



Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in
Latin America and the Caribbean

OPANAL GENERAL CONFERENCE XXIII Regular Sessions

CG/656

Annual Report of the Secretary General of OPANAL

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Presentation

Pursuant to Article 11.4 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, I hereby submit to OPANAL Member States the 2013 Annual Report. As this is my fourth Report as OPANAL Secretary-General, I suggest to read this document and analyse it as a continuation of the previous three reports¹; together they summarize the revitalization process of the Agency and the Strategic Agenda that has been designed over the last three years. This Report also includes recent developments in the consolidation of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean and the presence of OPANAL in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation multilateral forums.

The Strategic Agenda reflects the Agency's revitalization process and vision towards 2015 and beyond, it derives from the joint and systemic work of all OPANAL Organs, ad-hoc instances, and Working-Groups (which are, respectively, the General Conference, the Council, the Secretariat General and the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters; the Coordination offices in Vienna, Geneva, New York, including a coordination office for CARICOM States in NY; and the three Working-Groups formed in 2012 by the General Conference on a) Strengthening of the Control System, b) Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education and c) Financial Regulations). The dynamic and growing participation of Member States has been crucial in all these areas.

In order to fully understand the aforementioned Agenda, it is necessary to recall that the Treaty of Tlatelolco (1967) states in its preamble that *“militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage”*. The start of such *“later stage”* is marked by the revitalization of OPANAL and the political agenda promoted by its Organs and Member States since 2010.

Although my annual reports are untitled, I could summarize in one sentence our efforts and achievements in this new stage: **“Towards a possible utopia: general and complete nuclear disarmament”**. Quevedo translated *Utopia* as “there is no such place” in the prologue to the 1967 version of Geronimo Antonio de Medinilla and Porres of the book written by Sir Thomas More. “There is no such place”, but “there may be”, that we can build it together, I would say. It is possible to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, just like it used to be before 1945. In OPANAL, we have started the journey, we will reach this possible utopia with every concrete step that we and other governmental and civil society actors take together.

This Report summarizes briefly our latest achievements and makes emphasis in the developments that took place in the period covering from November 2012 to July 2013. Although it highlights the achievements and challenges in each field, I would like to emphasise the most relevant during my term as SG (2010-2013).

Certainly, the first achievement is the revitalization process of the Agency, both organic and substantive. As described by various Member States representatives, the International Seminar

¹ Documents: CG/E/635 (18 November 2010), CG/644 (17 November 2011) and CG/E/650 (13 November 2012)

“The Experience of the NWFZ in Latin America and the Caribbean and the perspective towards 2015 and beyond” (February 2012) was an ending and starting point of this process.

We will start a new phase in these Sessions of the General Conference, a phase that is first registered and described in draft resolution “OPANAL’s Strategic Agenda” (Document CG/L.576Prov), which I submitted to the Council and that will be presented to this General Conference. The Agenda includes all relevant items and its implementation is already in progress. The vitality of the three Working-Groups (WGs) and their tangible progress are a testimony to it. The formation of these Working-Groups during the Sessions of the General Conference in 2012 represents another major achievement for OPANAL; especially because the mandate of two of them shall remain in force for a medium or long term, considering that they address key issues such as the strengthening of the Control System and Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education.

It is also worth mentioning the building of a statement and the expression of the political will towards total and general nuclear disarmament. Today on the Agenda we have the draft resolution “Towards General and Complete Nuclear Disarmament” (Doc.CG/L.585Prov) which I presented for the purpose of strengthening the primary goal of moving forward towards a nuclear-weapon-free world, a goal established in the 2011 Joint Declaration submitted officially to the United Nations General Assembly in that same year.

Additionally, we have articulated OPANAL works through Coordination Offices in multilateral cities such as New York², Vienna, and Geneva. These Offices are led by NWFZLAC Member States and promote OPANAL’s Agenda. They have also facilitated the work of the Secretary-General before the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other regional and specialised agencies. Moreover, they have organised meetings with GRULAC in these cities and have played an important role in the compliance of obligations by CARICOM States, as described below.

In January 2013, for the first time in history, all States submitted their biannual reports pursuant to Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. These reports are very important for the consolidation of the Zone and the strengthening of the Control System established by the Treaty. Up until 2010, five States, all from the Caribbean, had never submitted these reports.

Between 2012 and 2013, three CARICOM States signed and ratified the three Amendments to the Treaty. Saint Lucia has reported the intention to sign and ratify these Amendments in 2013. We should take advantage of the current momentum and continue to promote the signing and ratification of the Amendments.

Financial crises in OPANAL have been repetitive, the last taking place between 2004 and 2006. In 2007 and 2008, OPANAL recovered from it and met 92.4% of its annual collection. Last year we met 96.5% of the annual collection, impacting on previous years. Financial stability over the last six years and single-digit annual increases over the last two years (this year’s yet to be approved) led the CCAAP and the Council to approve the allocation of extra resources to promote the Agency’s revitalization process. These strategic decisions do not compromise the Reserve Fund that the Agency keeps as a precautionary measure. On the other hand, I must acknowledge the effort of the

² OPANAL has two Coordination Offices in New York City, one of them is dedicated exclusively to CARICOM States

CCAAP and of the Working-Group regarding the review of the financial regulations. They have implemented their mandate with an intelligent view to recommend measures that solve immediate difficulties and project towards the future.

The challenge still remains to strengthen the Secretariat, the number of staff members is insufficient to meet the workload, most of which is related to supporting the activities of OPANAL Organs and Working-Groups. It is necessary to hire two more professionals, who would be in charge of the development of the WGs on the Strengthening of the Control System and on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education. I wish to express my testimony of gratitude to the officers of OPANAL who worked with me, showing commitment and professionalism, during my term as Secretary-General.

Other developments will be described in this Report, although some of them are less tangible, they are closely related to the consolidation of the Zone. I refer particularly to the recovery in the relationship between the IAEA and OPANAL, since 2011. We should recall that this agency plays an essential role in the Control System of Tlatelolco. In the future, it will be necessary to continue to strengthen this relationship through concrete actions, some of them are already looming on the horizon and some others have been described in previous reports.

The concept of “oneness” or “integrity” of the NWFZLAC, which we coined over the last year, is important for the consolidation of the Zone. The NWFZLAC should be seen as a whole and not the sum of its parts. Its strength lies on its 33 Member States and on the inviolability of its territory (Article 4 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco). Any violation to the statute of military denuclearization of the Zone in any part of its territory would represent a violation to the entire Zone, a fracture to its oneness. For example, if we had an apple, a whole apple, and we bit it, regardless of how small the bite may be, it becomes an incomplete apple. Therefore any transgression or violation of the Zone would impact on all Member States. In my view, the concept of “oneness” must be adopted by all OPANAL Member States through practice and a sense of belonging to the Zone.

Moreover, in order to receive maximum guarantees, it is necessary to continue with the negotiations on the revision or withdrawal of interpretative declarations and/or reservations made by NWS signatories to Additional Protocol II to the Treaty, as they affect the statute of military denuclearization of the Zone.

Further activities and projects are described in the Strategic Agenda and in the reports of WG-Coordinators. I would like to add that the Council, which has made extraordinary efforts, will have to discuss two relevant issues that will surely be brought to the General Conference. I refer firstly to the position of OPANAL regarding nuclear tests; and secondly, to the regular procedures to obtain negative security assurances from NWS signatories to Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Memorandums SG.31.2013 and SG.32.2013 would serve respectively as the basis for these debates.

