



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

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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) related to the threat of use of nuclear weapons

The Member States of OPANAL hereby express their utmost concern over any possible scenario of use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, by any State, and under any circumstance.

The Member States of OPANAL express their alarm and dismay by the threats of use of nuclear weapons, irrespective of their class or location; as well as the improvements in existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons; by the increased operational alertness of nuclear arsenals; the continuity of military and security doctrines, concepts and policies based on nuclear deterrence and the increasingly strident nuclear rhetoric.

Therefore, they stress that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is a violation of International Law, including the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and norms of International Humanitarian Law, and condemn unequivocally any and all nuclear threats, whether they be explicit or implicit and irrespective of the circumstances.

The Member States call for nuclear weapons not to be used again irrespective of the circumstances by any actor, and under any circumstances. This can only be ensured through the prohibition and elimination of all nuclear weapons, in a verifiable, irreversible and transparent manner within clearly established timeframes.

The Member States of OPANAL express their deep concern over the catastrophic humanitarian, environmental and, in general, for life, impact of nuclear weapons or any intentional or accidental detonation.

The Member States of OPANAL call upon the international community to make all necessary efforts to prevent and avoid the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

Finally, the Member States of OPANAL reiterate their call upon the nuclear-weapon States not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons on other States, and in particular, to provide full and unequivocal negative security assurances of a legally binding nature to the States that are part of nuclear-weapon-free zones, in accordance with the international treaties that establish them and their additional protocols; and urge them to withdraw, without further delay, the interpretative declarations to the Protocols to those Treaties, which are incompatible with the object and purpose of those Treaties.