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XX Regular Session of the General Conference  
Mexico City, 22 November 2007.

**RESOLUTION CG/Res.496**  
**DESIGNATION OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL.**  
**TRANSITION PERIOD**

**The General Conference,**

**Recalling** that through Resolution CG/E/Res.406 (E-XV) H.E. Mr. Edmundo Vargas Carreño, was elected Secretary General by acclamation for the period from June 1 to December 31, 2001, in conformity with the provisions in Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);

**Recalling also** that the aforementioned resolution of the General Conference resolved to extend the mandate of Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño to December 31, 2005, based on Article 9, number 2, letter c, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

**Considering** that through Resolution CG/Res.486 (XIX) Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño was re-elected for the term from January 1, 2006, to June 30, 2009;

**Having been informed** that Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño submitted his resignation from said position, effective as of June 30, 2007, due to the financial problems of the Agency;

**Bearing in mind** that Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) establishes that “In case the office of the Secretary General becomes vacant, a new election shall be held to fill the office for the remainder of the term;”

**Taking into account** the precedent contained in Resolution 14 (I) “Designation of an Interim Secretary General,” through which the General Conference, at its First Regular Session (1969) decided to postpone the election of the Secretary General and asked the Government of Mexico to designate an official who, as Interim Secretary General, would be responsible for “performing all the duties the Treaty itself assigns to the Secretary General;”

**Considering** that the Council of OPANAL has suggested that the General Conference adopt its recommendation to establish a period of transition and designate a Deputy Secretary General to conclude the period of the outgoing Secretary General while a stable financial situation is attained for the best operation of the Agency;

**Also taking into account** the Agency’s financial situation examined in the Council’s recommendation on the advisability of having a Deputy Secretary General,

**Resolves:**

1. **To designate** by acclamation, H.E. Madame Perla Carvalho Soto, Deputy Secretary General from January 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009, with the possibility of extending the mandate until the XXI Regular General Conference is held in November 2009. Once the new Secretary General has been appointed, the position of Deputy Secretary General shall be eliminated.  
The salary of the Deputy Secretary General shall be covered completely by the State Party that proposes him.
2. The Deputy Secretary General should present the Council with a work program that will help to put the Agency on a definitive sound financial footing and, for that purpose, shall take into account the following actions:
  - a) Coordinate, together with the Representative of Mexico, the obtaining of property owned by the Government of Mexico to serve as the Agency’s headquarters.
  - b) Conduct a period of consultations with the Foreign Affairs Ministries to establish a set of actions to ensure the definitive sound financial health of the Agency.
  - c) Manage and represent OPANAL during the transition period.
  - d) Advocate OPANAL’s reassuming its role as a promoter of nuclear-weapon-free zones and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

- e) Carry out the necessary actions, in conformity with the resolutions adopted by the Agency, to see that the debtor countries make use of the different payment schemes.
- f) Submit a proposal on the establishment of a Contingency/Emergency Fund and rules for its operation, and advocate its appropriate operation during the transition period.

(Adopted at the 109<sup>th</sup> Session  
held on November 22, 2007)