Certainly, OPANAL will be provided with greater positioning in the regional and global arenas by the implementation in 2014 of the course on “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”, first course designed by the Agency; and by the publishing of two books entitled *Report on the Commemoration of the 45th Anniversary of the Signing of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the International Seminar “The Experience of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the*

Caribbean and the perspective towards 2015 and beyond”, and *“Half a century of relevant experiences of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean, 1963-2013”*.

Regarding the global context, it is necessary that the Agency defines its position for the IX NPT Review Conference and the III Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, both taking place in 2015. The backbone of this position is established by the commitment to move forward towards total and general nuclear disarmament.

Distinguished representatives of Member States, in your hands lies the decision to continue on the path laid down and to contribute to the realization of the possible utopia of a world free of nuclear weapons, thus freeing us from the humanitarian consequences of a nuclear explosion.

To conclude, I would like to thank all OPANAL Member States and their representatives for the trust you put in me over the last three and a half years, and for the support I received to fulfil my duties as Secretary-General of the Agency. And so we say at Council meetings, “OPANAL, where you can get in, but never get out”. I will continue to support the efforts that we are undertaking to benefit our peoples and mankind as a whole.

I. Consolidation of the Zone and compliance with Member States’ obligations

I presented the concept of *Consolidation of the Zone* in previous Reports and described it as a constant process in which it is crucial that Member States and Signatory States to Additional Protocols to the Treaty fully comply with their obligations. This section therefore includes the progress made in this area and identifies the challenges ahead.

To the aforementioned concept of *Consolidation*, we now add the term *Oneness of the Zone*. As described below, this new term has practical significance and a direct impact on the consolidation of the Zone.

1. Oneness of the NWFZ in Latin America and the Caribbean

It has been important to position the concept of *Oneness* in this new phase, meaning that the Zone is one unit and not the sum of its parts. Its strength lies on its 33 Member States and on the inviolability of its territory (Article 4 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco). Any violation to the statute of military denuclearization of the Zone in any part of its territory would represent a violation to the entire Zone, a fracture to its oneness. For example, if we had an apple, a whole apple, and we bit it, regardless of how small the bite may be, it becomes an incomplete apple.

Such *Oneness* derives firstly from the sense of belonging of all Member States, and from the legal guarantees provided by Signatory States to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which undertake to respect the statute of military denuclearization of the Zone. *Oneness* is enhanced by the active participation of Member States, it is therefore necessary that Member States become more involved in all areas; including, inter alia, the signature and ratification of the Amendments to the Treaty and the submission of biannual reports under Article 14.

In my view, the concept of “oneness” must be adopted by all OPANAL Member States through practice and a sense of belonging to the Zone.

2. Compliance with Article 14 and particular cases. Identification of challenges

In 2010, when I took office as Secretary-General, I surprisingly confirmed that five Member States have never submitted their biannual reports under Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, and that some others have not done so in several years. The challenge therefore was to achieve full compliance from Member States. As we can see in the table below, in January 2013 Belize submitted this report and completed the cycle, this was the first time in history that all Member States complied with this obligation; such achievement is very significant in the consolidation process of the Zone. On the other hand, we can see that Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, 8 Member States in total, updated their reports. We hope that Barbados, Grenada and Honduras will soon do so, as their last reports are dated in the 1980s.

The challenge today is that all Member States fully comply with this Treaty provision that reads as follows:

“Article 14: Reports of the Contracting Parties

1. The Contracting Parties shall submit to the Agency and to the International Atomic Energy Agency, for their information, semi-annual reports stating that no activity prohibited under this Treaty has occurred in their respective territories.

2. The Contracting Parties to the Treaty shall simultaneously transmit to the Agency a copy of the reports submitted to the International Atomic Energy Agency which relate to matters subject of this Treaty that are relevant to the work of the Agency.

3. The information furnished by the Contracting Parties shall not be, totally or partially, disclosed or transmitted to third parties, by the addressees of the reports, except when the Contracting Parties give their express consent.”

Status of compliance with Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

As of 31 July 2013

Member State	December 2009	Last Report submitted on
Antigua y Barbuda	30 June 1995	21 February 2013
Argentina	30 June 2009	31 December 2012
Bahamas	30 June 2009	30 June 2010
Barbados	31 December 1984	31 December 1984
Belize*		30 June 2013
Bolivia	30 June 2009	15 November 2011
Brazil	31 December 2009	31 December 2012
Chile	31 December 2009	30 June 2011
Colombia	30 June 2009	30 June 2013

Costa Rica	30 June 2009	31 December 2010
Cuba	31 December 2009	30 June 2013
Dominica*		12 September 2012
Dominican Republic	31 December 1999	29 March 2013
Ecuador	31 December 2009	31 December 2010
El Salvador	30 June 2009	30 June 2012
Grenada	30 June 1981	30 June 1981
Guatemala	30 June 2009	30 July 2012
Guyana*		11 March 2013
Haiti	30 June 1996	31 December 2012
Honduras	31 December 1989	31 December 1989
Jamaica	30 June 2009	31 December 2012
Mexico	31 December 2009	30 June 2013
Nicaragua	30 June 2005	30 June 2012
Panama	30 June 2001	30 June 2011
Paraguay	30 June 1998	1 July 2012
Peru	30 June 2008	30 June 2012
Saint Christopher and Nevis*		30 June 2013
Saint Lucia*		25 July 2013
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	31 December 2007	19 July 2013
Suriname	31 December 1993	30 June 2011
Trinidad and Tobago	31 December 2005	7 August 2012
Uruguay	30 June 2008	16 July 2013
Venezuela	31 December 2009	31 December 2010

**These countries submitted their biannual reports for the first time between 2010 and 2013.*

Particular cases of Argentina and Cuba

These two countries submitted their biannual reports adding parallel statements that should be addressed by the Council.

Although these cases are not identical, neither Argentina nor Cuba can report on the territories for which other states, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America respectively, are responsible; acknowledging that these two states are signatories to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. We should bear in mind that Cuba raised this issue when it submitted its first biannual report on 27 April 2004, through letter number 880 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; so far, this issue has not been presented to the Council. More recently, in 2012 and 2013, Argentina presented its case.

In letters 5011/2012 and 5001/2013, Argentina presented a more complex issue and affirmed that *“ignores if in the aforementioned part of its territory, which is illegitimately occupied by the United Kingdom, the Treaty is effectively complied with. It also recalls the interpretative declaration made upon ratification to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, and requests the cooperation of the Agency to ensure that activities that violate the Treaty are not carried out in the area of the Malvinas Islands, the South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding marine areas.”* The question is

whether the Control System should be activated or whether other means can be used to address this issue.

As I presented the cases of Argentina and Cuba to the Council, they are now items on the agenda of the Agency. Based on what has been recently discussed at the meetings of the Council, we have prepared Memorandum SG.32.2013 to serve as a guideline for the debates and decisions that must be made in this matter.

3. Compliance with Article 24, submission of reports.

Although we have made progress in this matter, four Member States have never submitted these reports: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Costa Rica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. 21 Member States have updated their reports between 2010 and 2013.

Moreover, and as mentioned in previous reports, the interpretation of Article 24 is necessary to define its scope, a task which is still pending.

“Article 24: Notification of other agreements

Once this Treaty has entered into force, the Secretariat shall be notified immediately of any international agreement concluded by any of the Contracting Parties on matters with which this Treaty is concerned; the Secretariat shall register it and notify the other Contracting Parties.”

