



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

335th Meeting
1st February, 2022

C/01/2022

Work plan of the Council for 2022

Chairs of the Council	Bimester in turn	Scheduled meeting
Belize	January-February	335°
Brazil	March-April	336°
Guatemala	May-June	337°
Honduras	July-August	338°
Nicaragua	September-October	339°
Belize	November-December	340°

Note: This document is simply indicative and was elaborated with the purpose of assisting the Member States of the Council and other Member States with the planning of activities during the year. It may be updated as necessary, taking into account the conditions imposed by the SARS-COV-2 pandemic.

Work Plan

I. Communiqués, statements and other pronouncements issued by OPANAL

– 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 Anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco: This document is issued annually, on 14 February, and seeks to highlight the importance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the relevance of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first established in the world. It is expected that in 2022 the text of the document that was already circulated through Notes S-663/2021 and S-664/2021, and presented at the 334th Meeting of the Council on 18 November, 2021, and on which Cuba has made comments that were circulated through Notes S-684/2021 and S-685/2021, will be approved in a timely manner by all OPANAL Member States for its public dissemination and distribution by the OPANAL Coordination Offices in Geneva, New York and Vienna.

– Declaration on the occasion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (26 September 2021): This Declaration is issued to commemorate the international day, established by mandate of the United Nations General Assembly. The region of Latin America and the Caribbean is the only one in the world that expresses itself jointly in this regard, every September, and has been doing so, uninterruptedly, since the first year of said commemoration in 2014. It is expected that this document will be submitted to the Council for consideration and adoption by all OPANAL Member States for its public dissemination and distribution by the Agency's Secretariat and the OPANAL Coordination Offices in Geneva, New York and Vienna.

– Other pronouncements: By prerogative of any OPANAL Member State or the Secretary General, other communiqués or declarations may be submitted for consideration, if necessary, in accordance with the provisions and text of the Treaty.

II. Commemoration of the 55th Anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

– It is expected that, as every year, the Council will evaluate the commemorative program for the Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and, if appropriate, consider the reading by the

Chairperson in turn of the Communiqué of the Member States of OPANAL issued on the occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

III. OPANAL External Relations

- IV Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia: The Secretary-General is expected to participate in this meeting, coordinated by Mongolia with the support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), in which representatives of the other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia will participate.

- X Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (postponed possibly for August 2022, New York): In 2020, OPANAL contributed to the NPT Review Conference with the submission to the Preparatory Committee of the "*Working paper submitted by the States Parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)*" and the "*Memorandum of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL)*". Due to the change in the dates of the Conference, caused by the SARS-COV-2 pandemic, the Secretariat sent to the Conference Preparatory Committee the technical updates to both documents, which reflect the evolution of the topics addressed.

The Secretary-General is expected to participate in the open sessions of the Conference and the Main Committees as an observer. Also, as has been the practice, OPANAL Member States will be able to jointly pronounce on the results of the Review Conference by adopting a communiqué, the draft of which will be prepared by the OPANAL Secretariat.

- First Conference of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (22-24 March 2022, Vienna): It is expected that the Secretary General of OPANAL will be present at this meeting and will represent OPANAL as an observer Agency and participate in the process of drafting and adopting agreements and possible final documents.

- Participation in the United Nations General Assembly - First Committee (New York, to be defined): It is envisaged that the Secretary General will make an intervention during the General Debate of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly sometime during the first weeks of October. As in the past four years, the Secretary-General is also expected to participate in

the panel of international organizations in the area of disarmament during the segment devoted to high-level structured debates and dialogue with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.

– Resolutions in the First Committee of the 77th General Assembly: As every three years, the Member States of OPANAL agree on the text of the resolution "*Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)*", which is traditionally presented by Mexico, in the framework of the First Committee. On the other hand, the OPANAL Secretariat will prepare a draft resolution with the purpose of promoting, in the First Committee, the preparation of an exhaustive study of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in all its aspects. To this end, the Secretariat will convene technical working meetings during the first half of 2022 to reach consensus on both texts with the intention that they be presented at the 77th General Assembly.

– Visits to the OPANAL headquarters: If the conditions derived from the global pandemic of SARS-COV-2 allow it, it will continue to be promoted that, during the visit to Mexico of high authorities of the Member States or other international organizations, a visit to OPANAL headquarters shall be included in their programs of activities, when they could be received by the Council in a special session.

– Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco: In accordance with resolution CG/Res.01/2021 adopted by the XXVII General Conference of OPANAL, the Technical Group concluded its mandate on 11 November, 2021 and issued a series of recommendations to resume understanding and dialogue with the Governments of France, the United States, the United Kingdom and Russia. The recommendations, approved by the 334th Meeting of the Council, will be put into action as of the second half of February 2022.

– OPANAL Coordination Offices: In accordance with the resolution "*Coordination of the work of OPANAL in Geneva, New York and Vienna*" (CG/Res.07/2021), the Focal Points are expected to support the participation of the Agency in meetings and events to which it is invited and to serve as a point of contact between OPANAL and different bodies in those venues. During 2022, the coordinations in Geneva, New York and Vienna will be in charge of Ecuador, Brazil and Mexico, respectively.

OPANAL Coordination Offices			
Venue	Coordinatoor	Starting Date	End of Term
Geneva	Ecuador	1 January, 2022	31 December, 2022
New York	Brazil	1 January, 2022	31 December, 2022
Vienna	Mexico	1 January, 2022	31 December, 2022

IV. Control System

- The Council shall report to the General Conference at its next session on the status of compliance with the Treaty of Tlatelolco Control System: The information on the status of compliance with Articles 14 and 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco is provided by the Secretariat at each Council meeting.

V. Education on disarmament and non-proliferation

- OPANAL Course: The OPANAL course on disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is one of the Agency's initiatives to follow up on the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation education programs, addressing the danger posed by nuclear weapons and joining the fight for their elimination. In accordance with Resolution CG/Res.04/2021, adopted by the XXVII Session of the General Conference, held on 30 September, 2021, the Secretariat is willing to conduct the course both in person, subject to certain financial requirements, and virtually. For the reference of Member States, the Secretariat is currently preparing an information document which includes the background of the OPANAL course, the logistical and financial aspects to be considered and a proposed provisional program for the Course.
- Internship Programs: The call for applications for the Internship Program, open to all countries, for the first semester of 2022 received 10 applications from candidates from Mexico and the Netherlands. The selection process, carried out by the Secretariat, contemplates accepting three participants during the first semester of the year and two or three participants during the second semester.

Regarding the Internship Program with financial support for OPANAL Member States that are also members of CARICOM, the Secretariat is awaiting the decision of the Government of the Netherlands regarding the programming for the year 2022.

– Summer School on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation: The General Conference, through its resolution "*Course on disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons*" (CG/Res.04/2021), resolved to continue supporting the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation organized annually by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico. If the conditions at the moment allow it, it is expected that this Course will be resumed normally on site or, alternatively, that it will be held again virtually.

VI. Gender, Non-proliferation and Disarmament

– The Council, together with the Secretariat, shall incorporate a gender perspective that supports and strengthens the effective participation of women in the Agency, its organs and programs: In this regard, in accordance with resolution CG/Res.05/2021 "*Gender, Non-Proliferation and Disarmament*", the Council may respectfully call upon the Member States to encourage the effective participation of women in the meetings and in the topics regularly discussed in the various bodies of OPANAL.

VII. Administrative and budgetary matters

– Financial obligations of the Member States: The Council receives at each meeting the status of collection of quotas.

– Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco: The Secretary-General will continue to report to the Council on the efforts and results made by some Member States to overcome their non-payment of financial quotas to the Agency, as a follow-up to General Conference resolution CG/Res.11/2021.

– Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor's Report as of 31st December, 2021: The Council will receive the opinion of the External Auditor on the Agency's financial statements as of 31 December, 2021. This opinion will be submitted by the Council to the General Conference at its next session.

- Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2023: In a timely manner, the Council shall receive from the CCAAP the draft budget and scale of assessments for the financial year 2023. The Council shall submit the draft budget and scale of assessments for fiscal year 2023 to the General Conference for consideration.

- OPANAL Headquarters: The General Conference, at its XXVII Session on 30 September, 2021, adopted Resolution CG/Res.13/2021 "*OPANAL Headquarters*", which instructed the Council to continue with the analysis and discussion of the considerations contained in document CG/14/2019, submitting a report to the General Conference at its next session. For the third consecutive year, the Government of Mexico made a bank transfer to OPANAL, for the payment of rent, for one million Mexican pesos in order to support the Agency while it negotiates the allocation of a building to establish its permanent headquarters. The Council should continue to follow up on the issue of a permanent headquarters for OPANAL.