



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

**General Conference**

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Agenda Item 6

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*Unofficial translation*

**Statement by Peru**

Thank you Mr. President,

Mr. President, Vice-Presidents, Mr. Secretary-General, representatives of the Member States and observers,

Allow me in the first place to express my delegation's gratitude to the Secretary-General and his team for organizing this General Conference and, through them, to the IPGH for providing us with its headquarters to hold it. We hope that in the future OPANAL can have its own headquarters and, in that regard, we value the démarches that the Mexican Foreign Ministry and the Secretary-General have been carrying out for this purpose.

Mr. President,

Peru reaffirms at this forum its deep commitment to disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and arms control, as fundamental aspects for the preservation of international peace and security.

This commitment is reflected in its foreign policy. Peru has sought to be part of all international regimes in the matter of disarmament and non-proliferation and actively participates in all multilateral forums to help achieve and maintain a nuclear-weapon-free world.

That is the role we have sought to play, among others, as a non-permanent member of the Security Council; in follow-up to the works of the Conference on Disarmament to

contribute to the restart of its negotiations; and of course in OPANAL as a member of the Council.

Mr. President,

We are proud to be members and to contribute to the works of this Agency, an international institutional benchmark, which this year marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment, as the only intergovernmental international organization specializing in non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. As member States, we should continue our efforts to keep OPANAL relevant, through our active participation in its meetings, our commitment assuming responsibilities as members of the Council, the CCAAP, and/or coordinators at other venues, our contribution to its financial viability, and, of course, our timely fulfillment of our obligations under the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

Although Peru concludes this year its work as a member of the Council, it will continue as an observer working towards the accomplishment of the goals that we have set ourselves, in particular helping to bring concerted positions of the Agency to other forums; the successful completion of the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in 2020 and the deepening of dialogue and cooperation with the other NWFZs; resume the dialogue with the nuclear-armed states who issued interpretative declarations to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and, in that regard, we welcome the presence of several representatives of the States parties to those Protocols at this meeting; and of course we will continue carrying out the coordination of the agency in Vienna.

Finally, the government of Peru does not want to miss this opportunity to express its recognition to the work of Ambassador Luis Filipe de Macedo Soares in his brilliant performance as Secretary-General of the Agency during the last years. His deep knowledge and experience in the issues of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and, above all, his great commitment and endeavor, allowed revitalize OPANAL and leave us a legacy that we commit ourselves to continue.

Thank you, very much.