Status of compliance with Article 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

As of 31 July 2013

Member State	Last Report submitted on
Antigua y Barbuda	
Argentina	11 February 2011
Bahamas	10 May 2007
Barbados	10 April 1984
Belize	
Bolivia	23 November 2011
Brazil	8 June 2010
Chile	25 February 2005
Colombia	27 December 2010
Costa Rica	
Cuba	2 July 2012
Dominica	12 September 2012
Dominican Republic	7 August 1987
Ecuador	21 September 2010
El Salvador	22 September 2010
Grenada	13 September 1980
Guatemala	2 December 2010
Guyana	16 September 2010

Haiti	31 July 1973
Honduras	8 November 2010
Jamaica	30 June 2012
Mexico	19 July 2013
Nicaragua	27 August 2010
Panama	4 February 1986
Paraguay	22 February 2013
Peru	19 September 2012
Saint Christopher and Nevis	3 April 2013
Saint Lucia	25 July 2013
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Suriname	16 September 2010
Trinidad and Tobago	11 April 1984
Uruguay	1 September 2011
Venezuela	24 August 2012

4. Signature and ratification of the Amendments

We register significant developments in this area by CARICOM Member States. Between 2012 and 2013 three States have signed and ratified the three Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco: Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago and Saint Christopher and Nevis. Saint Lucia is attempting to do so this year. We need to take advantage of the new momentum and encourage Member States to complete this legal requirement as soon as possible. More recently, El Salvador ratified Amendments II and III in 2002 and 2006 respectively; Guatemala ratified Amendments II and III in 2003; and Cuba ratified the three Amendments in 2002. The majority of Member States signed and ratified these Amendments in 1990s. Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Lucia are the only three Member States that have neither signed nor ratified any of the three Amendments.

Member State	Signature and Ratification of the Amendments – As of 31 July 2013					
	Res. 267 (E-V) (Amendment to Article 7)		Res. 268 (XII) (Amendment to Article 25)		Res. 290 (E-VII) (Amendments to Articles 14, 15, 16, 19, 20)	
	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Antigua and Barbuda*		13 Jun 2013		13 Jun 2013		13 Jun 2013
Argentina	10 Dec 1990	18 Jan 1994	14 Oct 1991	18 Jan 1994	26 Aug 1992	18 Jan 1994
Bahamas	18 Mar 1992					
Barbados	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997
Belize	23 Nov 1995	23 Nov 1995			23 Nov 1995	23 Nov 1995
Bolivia	10 Dec 1990		10 Sep 1991		31 Aug 1992	
Brazil	5 Dec 1990	30 May 1994	23 Jan 1992	30 May 1994	26 Aug 1992	30 May 1994
Chile	16 Jan 1991	18 Jan 1994	3 Sep 1991	18 Jan 1994	26 Aug 1992	18 Jan 1994

Colombia	5 Dec 1990	18 Jan 1999	10 Sep 1991	18 Jan 1999	14 Dec 1992	18 Jan 1999
Costa Rica	10 Dec 1990	20 Jan 1999	3 Sep 1991	20 Jan 1999	26 Aug 1992	20 Jan 1999
Cuba	5 Dec 1995	23 Oct 2002	5 Dec 1995	23 Oct 2002	5 Dec 1995	23 Oct 2002
Dominica						
Dominican Republic	16 Jan 1991		10 Sep 1991		26 Aug 1992	27 Mar 1998
Ecuador	5 Dec 1990	18 Oct 1995	13 Sep 1991	30 Aug 2000	26 Aug 1992	30 Aug 2000
El Salvador	21 Feb 1991	22 May 1992	10 Sep 1991	14 Jan 2002	8 Sep 1992	19 Jun 2006
Grenada	17 Sep 1991	17 Sep 1991	17 Sep 1991			
Guatemala	10 Dec 1990	21 Aug 1998	23 Oct 1997	26 Nov 2003	26 Aug 1992	26 Nov 2003
Guyana	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995
Haiti	16 Jan 1991		21 Jan 1992		22 Oct 1992	
Honduras	16 Jan 1991		4 Mar 1992		26 Aug 1992	
Jamaica	21 Feb 1991	13 Mar 1992	17 Sep 1991	17 May 1995	8 Jun 1993	17 May 1995
Mexico	5 Nov 1990	24 Oct 1991	2 Sep 1991	10 Apr 1992	26 Aug 1992	1 Sep 1993
Nicaragua	10 Dec 1990		28 Jan 1992		26 Aug 1992	8 Nov 1999
Panama	Acceptance	8 Aug 2000	Acceptance	8 Aug 2000	Acceptance	8 Aug 2000
Paraguay	19 Feb 1991	22 Oct 1996	21 Jan 1992	22 Oct 1996	26 Aug 1992	22 Oct 1996
Peru	5 Dec 1990	14 Jul 1995	21 Jan 1992	14 Jul 1995	9 Feb 1993	14 Jul 1995
Saint Christopher and Nevis*	18 Feb 1994	20 Sep 2012	18 Feb 1994	20 Sep 2012	18 Feb 1994	20 Sep 2012
Saint Lucia						
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines						
Suriname	Acceptance	13 Jun 1994	Acceptance	13 Jun 1994	Acceptance	13 Jun 1994
Trinidad and Tobago*		12 Nov 2012		12 Nov 2012		12 Nov 2012
Uruguay	16 Nov 1990	30 Aug 1994	17 Sep 1991	30 Aug 1994	26 Aug 1992	20 Feb 1995
Venezuela	16 Jan 1991	14 Feb 1997	10 Sep 1991	14 Feb 1997	26 Aug 1992	14 Feb 1997

*These States ratified the Amendments over the last three years

5. Signature and ratification of the Convention on Prerogatives and Immunities

Although we have reiterated the importance of compliance with this obligation by Member States, we do not register any progress in this area. Cuba was last to ratify the Convention in 2009.

As of 31 July 2013

Member State	Signature	Ratification
Antigua and Barbuda		
Argentina		
Bahamas		
Barbados		
Belize		
Bolivia	7 February 1980	
Brazil	4 February 2004	

Chile	30 September 1994	17 June 1997
Colombia	18 April 1986	28 March 2001
Costa Rica	27 January 1970	20 August 1979
Cuba	Adherence	10 December 2009
Dominica		
Dominican Republic	23 March 1970	20 May 1977
Ecuador	4 October 1973	19 March 1974
El Salvador	22 April 1975	22 July 2004
Grenada		
Guatemala	29 September 1998	22 October 2001
Guyana		
Haiti	30 July 1973	7 March 1977
Honduras	23 November 1973	20 March 2007
Jamaica	19 March 1970	19 March 1970
Mexico	12 January 1970	16 November 1970
Nicaragua	28 February 1975	24 June 1975
Panama	9 July 1973	5 March 1975
Paraguay	30 March 1979	18 August 1997
Peru	18 August 1970	12 July 1977
Saint Christopher and Nevis		
Saint Lucia		
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		
Suriname	2 February 1979	30 August 1980
Trinidad and Tobago		
Uruguay	5 December 1972	30 August 1978
Venezuela	31 March 1977	22 December 1977

6. Compliance with Financial obligations

We have made important progress in complying with this obligation. In 2009, the Agency met 92.4% of its annual collection of contributions, and a 96% in 2012. The negotiations to promote the payment of arrears have an impact on the collection of previous years. Therefore, as described in the following chart, the 2008 collection approaches the one of the subsequent years.

Financial crises in OPANAL have been repetitive, the last taking place between 2004 and 2006. In 2007 and 2008, OPANAL recovered from it and met 92.4% of its annual collection. Financial stability over the last six years and single-digit annual increases over the last two years (this year's yet to be approved) led CCAAP and the Council to approve the allocation of extra resources to the Agency's revitalization process. These strategic decisions do not compromise the Reserve Fund of the Agency. On the other hand, I must acknowledge the efforts of CCAAP and the Working-Group to review the financial regulations and related norms; they have implemented their mandate with an intelligent view to recommend measures that solve immediate difficulties and project towards the future. These measures include, inter alia, the allocation of additional resources via special funds to the Education and Outreach programmes and the proposal to create an Assets Renewal Fund - furniture

and equipment of the Secretariat. Without such measure the Agency would not be able to achieve the aforementioned progress, and its projection towards future would have been stopped.

