



# OPANAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

## XXIV Regular Session

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Mexico City

CG/04/2015  
27/10/2015

### **Report of the Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education**

#### **Background**

The Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education (WGE) was created pursuant to Resolution CG/E/Res.547, “Education for peace and nuclear disarmament”, adopted on 13 November 2012 at the XXI Special Session of the General Conference of OPANAL.

The WGE presented a report (Doc. SG.28.2013) at the XXII Regular Session of the General Conference held on 21-22 August 2013, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The recommendations contained in said report were adopted through Resolution CG/Res.556 (annexed).

In essence, these recommendations involved the organization of a course by means of an electronic platform. On 30 July 2013, the Secretariat signed an agreement with the Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE) for the provision of such electronic platform (Specific Agreement signed during the 281<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council, Doc. S/Inf.1109). The WGE worked on the elaboration of the syllabus that would be delivered by 12 instructors. After extending the invitations, only six instructors expressed their willingness to participate, and only 2 of them sent the materials required. The WGE resolved that it would not be possible to implement the course with the participation of only those who sent their materials. Moreover, the administration of the course would have required the services of a full-time officer in the Secretariat, this could not be possible considering the current number of officers.

A different on-line course proposal was presented to the Secretariat, however, it would have had high costs and a limited scope.

At its XXIII Special Session held on 19 November 2014, in Mexico City, the General Conference took note of the recommendations contained in the WGE’s Report (Doc. SG.14.2014), and through Resolution CG/E/Res.576 decided to broaden the WGE’s mandate in order to explore new possibilities for the implementation of the course “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”.

## Development of the works of the WGE during 2015

1. In 2015, the WGE held two meetings, in which the Representatives of Argentina (Group Coordinator), Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru took part.
2. The WGE analysed, as an initial task, a part of the background in the matter of education: the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education (Doc. A/57/124); the latest UN Secretary-General Report on the matter (Doc. A/69/113); and the relevant OPANAL General Conference Resolutions<sup>1</sup>.
3. The WGE was informed that Argentina, Cuba, El Salvador, Panama, and Mexico contributed to the UN Secretary-General report on disarmament and non-proliferation education, in compliance with UNGA resolution 69/65 “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”.
4. As instructed by the WGE (Doc. Inf.006/2015), the Secretary-General sent letter S-146/2015, dated 10 June 2015, to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the 33 Member States. In said letter it was highlighted that in order for the WGE to perform its duties it would be important to identify the activities performed by the Member States in the field of disarmament education.
5. In response to letter S-146/2015, the Secretary-General received a description of the activities performed by Mexico (letter DNU-3400, dated 23 June 2015), Cuba (letter 028, dated 18 August 2015), Brazil (letter 036, dated 24 August 2015), and Chile (letter 005/15, dated 23 September 2015). In addition, the Secretary-General received intermediary letters from Jamaica (letter 120/01, dated 23 June 2015), and Dominican Republic (letter COI/008/2015, dated 22 June 2015). As a deadline for submitting information was not established in letter S-146/2015, Member States may do so at any time.

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution CG/Res.445 “Education for peace, disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation”, adopted on 5 November 2003 during the XVIII Regular Session of OPANAL General Conference (Havana, Cuba).  
Resolution CG/Res.479 “Education for peace, disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation”, adopted on 8 November 2005, during the XIX Regular Session of OPANAL General Conference (Santiago, Chile).  
Resolution CG/Res.518 “Education for peace, disarmament and non-proliferation”, adopted on 26 November 2009, during the XXI Regular Session of OPANAL General Conference (Mexico City).  
Resolution CG/Res.547 “Peace and nuclear disarmament education”, adopted on 13 November 2012, during the XXI Special Session of OPANAL General Conference (Mexico City).  
Resolution CG/Res.556 “Report of the Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”, adopted on 22 August 2013, during the XXIII Regular Session of OPANAL General Conference (Buenos Aires, Argentina).  
Resolution CG/Res.576 “Report of the Working-Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”, adopted on 19 November 2014, during the XXIII Special Session of OPANAL General Conference (Mexico City).

