



OPANAL

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

Secretariat

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Communiqué of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) on the occasion of the Tenth NPT Review Conference

The Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) are fully convinced that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is the cornerstone of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, as its three pillars aim to:

- a) prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons;
- b) achieve the total elimination of nuclear arsenals, total in a transparent, verifiable and irreversible manner, through effective measures relating to the cessation of the arms race and nuclear disarmament;
- c) respect and support the inalienable right of States Parties to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination.

Therefore, the OPANAL Member States, deeply concerned about the threat posed to humanity by the continued existence of nuclear weapons, its modernization, and their possible use or threat of use, regret that despite the efforts of President Gustavo Zlauvinen of Argentina, the Tenth NPT Review Conference, which took place from 1-26 August 2022, in New York, concluded without reaching the required consensus to adopt a final document.

The Member States of OPANAL participated in the Review Conference with a constructive spirit and political will to reach consensus. This was evidenced by the working document, prepared jointly, which recommended 21 points that should have been included in the draft final document with a view to achieving real progress towards a nuclear-weapon-free world.¹

Also, OPANAL presented a Memorandum that included information on the compliance of its Member States with the Treaty of Tlatelolco, a description of the Agency's relations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones, intergovernmental, and civil society organizations, as well as the Agency's activities in the areas of gender and disarmament and nonproliferation education.²

The Member States of OPANAL proud to belong to the first densely populated region on the planet to establish as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone and to proclaim itself a Zone of Peace, by virtue of which Latin America and the Caribbean has identified nuclear disarmament as a priority; remain committed to the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime established by the NPT. They will continue to comply with and fully implement all its obligations and commitments under the Treaty and those agreed within the framework of the review process, including the final documents of the 1995, 2000 and 2010 NPT Review Conferences.

¹ <https://undocs.org/NPT/CONF.2020/WP.7>

² <https://undocs.org/NPT/CONF.2020/2/Add.1>