Three Member States have paid their arrears in full:

- a) Peru - total arrears from 2004 to 2013
- b) Paraguay – anticipated payment of arrears under the “Discount program for the payment of contributions, Contingency/Emergency Fund” adopted by the General Conference through Resolution CG/Res.497 (XX-07) and authorized by the Council on 8 April 2010, at its 249th session.
- c) Saint Christopher and Nevis – total arrears from 1984, the year of its adhesion to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, to 2012.

We hope that the negotiations with Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Haiti on the adherence to the discount program for the payment of contributions will soon bear fruit.

At the end of July 2013, the Agency met 51.77% of the 2013 collection of contributions a total amount of USD 183,687.43; including the contributions for 2013 collected in 2013 (USD 147,657.53) and those collected in previous years (USD 36,029.90).

If we summed the collection of contributions of 2013, the payment of arrears and advance payments, the amount collected in 2013 totals USD 255,835.36, 72.11% of the annual budget. It is interesting to point out that 39% (USD 99,651.23) corresponds to payment of arrears.

To conclude, the financial matters of the Agency are well on their way. The single-digit annual increases in the contributions are oxygen for the Agency, which was lagging behind severely. The three-digit increase in the annual collection shows greater commitment from Member States, and the creation of special funds supports the strategic agenda. However, it is necessary that all Member States comply with their financial obligations as soon as possible, and that single-digit annual increases in the contributions are adopted for at least two more years. It is only through this kind of measures that we will break the cycle of repetitive financial crises, which sometimes have become political crises for the Agency, just as in 2006.



Status of Member States' Contributions

07/08/2013

	Acumulado al año 2008 (1)	Adeudo 2009	Adeudo 2010	Adeudo 2011	Adeudo 2012	TOTAL ADEUDOS AL 2012	Adeudo 2013 (no inc anteriores)	Cuota para el año 2013	Recaudación 2013
MEMBER STATES	Cumulative to 2008 (1)	2009 Debt	2010 Debt	2011 Debt	2012 Debt	CUMULATIVE DEBT TO 2012	2013 Debt	Contribution for 2013	2013 Payments
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	994.00	994.00	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
ARGENTINA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56,767.04	\$ 56,767.04	0.00
BAHAMAS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,467.94	\$ 3,467.94	80.00 (5)
BARBADOS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	1,312.74
BELIZE	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	12.00	12.00	\$ 1,312.74	1,300.74
BOLIVIA	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	13.00	23.00	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
BRAZIL	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	102.60	114.60	72,910.17	\$ 72,910.17	0.00
CHILE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.30) (4)	\$ 17,739.70	17,739.70 (5)
COLOMBIA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.76	11.76	11.70	\$ 17,739.70	17,728.00
COSTA RICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.65	11.65	193.06	\$ 2,660.96	2,467.90
CUBA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,881.99	\$ 2,944.79	62.80 (5)
DOMINICA	22,596.03	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	27,391.23	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
ECUADOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)	\$ 4,257.53	4,257.53
EL SALVADOR	112,070.33	1,296.00	1,296.00	1,296.00	1,296.00	117,254.33	1,419.18	\$ 1,419.18	0.00
GRENADA	23,647.26	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	28,442.46	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
GUATEMALA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,532.43	\$ 3,547.94	15.51 (5)
GUYANA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(151.42) (4)	\$ 1,312.74	1,312.74 (5)
HAITI	114,128.07	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	118,923.27	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
HONDURAS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,032.80) (4)	\$ 1,312.74	1,312.74 (4) (5)
JAMAICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)	\$ 1,312.74	1,312.74
MEXICO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$ 79,828.65	79,828.65
NICARAGUA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,054.96	\$ 1,312.74	185.26 (5)
PANAMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,800.03) (4)	\$ 3,547.94	3,547.94 (4) (5)
PARAGUAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(418.00) (1),(2)	\$ 2,660.96	2,660.96 (5)
PERU	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,082.19) (4)	\$ 9,224.64	9,224.64 (4)
RD - DOMINICAN REP.	130,024.50	3,240.00	3,240.00	3,240.00	3,240.00	142,984.50	3,547.94	\$ 3,547.94	0.00
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	12.00	1,300.74	\$ 1,312.74	1,300.74
SAINT LUCIA	22,596.03	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	27,391.23	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	13,892.39	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	18,687.59	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
SURINAME	1,210.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	1,198.80	6,006.00	1,312.74	\$ 1,312.74	0.00
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37.00	\$ 7,202.32	7,165.32
URUGUAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	12.00	4,967.12	\$ 4,967.12	0.00
VENEZUELA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,171.65	\$ 40,588.43	30,870.78 (5)
Subtotal						488,271.62			
Tot Cum Debt w/o pmt plan	440,165.41	11,728.80	11,740.80	11,750.80	12,885.81	488,271.62		\$ 354,794.01	\$ 183,687.43
	45,924.37								(7,232.65)
						180.00 (3)		No identificado 2013:	1,293.94
Annual Contribution		324,000.00	324,000.00	324,000.00	324,000.00				354,794.01
Contributions collected		312,271.20	312,259.20	312,249.20	311,114.19				183,687.43
% Collected		95.87	96.38	96.38	96.37	96.02			51.77%

(1) The Republic of Paraguay is up to date with its contributions based on the payment plan approved by the Council as per Res.497 (XX-07)
 (2) Cumulative debt to 2012 does not reflect any payment plan discount. All discounts shall be reflected in the balance as soon as a Member State completes its payment plan. Paraguay paid the total payments of the programme in August 2013.
 (3) All contributions collected in 2012 (US \$290,390.19) does not include an unidentified deposit of US \$180.00. However, it does include US \$4,781.69 - amount corresponding to 2012 Contributions paid in previous years.
 (4) Credit balance for 2014
 (5) Credit for 2013, paid in previous years (\$36,029.90)

II. Progress of the Working Groups formed by the General Conference in 2012

The General Conference at its XXI Special Sessions, held in Mexico City on 13 November 2012, decided to form three working-groups (WGs); although they had different background and objectives, they all share the goal to strengthen OPANAL efforts to move forward towards a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Each WG designed its rules of procedure, which are annexed to its report. Each WG Coordinator will briefly present a summary of the report.

1. Working Group on the Strengthening of the Control System

On 23 February 2012, at the 265th Session of OPANAL Council, I submitted a proposal to conduct an academic exercise on hypothetical cases of violation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Informal sessions were held and led to the formation, in May 2012, of an academic and informal working-group to analyse and propose measures that could strengthen the Control System.

Considering the results of the two aforementioned groups, and the fact that it is not registered in the archives of OPANAL that any procedure had been established in compliance with Article 9, section 2b of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; the Council and the Secretariat recommended to the General Conference, at its XXI Special Sessions, the formation of a Formal Working-Group. The latter was formed through Resolution CG/E/Res.546 "Proposal for the formation of a Working-Group to analyse and propose measures that could strengthen the Control System established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco".