6. During the WGE meeting held on 13 August 2015, the Secretary-General presented and *aide-mémoire* to the WGE (annexed to the minutes of said meeting Doc. Inf.011/2015), which contained his proposal for the delivery of an elementary course on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as follows:
- 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 (annexed) 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 experts 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.
  - Host States shall cover the logistics expenses of the course and the expert's accommodation.
  - Although, in principle, course participants would be local, 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.

Annexed to this report is the course programme proposed by the Secretary-General, as approved by the WGE during the meeting held on 13 August 2015 (Doc. Inf.011/2015).

7. The WGE considered that on-site courses are more have more efficacy than on-line courses.
8. The WGE considered as positive the participation of OPANAL in the Summer School on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in 2014 and 2015, an event organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, with the attendance of diplomats from all Member States.
9. At the 119<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP), held on 27 August 2015, the Secretary-General presented the budgetary implications of his course proposal. To this end, USD 15,000.00 would be allocated to budget item “Education”. OPANAL would only cover the traveling and remuneration costs of the instructors, whilst the host State(s) would cover the one-week logistics and accommodation expenses.

10. In said session, CCAAP agreed to recommend that the Council approve the “Programme Budget for Financial Year 2016” (Doc. CCAAP/008/2015), together with the respective Memorandum (Doc. CCAAP/010/2015), in which the aforementioned budget item, “Education”, is included. The decision of CCAAP on the matter is available in the session’s summary record (Doc. CCAAP/AR/003/2015 Spanish only).
11. During its 297<sup>th</sup> Session held on 3 September 2015, the Council was presented with the proposal of the Secretary-General on the delivery of the aforementioned course, and with the FY2016 Programme Budget including the financial implications regarding the course. Thus, the Council decided to present to the General Conference, at its XXIV Regular Session, the course proposal of the Secretary-General.
12. In addition to the course, another activity performed by the Agency in the field of education is the internship programme at the Secretariat.
13. The current headquarters of the Agency offer the conditions, in terms of space, to host three interns concurrently. On 30 July 2015, the Secretariat received from the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California, the internship nomination of Mr Fidel Ángel Quintanilla for the period covering from September to December 2015. Mr Quintanilla is a U.S. citizen and a post-graduate student of the MA in Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies. Dr William Potter, CNS Director, described Mr Quintanilla as an excellent candidate for internship.
14. During the session held on 13 August 2015 (Doc. Inf.011/2015), the WGE approved the participation of Mr Quintanilla as an intern at the Secretariat of OPANAL for the period covering from September to December 2015. It is worth noting the travelling and living expenses of Mr Quintanilla are covered by CNS. By accepting the nomination, OPANAL stated very clearly that it would not be responsible for any expenses or remuneration. Moreover, the intern and the CNS were responsible for the relevant immigration proceedings.
15. A different internship proposal by the Secretary-General is earmarked to the Member States in the Caribbean in an effort to promote their participation in the activities of OPANAL. The Secretary-General presented a proposal to the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Mexico for sponsorship of two interns from the Caribbean per year. The sponsorship would involve travelling and living expenses (air fares plus USD 1,000.00 allowance per month). The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Mexico responded positively and requested information about the practicalities of the internship programme. It is hoped that OPANAL and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Mexico sign a cooperation agreement as soon as possible, ideally, within the framework of the XXIV Session of the General Conference.

16. Moreover, there is an opportunity to offer internship posts to the Member States of OPANAL other than the States in the Caribbean. In this case, the Member States or the candidates themselves shall cover the corresponding traveling and living expenses for the entire internship. The WGE supported the proposal of the Secretary-General and recommends that OPANAL accept the three aforementioned internship posts.

### **Recommendations of the WGE to the General Conference**

- **To adopt** the proposal of the OPANAL course “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”, presented by the Secretary-General of OPANAL.

To invite the Member States:

- **To communicate** to the Secretariat of OPANAL their willingness to host the course “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”;
- **To publicize** the internship programme of the Secretariat and to nominate eligible candidates;
- **To disseminate** *communiqués* and declarations issued by OPANAL through the appropriate Government media channels, the press, and civil society organizations.
- **To urge** Member States to continue to conduct outreach efforts, through the widest range media channels, on the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the efforts of OPANAL.

## 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**

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