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



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COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL IN CHARGE OF THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF OPANAL

FROM JULY 1 TO AUGUST 31

The Council of OPANAL by virtue of Resolution C/Res. 43 approved at the 51st Special Session of the Council held on June 28, 2007, entrusted the various rotating Presidents of the Council to assume the responsibilities of the Secretariat General from July 1 to November 22, 2007. The Permanent Representatives of Guatemala, Mexico and Peru occupied the presidency during the period.

The Representative of the Republic of Guatemala, H.E. Manuel Arturo Soto Aguirre assumed the Presidency from July 1 to August 31 and conducted the following activities:

I. Collection of Contributions

1. The following countries paid their contributions:

TOTAL	\$201,833.59 USD
Grenada	\$ 9,990.00 USD (20/VIII/07)
Bahamas	\$ 200.00 USD (21/VIII/07)
Antigua and Barbuda	\$ 5,000.00 USD (16/VIII/07)
Federative Republic of Brazil	\$126,582.00 USD (23/VII/07)
Antigua and Barbuda	\$ 5,000.00 USD (17/VII/07)
Republic of Guatemala	\$ 3,233.59 USD (5/VII/07)
Argentine Republic	\$ 51,828.00 USD (2/VII/07)

2. Correspondence Sent

- Notes of congratulation were sent to Venezuela, France, Colombia, Peru, Bahamas, Jamaica, Bolivia and Uruguay.
- 2. A copy of Resolution C/Res. 43 "Interim Functions of the Council in view of the Resignation of the Secretary General" was sent to all Member States. In addition, the Mexican Delegation translated the document into English, copies of which were sent to the countries of the Caribbean with the appropriate diplomatic note.
- 3. Acknowledgement of receipt was sent to the following entities:
 - a) The Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC) for informing of the appointment of Dr. Odilón Antonio Marcuzzo do Canto as Secretary of ABACC.
 - b) The Director of International Affairs of the Government of Coahuila, thanking him for the information provided about the services offered by his Directorate.
 - c) The Deputy Directorate for Legal Affairs of ISSSTE for providing a copy of that Institute's new law.
 - d) The Matías Romero Institute for presenting Edition 15 of the collection *Cuadernos de Política Internacional*.
 - e) The Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil for notifying of its fulfillment of Article 14 during the first six months of 2007.
 - f) An invitation to attend the "Conference to Facilitate the Entry into Force of the CTBT in Vienna in September."
 - g) The Embassy of the Republic of Ecuador for notifying of its fulfillment of Article 14 during the first six months of 2007.
 - h) The Embassy of the Republic of Chile for notifying of its fulfillment of Article 14 during the first six months of 2007.
 - i) The Honorable General Directorate of Protocol for sending a CD and book of the National Infrastructure Program 2007-2012, *Construyamos un México Mejor*."
 - j) The Deputy Director General for Regional American Organizations and Mechanisms regarding OAS Resolution 2298.
 - k) The Specific Agreement between OPANAL and the University of Malaga was sent to the Rector of the University for signature (signed by Ambassador Vargas) and approved at the 227th Session of the Council on April 3, 2007.
 - 1) The 229th Session of the Council was convened.

m) Three different types of notes (dated August 31) were sent to the Member States regarding their debts with the Agency and requesting timely payment of same (Núm. S-17711).

3. Correspondence Received

- Diplomatic note MFA/73/8/2 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Bahamas (received on June 13) is presented for the Council's information. The note documents fulfillment of the Resolutions approved during the XIX Regular Session of the General Conference held in November 2005 in Santiago, Chile. The Secretariat acknowledged receipt.
- 2. A request was received from Mr. Elías David Morales Martínez to visit the Agency in order to conduct research and prepare his doctoral dissertation at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

4. Payments Made

- 1. "Maintenance" fees were paid for the office space occupied by the Agency at the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the months of July and August.
- 2. Employee salaries for the months of July and August.
- 3. Payments were made to Teléfonos de México, Marcatel, Iusacell, the Mexican Institute of Social Security and to refund Petty Cash.
- 4. With the approval of the President and after telephone consultations with the members of the Council (Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru) a prior request made by Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño to use the Agency's automobile and driver during a visit to Mexico on August 14 to 17 was approved.
- 5. Ambassador Vargas Carreño presented two invoices for a total of \$12,070.81 USD to cover the costs of repatriation of his household goods.

5. Other Activities

- 1. The Agency's driver was given authorization to paint the Secretary General's office as well the Agency's other offices. He was also given authorization to purchase the equipment to clean the upholstery of the Agency's automobile.
- 2. The Minutes from the 228th Regular Session and the 51st Special Session of the Council were sent to the Member States. The Minutes from the 67th Session of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP) were also sent to the Member States.

6. Pending Business

- 1. On July 31, OPANAL received official notification of the permanent disability of the Secretary General's driver Rafael Jardón Huerta. (Please see the table of payments that the Agency must pay in accordance with Mexican law.)
- 2. Payment for hosting of the Agency's website is still pending (7,452.00 Mexican Pesos).
- 3. The Agency's automobile is parked in the garage of the Embassy of Venezuela and has traveled 16,171 kilometers since its last service. It should have been serviced at 15,800 kilometers.
- 4. Mr. Péricles Gasparini, Director of UNLIREC, called the Agency.
- 5. The case of Antigua and Barbuda.