The WGCS held six sessions and deepened the analysis and the identification of key aspects of the Control System that are described in its Report (Doc. SG.27.2013). The following are the conclusions and recommendations of the WGCS:

1. *"It is not registered in the archives of OPANAL that any procedure had been established in compliance with Article 9, section 2b of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.*
2. *The strengthening of the Control System involves various aspects that are interrelated, as can be seen in the 6 items developed in section II of this report.*
3. *The Treaty and its Additional Protocols I and II constitute the Tlatelolco System and should be interpreted and implemented as such.*
4. *It is necessary to assess the scope of Amendment III to the Treaty, which modified Articles 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20.*
5. *In order to report a further decision by the General Conference, it is recommended to carry out consultations with Member States to assess (i) the convenience and appropriateness of carrying out consultations with the IAEA and (ii) the possibility to review the Cooperation Agreement signed between OPANAL and the IAEA in 1972, before Amendment III was made.*
6. *It should be necessary to make authentic interpretations and/or legal interpretations to Articles 15.1 and 24.*
7. *Although the WGCS has not yet completed the process proposal for the Control System, the works done by the different Groups have strengthened OPANAL Organs and have enabled them to respond to any emergent situation that might activate the Control System.*
8. *The WGCS recommends the General Conference, at its XXIII Regular Sessions, to renew the mandate of the Working Group formed by its Resolution CG/E/Res.546 "Proposal for the formation of a Working-Group to analyse and propose measures that could strengthen the Control System established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco"."*

The WGCS is coordinated by Ecuador, and is comprised by the Secretary-General and the following Member States:

Member States' Representatives – Full Group Members	
Argentina	Secretary Martín Mainero
Bolivia	Minister Counsellor Jorge Caballero
Brazil	Secretary Juliana Soares Santos
Chile	Secretary Jorge Valenzuela
Colombia	Political Attaché Manuela Ríos
Cuba	Secretary Raúl Mojena Secretary Elier Almeida
Ecuador	Minister Counsellor Juan Veintimilla (Group Coordinator)
Guatemala	Secretary Federico Villacorta
Mexico	Sandra García, BA
Panama	Commercial Attaché Ayxa Chuljak de del Río
Venezuela	Counsellor Alba María Méndez Romero

Member States' Representatives – Observers

Peru	Minister Counsellor Elizabeth Alice González
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In order to renew the mandate of this Working-Group, the General Conference is presented with Draft Resolution Doc. CG/L.577Prov2.

2. Working Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education

The Course Proposal “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education” (Doc. SG.11.2012) submitted to the General Conference at its XXI Special Sessions, held on 13 November 2012, was adopted by Resolution CG/E/Res.547 “Peace and Nuclear Disarmament Education”, the same document that created a working-group on this subject. The Working-Group on Education (WGE) held three sessions that focused on the concept and design of the aforementioned course. Its current task is validating the course contents.

In parallel to these sessions, as Secretary-General, I met with representatives of the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE) in order to find a joint scheme of work based on the Cooperation Framework Convention that both agencies signed on 13 November 2012. The main outcome of these negotiations was the signing of the “Specific Agreement between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE) on the implementation of an e-learning platform for the elementary course “Nuclear Disarmament and Peace Education”” (S/Inf.1109). Mr

José Luis Espinosa Piña, ILCE Director-General, and I signed this Agreement on 30 June 2013, at 281st session of the Council.

The WGE shall present its report to the General Conference, which includes, inter alia, a brief description of the elementary course and its contents. If the General Conference would be willing to renew the mandate of the WGE, it will validate the course contents in future sessions.

The following are the conclusions and recommendations of the WGE:

1. The concept, design and contents of the course are at an advanced stage; it is the responsibility of the WGE to continue with the validation of the contents of the five modules.
2. In order to maintain unity and to ensure the course objectives, it is recommended to request Ambassador Gioconda Ubeda to assume the position of Academic Coordinator of the Elementary Course on “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”, apart from her current position as OPANAL Secretary-General.
3. In order to continue making progress in the design and implementation of the Elementary Course digital platform, it is necessary to follow the action plan derived from the Specific Agreement (S/Inf. 1109) that was signed by OPANAL and ILCE, at the 281st session of the Council. The purpose of the e-learning elementary course “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education” is to train and raise awareness among, inter alia, State and Governmental Actors, NGOs’ representatives, members of the academia. This agreement is based on the Cooperation Framework Agreement (Doc. S/Inf.1104) signed by both parties in 2012. The Group’s feedback and the academic coordination with ILCE will be essential for the course materials and implementation.
4. The possibility that the pilot elementary course may be delivered during the first half of 2014 is being assessed. To this end, the Secretary-General has identified and maintained direct communication with collaborators regarding the delivery of lessons. This is very relevant since the added value of this course will focus on the inclusion of experts from OPANAL Member States, regional or bilateral agencies like ABACC, and representatives of the academia and NGOs related to the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
5. It is intended that this group of collaborators will contribute to the consolidation of a new generation of experts and specialists in the strategic agenda of OPANAL.
6. It is important to continue to promote negotiations on the conclusion of cooperation projects in order to support the Agency’s education and outreach programmes.

7. It is recommended that the General Conference renew the mandate of the WGE according to the attached Draft Resolution, in order to continue with the design of the Elementary Course for its future implementation.

The WGE is coordinated by Argentina, and is comprised by the Secretary-General and the following Member States:

Member States' Representatives	
Argentina	Secretary Francisco Tropepi (Group Coordinator)
Bolivia	Secretary Peggy Maldonado
Brazil	Secretary Juliana Soares Santos
Costa Rica	Consul María Amelia Hidalgo
Dominican Republic	Counsellor Madelyn Fernández Agüero
Ecuador	Minister Counsellor Juan Veintimilla
Guatemala	Secretary Federico Villacorta
Mexico	Sandra García, BA
Peru	Minister Counsellor Elizabeth Alice González

In order to renew the mandate of this Working-Group, which would have continue with the validation of the elementary course on "Peace Education and Nuclear Disarmament", the General Conference is presented with Draft Resolution Doc. CG/L.578Prov2.

3. Working Group on Analysis and Review of the Financial Regulations

On the basis of the General Conference Resolution CG/E/Res.551 "Proposal to Adjust the Financial Regulations", adopted at its XXI Special Session, held on 13 November 2012, CCAAP Members and the Secretariat were instructed to form an open-ended Working Group to analyse the necessary reforms to the Financial Regulations (WGFR). This Group was formed at the beginning of 2013 and agreed to review the Financial Regulations and the related norms that govern the actions of the Agency on these matters. The WGFR held five sessions and focused on the proposal of improvements in this area. The WGFR worked on a *revision document*, a *two-column electronic document* showing the original text of the Financial Regulations on one side, and on the other side the text including the amendments or comments suggested by the Group. If the General Conference would be willing to renew the mandate of the WGFR, it will continue to work on such amendments in future sessions.

The work of the WGFR is described in its report (Doc. SG.29.2013). The following are its conclusions and recommendations:

- “The Working Group held 5 sessions between February and June 2013, its works focused on the analysis of the Financial Regulations, reviewing Articles 1 to 11 (out of a total of 15) and their respective sub-sections.
- Amendments or updates suggested to the reassessed Articles are registered in the *revision document*, it is intended that such *document* will serve as the basis for new Financial Regulations for the Agency.
- It should be noted that in the fifth session of the Group, it was agreed to submit to the General Conference, at its next Session, a proposal to establish an Asset Renewal Fund in order to allow future planning; and to restructure the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy Fund (FUPEN) into an Education and Outreach Fund, in order to finance the Agency’s education and outreach programmes.
- Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Group should continue to analyse the Funds in order to design their optimal structure, without losing sight of their appropriate functioning and the Agency’s current needs.
- Although the progress made by the Group is substantial, solid and significant, it is necessary to complete the review of the aforementioned Financial Regulations, as well as to analyse exhaustively chapters IV to IX of the *General Standards to govern the operations of the Secretariat General of OPANAL. (General Provisions of a Financial and Budgetary Nature)*
- In this respect, the Working Group submits to the consideration of the General Conference the proposal to renew the mandate of the Working Group for the Analysis and Review of the Financial Regulations.”

