



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

COUNCIL – 297th

C/012/2015
25 August 2015
Original: Spanish

**Proposal for the delivery of a course on
Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation**

Report of the Council

I. Background

1. At its XXI Special Session (13 November 2012), the General Conference established, through resolution CG/E/Res.547, a Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education (WGE) open to all Member States. The General Conference decided, by resolution CG/Res.556 (22 August 2013), to renew the mandate of the WGE and, by resolution CG/E/Res.576 (19 November 2014), to broaden its mandate in order to explore new possibilities for the implementation of the course “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”.
2. In July 2013, OPANAL signed a specific agreement with the Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE) to receive consultancy and engineering services to develop the online course platform (Doc. S/Inf.1109). The specific agreement was based on the Framework Agreement signed at the XXI Special Session of the General Conference (13 November 2012) and stated that OPANAL should pay 117,000 MXN for the services of ILCE. In the second half of 2013, the Agency make a payment of 50% of the amount.
3. The WGE built upon Document SG.11.2012, “Course Proposal – Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”. In its five meetings held between 28 February and 20 November 2013, the Group extended the structure of the proposal to a course divided into 5 modules and 19 topics. 12 experts were invited to deliver the different course modules, 6 of them expressed their willingness to participate, but only 3 of them sent the materials required, as stated in Doc. SG.14.2014, “Report of the Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education” (19 November 2014).

II. Considerations

1. Member States have reiterated on various occasions that nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education is of great importance (Declaration of the 33 OPANAL Member States, 11 September 2011, Doc. A/C.1/66/2 and; Declaration of the Member States of OPANAL on the occasion of the International Day for the total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons Doc. A/C.1/69/2).
2. The Council (288th Session, 19 June 2014) agreed not to pay the outstanding 50% of the amount agreed to the Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE). On 16 June 2014, the Secretary-General paid a visit to the Director General of ILCE to request the suspension of the agreement, as well as the payment of the outstanding sum. The request was accepted and formalized via Note No. S-19707, dated 25 June 2014.
3. The Secretariat consists of 5 full-time officers addressing a variety of subjects. Therefore, it would not be possible to devote the entire time of one officer to the implementation of the online course, as demanded by this format.
4. The Secretary-General frequently participates in seminars, courses and lectures on the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Most recently, he participated in the second edition of the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (13-17 July) organized by the Mexican Government and cosponsored, among others, by OPANAL. He also participated in the XXII Workshop of International Relations organized by the *Universidad de Guadalajara* and the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (20 August). Although most of the activities to which the Secretary-General is invited take place in the host State (Mexico), he has also participated in seminars held abroad. (Brazil, 2014; Chile, 2015)
5. As instructed by the WGE, the Secretary-General sent note No. S-146/2015, dated 10 June 2015, requesting the Member States' Ministers of Foreign Affairs to inform about nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education activities that they carry out. Mexico responded to the request of the Secretary-General, while Jamaica and Dominican Republic sent interlocutory letters. Moreover, Argentina, Cuba, El Salvador, Panama and Mexico submitted reports to the United Nations Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 69/65, entitled "United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education".

III. Proposal of the Secretary-General

- To organize two on-site courses a year, which would be delivered by two experts with the presence of the Secretary-General. The courses would be hosted by two different Member States for a period of five-working days.
- The programme of the course (Annex I) is based on the programme contents of the aforementioned “Course Proposal – Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”. (Doc. SG.11.2012).
- Eminent experts who have been in high-level posts at the UN Secretariat in the field of nuclear disarmament are an example of possible instructors.
- In the event of the proposal being approved, a provision would be included in the Agency's budget for FY 2016. This provision would cover the expert(s) travelling expenses and remuneration.
- Member States would be consulted regarding their interest in hosting any of the courses. The General Conference would delegate to the Council the power to select the host State or States.
- These States shall cover the logistics expenses of the course and the expert's accommodation.
- Although course participants would be local in principle, registration might be open to participants from different Member States as the host State decides. The participants may be international relations university students, diplomats, military personnel, journalists, civil society organizations, etc.

The Secretary-General submitted this proposal to the Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education (WGE) for consideration. The WGE agreed that this proposal, including the corresponding budgetary implications, should be submitted to the Council, and if approved, to the General Conference at its XXIV Regular Session to be held in 2015.

Annex I

Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Day 1

Introduction

- I. The origin of nuclear weapons
- II. The context of the Cold War
 - Nuclear arms race
 - Relations between superpowers

Treaty of Tlatelolco

- I. Immediate background
 - “Missile Crisis” (October 1962, Cuba)
 - Initiatives in the United Nations General Assembly – 1962
 - Joint Declaration for the denuclearization of Latin America (issued by the Heads of State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Mexico on 29 April 1963)
 - Decision to negotiate the Treaty: Preliminary Meeting on the Denuclearization of Latin America (REUPRAL)(23-27 November 1964)
 - Negotiation of the Treaty: Preparatory Committee for the Denuclearization of Latin America (COPREDAL)(March 1965 to February 1967)
- II. Structure of the Treaty of Tlatelolco
 - Preamble
 - Objectives
 - Control System
 - Protocols I and II to the Treaty
 - Signature and ratification
 - Interpretative Declarations

- III. Treaty operation
 - Bodies of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin American and the Caribbean (OPANAL)

- IV. Recent participation of the Member States
 - Declarations issued by OPANAL and by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)

Day 2

Nuclear disarmament at the global level

- I. Nuclear disarmament
 - Multilateral initiatives
 - United Nations General Assembly
 - Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC, 1962-69) – Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD, 1969)
 - I Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD I, 23 May - 1 July 1978) – Final Document
 - Committee on Disarmament (1979) – Conference on Disarmament (February, 1984)
 - United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC)
 - Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)

- II. Major themes on nuclear disarmament
 - Fissile material
 - Negative security assurances
 - Outer space

- III. Nuclear weapons and international humanitarian law
 - International humanitarian law and humanitarian initiative
 - Humanitarian conferences: Oslo, Nayarit and Vienna
 - Humanitarian pledge
 - Activities of non-governmental organizations
 - Public opinion and nuclear disarmament
 - Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education

Day 3

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime

I. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime

1. Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
 - Drafting
 - Adoption
 - Entry into force
2. NPT Structure
3. Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
 - 1995 Review and Extension Conference
 - 2010 NPT Review Conference
 - 2015 NPT Review Conference
4. Themes of the NPT Review Conference
 - Implementation of the NPT provisions on nuclear disarmament (Article VI), as well as international peace and security
 - NPT provisions on non-proliferation, safeguards and nuclear-weapons-free zones
 - Inalienable right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes

Day 4

Nuclear-weapons-free zones

I. Concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone

- Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned (1999)

II. Treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones

- South Pacific (Treaty of Rarotonga, 1985)
- Southeast Asia (Bangkok Treaty, 1995)
- Africa (Treaty of Pelindaba, 1996)
- Central Asia (Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia (CANWFZ), 2006)
- Status of Mongolia as a nuclear-weapon-free State (1992)

III. Conferences of the nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia

- I Conference of the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, Mexico City, 2005
- II Conference of the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, New York, 2010
- III Conference of the States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, New York, 2015

IV. Establishment of future nuclear-weapon-free zones

- Northeast Asia
- Establishment of a zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in the Middle East
- Other United Nations initiatives

Day 5

Perspectives

- I. Current situation of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation policy and perspectives
- II. Evaluation of the participants

Bibliography