September 2nd of the same year the First Regular Session of the General Conference of OPANAL was held in Mexico City;

Highlighting that the Treaty of Tlatelolco, a source of pride for Latin America and the Caribbean, commemorated its 56th anniversary on February 14, 2023 and that OPANAL celebrated 54 years of functions in 2023, without yet having a permanent headquarters;

Conscious of the "Agreement between the United Mexican States and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the establishment of its headquarters in Mexico", signed on February 6, 2003; Article 2 of which recognizes the international legal personality of OPANAL;

Bearing in mind that other regional mechanisms and organizations based in Mexico are headquartered in buildings of their own;

Bearing in mind that the Government of Mexico expressed at the VI Extraordinary Session Period of the General Conference, held on 10 September 1991, its desire "to obtain, at no cost to the Agency, an adequate building for OPANAL to install its headquarters", an offer that the General

Conference appreciated in its resolution CG/E/Res.289 and subsequently in its resolution CG/E/Res.319 of the VIII Extraordinary Session Period held on 18 January 1994;

Also bearing in mind that the Government of Mexico has reiterated on several other occasions, including at subsequent sessions of the General Conference and meetings of the OPANAL Council, its intention and commitment to, together with the Agency, identify a building in Mexico City that could serve as its permanent and own headquarters;

Recognizing that, since July 2020, the rent of the current provisional headquarters has been covered entirely by the support of the Government of Mexico through voluntary contributions and that, due to physical limitations of the current provisional headquarters, the Government of Mexico has been providing rooms in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the meetings of the intergovernmental bodies of OPANAL, at no additional cost to the Agency or to the States Parties to the Treaty;

Resolves:

- To recognize and express gratitude to the Government of Mexico for its continuous efforts
 to grant on loan its own space for the headquarters of OPANAL, as well as to promote spaces
 dedicated to the Agency's work, at the headquarters of the Mexican Foreign Ministry.
- 2. **To request** the participation and support of all Member States so that OPANAL can attain its own permanent headquarters in Mexico City.
- 3. **To recommend** that the Secretary-General includes the need for OPANAL's own headquarters in his meetings with high-level authorities of Member States, particularly with those of the Host State.
- 4. **To endorse** the considerations and recommendations contained in document CG/XX/2023 on the characteristics that the headquarters should have.
- 5. To carry out, in case there is a communication from the Host State indicating the availability of a building that could be donated or given on permanent loan, a joint visit of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters and the Secretariat, for the purpose of submitting a report to the Council on the conditions and possible suitability of the property for the Agency, which should address both the physical space and the potential budgetary implications associated with maintenance costs.