The WGFR is coordinated by Mexico, and is comprised by the Secretary-General and the following Member States:

Member States’ Representatives – Full Group Members	
Bolivia	Secretary Peggy Maldonado
Brazil	Secretary Juliana Soares Santos
Chile	Secretary Jorge Valenzuela
Cuba	Secretary Raúl Mojena Secretary Elier Almeida
Mexico	Dorian Fernández Elwes (Group Coordinator)
Nicaragua	Minister Juan Carlos Gutierrez
Venezuela	Counsellor Alba María Méndez Romero
OPANAL	Claudia Salgado

Member States’ Representatives – Observers

Colombia	Secretary Manuela Ríos Serna
Peru	Minister Counsellor Elizabeth Alice González

In order to renew the mandate of this Working-Group, which would continue with the review and necessary assessment of the Agency's financial regulations, the General Conference is presented with Draft Resolution Doc. CG/L.579Prov1.

III. OPANAL Coordination Offices in Vienna, Geneva and New York - CARICOM

In 2010, OPANAL Coordination Offices were established in New York and Geneva in order to contribute to the institutional strengthening of the Agency, as well as to update its agenda and enhance the results of its international negotiations. Since these Coordination Offices had produced very positive results, it was agreed in 2011 to establish an Office in Vienna and a second one in New York, the latter to Coordinate OPANAL works with CARICOM Member States. The objective of these coordination offices is to strengthen the relation between OPANAL Member States and the Secretariat, thus enhancing their participation and compliance with obligations, including the promotion of general and complete nuclear disarmament, which takes us closer to the Consolidation of the Zone. These Coordination Offices particularly seek to strengthen the relation between the Secretariat and those 11 Member States that do not have official representation in Mexico.

Since their establishment, the Coordination Offices have gained special importance by improving the communications between the Secretariat and International Organizations concerning the activities that the Agency undertakes. Moreover, these Offices have promoted Member States' participation and compliance with obligations, particularly from those that were not actively involved with OPANAL, mostly from the Caribbean, as they do not have official representation in Mexico.

Although most Member States are aware of the importance of the Coordination Offices and the role that these play, the transition between coordinators remains a challenge. Two Member States led these Offices for two consecutive years, and it is important to acknowledge that, without a doubt, they did an excellent work. Concerning the Coordination Office for CARICOM in New York, a new Member State took over the role of coordinator in July 2013. However, a coordinator is needed for the Coordination Office for Latin American Countries.

As in previous years, the Secretariat exchanged information with each Coordination Office. These are requested to distribute trip reports of the Secretary-General, documents of the Secretariat, some press releases and relevant documents that should be brought to the attention of all Member States. The Council was informed about the need to appoint new coordinators. Negotiations have been made concerning this matter. The Permanent Missions of Member States in Vienna, Geneva and New York have been invited to take the role of coordinators of these Offices. I personally addressed this matter with some Member States' representatives.

OPANAL Coordination Office in Vienna was led by the Permanent Mission of Brazil, in the person of the Deputy Representative, Minister Ricardo Ayrosa. He undertook all the activities described above and contributed to the organization and convening of the meeting with GRULAC in May this year.

OPANAL Coordination Office in Geneva was led by the Permanent Mission of Argentina, having the participation of different representatives. Their support was crucial in the convening of the meeting with GRULAC. As we can see, we held meeting with GRULAC in Vienna and Geneva. We expect to hold a meeting with GRULAC and a meeting with CARICOM in New York in the second half of the year.

During the second half of 2012, OPANAL Coordination Office in New York was led by the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations, under the supervision of Ambassador Enrique Román-Morey.

OPANAL Coordination Office in New York for CARICOM Member States was led from May 2012 to June 2013 by the Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations, in the person of Gillian Joseph, First Secretary. Through this Coordination Office, the Secretariat promoted the ratification of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco among Caribbean States. Thanks to the permanent collaboration between the Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda and the Secretariat General, two Caribbean States recently ratified the Amendments; Trinidad and Tobago in 2012, and Antigua and Barbuda in June 2013, just before ending its term as coordinator. Secretary Joseph also assisted in the promotion of the signature and ratification of the Amendments by the government of Saint Lucia, a Member State that probably will ratify the Amendments in the months to come. In July 2013, the Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia to the United Nations took over the position of coordinator, in the person of Kimberly Louis, First Secretary. The Secretariat and Secretary Louis continue with negotiations to obtain, as soon as possible, the ratification of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco by the government of Saint Lucia.

Coordination Office in	2010	2011	2012	2013
New York	Guatemala	First half: Uruguay Second half: Costa Rica	Second half: Peru	
Geneva	Mexico	Brazil	Argentina	First half: Argentina
Vienna		Costa Rica	Brazil	First half: Brazil
New York for CARICOM Member States		Second half: Jamaica	First half: Jamaica Second half: Antigua and Barbuda	First half: Antigua and Barbuda Second half: Saint Lucia

IV. Sessions of the Council and CCAAP

Over a nine-month period, the Council held 9 sessions, with an average attendance of 12 Member States' representatives, with a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 18 attendees. The Council is formed by 5 Member States; evidently, most of the attendees are Member States' representatives in their capacity as Observers. In 2009 and prior years, agenda items of sessions of the Council used to be financial and managerial; nowadays, they are substantive.

Likewise, CCAAP held 9 sessions with an average attendance of 7 Member States' representatives, with a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 attendees.

The following tables describe the attendance for these sessions.

Sessions of the Council *As of 31 July 2013*

Session	Attendees	Members of the Council	Observers
273 rd / 4 Dec 2012	12	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Peru
274 th / 24 Jan 2013	16	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru
275 th / 28 Feb 2013	10	Argentina, Costa Rica, Venezuela	Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Mexico
276 th / 11 Apr 2013	10	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and Mexico
277 th / 28 May 2013	11	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Paraguay
278 th / 11 Jun 2013	9	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico and Paraguay
279 th / 4 Jul 2013	15	Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru
280 th / 16 Jul 2013	13	Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Venezuela	Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru
281 st / 30 Jul 2013	18	Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela	Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru

**An average of 12 Member States attended the Sessions of the Council*

Sessions of CCAAP
As of 31 July

Session	Attendees	Members of the Council	Observers
101 st / 4 Dec 2012	8	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua	Paraguay, Ecuador, El Salvador
102 nd / 7 Feb 2013	10	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua	Brazil, Ecuador, Haiti, Paraguay, Venezuela
103 rd / 21 Feb 2013	6	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua	Venezuela
104 th / 21 Mar 2013	7	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico	Argentina, Peru, Venezuela
105 th / 23 May 2013	6	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico	Honduras
106 th / 6 Jun 2013	5	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico	Peru
107 th / 13 Jun 2013	6	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua	Brazil
108 th / 27 Jun 2013	6	Bolivia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua	Costa Rica, Peru
109 th / 16 Jul 2013	6	Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico	Costa Rica, Peru

**An average of 7 Member States attended the sessions of CCAAP*

V. Second Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The Second Preparatory Committee Meeting for the IX Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was held on April 22 - May 23, 2013, at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Ambassador Cornel Feruță, Director of the Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Rumania was elected Chairman of these sessions; and Ms Angela Kane, United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, opened the PrepCom.

I attended the sessions held on 22-26 April and delivered my statement on Wednesday, 24 April (Document S/Sinf.1106). I highlighted the need to promote multilateral negotiations on total and complete nuclear disarmament since *“this would lead to the reduction of the deep asymmetry in the implementation of the three pillars of the NPT. At the same time, it would reduce the risk of continuing to fracture the international architecture built from this Treaty, which is precisely why it is called the cornerstone of the non-proliferation regime. Not taking forward nuclear disarmament would be comparable to imagining the NPT as a two-sided triangle.”* I also reiterated the conviction of Latin America and the Caribbean that the creation of NWFZs is *“a contribution to regional and global peace and security; hence, although we join the regrets about the postponement of the 2012 Conference on the establishment of a WMDfZ in the Middle East, we welcome with optimism the decision of Finland, as the facilitator, to continue with the efforts to make this possible”*. To conclude,

I highlighted the importance of the adoption of a Joint Declaration (2011) by the Member Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, *“in which they agreed to join the efforts of the international community to take forward the negotiation on a legally-binding instrument aimed at prohibiting nuclear weapons. Today, this consensus is one of the guidelines of the Agency’s agenda, which is based on the indivisibility of Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament, with the premise of the right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.”*

In these Sessions, a great emphasis was made on the humanitarian consequences and impact of nuclear weapons, as well as the deep concern over the constant stalemate of the Conference on Disarmament. It was also highlighted the imperative need for the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

On the whole, these sessions were a lot more polarized than last year’s PrepCom; not only because of the position of certain States, but because of the approaches to move forward the three pillars of the NPT, especially nuclear disarmament.

VI. Second Preparatory Meeting for the 2015 Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia

On Friday 26 April, within the framework of the 2013 NPT PrepCom, the Second Preparatory Meeting for the III Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia (2015) was held at the *Palais des Nations*, in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was convened by Mexico and Mongolia, since the coordinator of the 2015 Conference did not do so. Co-chairing the Meeting were Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho and Ambassador Luvsantseren Orgil, from Mexico and Mongolia respectively. 28 Members of NWFZs attended the Meeting together with 2 Observers, 2 representatives of international organizations and various civil society representatives.

In my statement, I referred to the progress that NWFZs have made over the last few years and reaffirmed that *“this is the right time to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between Zones, although I have to admit how difficult and complex this is”*. I reiterated the importance of reflecting *“on the relevant experiences of each Zone, the common interest issues, and the most effective cooperation and coordination mechanisms between Zones”*. Regarding the III NWFZs Conference (2015), I highlighted the importance of taking concrete although small steps to go beyond Final Declarations and Documents.

Under the instructions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, its attending Delegation confirmed that they would assume the organization of the III NWFZs Conference (2015). However, no NWF State assumed the responsibility for the preparations for the Third Preparatory Meeting for this Conference. For the purpose of promoting that different NWF States take on this responsibility, I discussed the matter with Ambassador Barlybay Sadykov, Head of the Kazakhstani Delegation.

VII. Sessions of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) “Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations” formed under United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/67/56

The OEWG formed under UNGA Resolution A/RES/67/56 entitled “Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations” held its first sessions in Geneva on 14-24 May 2013. Ambassador Manuel Dengo, Permanent Representative of the Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations in Geneva, served as Chairman of the Group.

Taking part in the sessions were experts from NPT Member States, international organizations, and representatives from the academia and civil society. Most of them expressed that the development of nuclear disarmament negotiations is insufficient and must be more dynamic. To move this matter forward many initiatives and proposals were presented, including the negotiation of a treaty banning nuclear weapons and the options to negotiate a fissile material cut-off treaty.

On 16 May, I delivered my statement (Document S/Inf.1107) emphasising that *“50 years have passed since the establishment of the first NWFZ in a highly populated area was negotiated, and almost 25 years since the end of the Cold War. The world still hopes for the establishment of a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East, but above all, it hopes for the planet to become a NWFZ. The questions that still persist are: Where do we stand today in the long and complex path to a world free of nuclear weapons? What can we do to move forward? How can we do it? if we have in stock paralyzed disarmament machinery. These forums are therefore a door to share not only legitimate aspirations, but also ideas and proposals that clarify the way forward.”* I also reiterated that *“our region is ready to work with other States, International Organizations, NWFZs, and Civil Society Organizations in order to move forward in the long and complex path that leads to a world free of nuclear weapons. We have the conviction that this is the only possible way, and we will not rest until we reach this primary objective in favour of humankind.”* This panel was very dynamic and included controversial positions. The relevance of the invitation to OPANAL to participate in these sessions is worth mentioning; it reflects the international presence that the Agency has gained and the value given to its position on nuclear disarmament.

VIII. Meetings with the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)

As described in the section of OPANAL Coordination Offices, I had the opportunity to meet with GRULAC Member States’ representatives in Geneva and Vienna.

Geneva

The Permanent Mission of Argentina, serving as OPANAL Coordinator, convened the meeting on 24 April. In view of the fact that various delegations attending the meeting do not have officers addressing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues, I briefly presented the objectives of

the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as the objectives of OPANAL and its current agenda. The attendees were informed about:

- the works undertaken by the Agency regarding the systematization of the Zone's relevant experiences and the efforts carried out to publish such information;
- the relevant activities of the Working Groups (on the Control System, Education and Financial Regulations); and
- the revitalization process of the Agency through its Strategic Agenda and vision towards 2015 and beyond.

I highlighted the importance of the political heritage of our region, a heritage gained by establishing the first nuclear-weapon-free zone in a highly populated area, and by having the signature and ratification of the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco by the NPT Nuclear-Weapon States.

I took the opportunity to stress the importance of Member States complying with financial obligations to the Agency. I thanked the Permanent Mission of Argentina for leading the OPANAL Coordination Office in 2012 and asked for the support of all Latin American and Caribbean delegates in this matter. The Permanent Mission of Argentina offered to continue to serve as coordinator until another Member State takes over.

Vienna

Guatemalan Ambassador Antonio Roberto Castellanos López, GRULAC President in Vienna, convened this year's OPANAL-GRULAC meeting as requested by the Permanent Mission of Brazil, in its capacity as coordinator. Considering that this was the third OPANAL-GRULAC meeting held in Vienna, and that Member States' representatives were familiar with OPANAL's Agenda; I directly addressed the substantive items on it. This follow-up meeting focused on joint reflections on the role of the Agency and the relevance of our NWFZ. The progress we are making derives from the continuity of the meetings and the coordination efforts that started in 2010.

IX. First Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), Santiago, Chile

I was invited to participate in the First Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States held in Santiago, Chile, on 27-28 January 2013. Heads of State and Government adopted the Santiago Declaration (final document of this Summit), in which they recognised the contribution of the Treaty of Tlatelolco to international peace and security and reaffirmed the need to move forward towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in order to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world. Moreover, the Heads of State stressed the conviction to participate actively and share a common position at the UNGA High-level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament to be held in New York City on 26 September 2013. To this end, they agreed to form a Working Group in coordination with

the Secretariat of OPANAL to determine the joint positions of the 33 Latin American and Caribbean States to be presented at the aforementioned meeting. My participation in this summit focused on initiating approaches to determine such positions.

The framework of this Summit was appropriate for me to engage in talks with high-level representatives of many Caribbean States that have no diplomatic representation in Mexico. (Press release S/BP/52, 28 January 2013)

X. Meetings with International Organizations

In addition to all the activities describe above, and within the framework of my official trip to Geneva and Vienna, I had the opportunity to hold bilateral meetings with international organizations that share common goals with OPANAL. The objective of these meetings was to strengthen OPANAL's relation with them.

1. Meeting with the Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Geneva, Switzerland

On 19 April 2013, I met with Mrs Christine Beerli, Vice-President of the ICRC, at the ICRC Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Attending the meeting were Ms Patricia Danzi, ICRC Head of Operations for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Mr Patrick Zahnd, ICRC Continental Legal Advisor. We addressed various matters, including the 2013 Oslo Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, and the offer of Mexico to host this Conference in 2014. In this respect, I confirmed that OPANAL will encourage the region to support the Mexican Government since the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons are an item on the Agency's agenda. Mrs Beerli expressed the interest of the ICRC in collaborating with OPANAL and the Mexican Government to promote common items on their respective agendas. Considering that the ICRC promotes compliance with International Humanitarian Law, I reaffirmed the importance of its participation in this kind of events.

2. Comprehensive-Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Preparatory Commission Vienna, Austria

On Tuesday 30 April 2013, I had a follow-up meeting with Mr Tibor Tóth, Executive Secretary of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission, to discuss cooperation matters that OPANAL and the CTBTO have addressed over the last 3 years. Mr Tóth acknowledged the global leadership of OPANAL on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as the experience supporting its almost 50 years of existence. Since Mr Tóth will end his term as Executive Secretary at the end of July, this meeting is better described as protocolary.

On Thursday 2 May 2013, I met with Dr Lassina Zerbo, who will assume the position of Executive Secretary of the CTBTO PrepCom on 1 August 2013. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the cooperative relation between OPANAL and the CTBTO. We addressed the subject of education and the possibilities for the CTBTO PrepCom to contribute with OPANAL Member States in various areas, including those related to earthquakes and tsunamis. I presented to Dr Zerbo the most essential items on OPANAL's agenda in the field of Education and its vision towards 2015 and beyond. Dr Zerbo expressed his conviction to continue to work with OPANAL towards a nuclear-weapon-free world.

I was accompanied by Secretary Carlos Rollemberg de Resende, from the Permanent Mission of Brazil, in both meetings. (as Brazil leads the OPANAL Coordination Office in Vienna)

3. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) – Vienna, Austria

A meeting was scheduled with Mr Yukiya Amano, IAEA Director-General, with whom I have met in several occasions over the last three years; however, it had to be postponed due to changes in the IAEA's programme. Nonetheless, I would like to highlight that the subject that I wanted to present to the IAEA Director-General was related to the undertaking of consultations on the 1972 IAEA/OPANAL Cooperation Agreement. I have communicated this crucial and still present subject to the Council. (This Agreement is not up to date with the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco)

XI. Other activities of the Secretary-General

This year, I participated in different multilateral forums and events, including, inter alia:

1. The Committee on Hemispheric Security (CHS) - Organization of American States (OAS)

In view of the fact that the CHS of the OAS adopted a resolution that impacts on our NWFZ, I was asked to present the most recent developments in the consolidation process of the Zone. I stressed that since its establishment in 1967, when the Treaty of Tlatelolco was signed, the Zone has been a contribution to peace and security in Latin America and the Caribbean, and a contribution to global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. I highlighted a few items on the significant political agenda of OPANAL and took the opportunity to remind Member Parties about the importance of complying with obligations under the Treaty. Taking into account that the United States of America was attending this forum, I mentioned the importance that the 33 States in LA&C attach to the negotiations on the withdrawal of interpretative declarations issued by Nuclear-Weapon-States when signing and/or ratifying Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Considering the financial implications of travelling to Washington D.C., I took part in this event on 17 January 2013 via videoconference, thanks to the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Mexico. (Press release S/BP/51 dated 17 January 2103).

2. 128th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly – Quito, Ecuador

Within the framework of this Assembly, I was invited to participate as a speaker during the launching, on 26 March 2013, of the Spanish version of the *Parliamentary Handbook on Supporting Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament* by the *Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND)* and the *IPU*. This invitation derived from the relationship with non-governmental actors who share common goals with OPANAL.

3. Meetings with representatives from NWFZ States – Geneva, Switzerland

Within the framework of the 2013 NPT PrepCom, I met with representatives from State Parties to different NWFZs, such as New Zealand, South Africa, Indonesia and Kazakhstan. We agreed to maintain communication in order to coordinate efforts that promote the preparations for the III NWFZs Conference (2015).

- a) *New Zealand*. In a bilateral meeting with Ambassador Dell Higginson, Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations in Geneva, I expressed the need to redouble efforts to achieve concrete results at the III NWFZs Conference (2015). We agreed on the fact that the format of the Preparatory Meetings should include an open-door session and a closed-door session, in order for NWFZs Member States to widely address substantive subjects.
- b) *South Africa*. In a bilateral meeting with Ambassador Abdul Samad Minty, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in Geneva, in his capacity as President of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE), I addressed the subject of the III NWFZs Conference (2015). Ambassador Minty expressed that the NWFZ in Africa and AFCONE are in an incipient stage. We agreed on the fact that it is necessary to coordinate efforts between NWFZs in order to create meaningful and concrete final documents. Ambassador Minty added that it is necessary for each NWFZ to reach a consensus between its Member States in order to create joint positions that concretely reflect their perspective towards the items on the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agenda.
- c) *Indonesia*. In a bilateral meeting with Ambassador Triyono Wibowo, Head of Delegation and Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, the WTO and other international organizations in Geneva, I addressed the subject of the coordination of the III NWFZs Conference (2015). Ambassador Wibowo confirmed that the MFA of his country would assume the coordination of this Conference. I reiterated the willingness of OPANAL to continue to join efforts with NWFZs in order to go beyond the Final Documents of the previous two conferences, as well as its disposition to collaborate as much as possible with Indonesia in the preparations towards the 2015 NWFZs Conference.
- d) *Kazakhstan*. In a bilateral meeting with Ambassador Barlybay Sadykov, Ambassador at Large of the MFA of Kazakhstan, we addressed the subject of cooperation and coordination between Zones with a vision towards the 2015 NWFZs Conference. Ambassador Sadykov

expressed the interest of his country to promote joint efforts between NWFZs, efforts in favour of a nuclear weapon-free world. I then mentioned the 2014 NWFZs Conference Preparatory Meeting and asked Ambassador Sadykov if, in the event of Indonesia not coordinating such event, the government of his country would be interested in assuming this responsibility. Ambassador Sadykov expressed that in order for the MFA of his country to assess the possibility of coordinating the aforementioned Meeting it was necessary to know its implications.

Certainly, the strengthening of the relation between different NWFZs Member States and OPANAL is an important step in the way towards the possible utopia that we all seek to achieve.

4. Meeting with the Disarmament Programme Coordinator of the World Future Council. Geneva, Switzerland

On Wednesday 24 April 2013, I had a meeting with Mr Rob van Riet, Disarmament Programme Coordinator of the World Future Council (WFC), to answer a questionnaire to support the nomination of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and OPANAL for the *Future Policy Award*, which this year celebrates disarmament policies that contribute to peace, sustainable development and security. The shortlisted policies were announced in June, and included the Treaty of Tlatelolco. We await the verdict of the judges. The award ceremony will be held during the Disarmament Week (24-30 October 2013) at the UN Headquarters in New York City. On 30 July 2013, at its 281st Session, the Council agreed that in the event of the Treaty of Tlatelolco winning the Award, representatives from the 5 Member States of the Council would attend the ceremony.

5. Consultations on cooperation – Publications and Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education

Publications

One of this year's objectives is that OPANAL publishes two books that contain the experience of the Agency, the importance of the NWFZLAC and the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the validity of the work of the Agency, and its contributions to other NWFZs. One of the books contains the Report of the 45th Commemoration of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the International Seminar "The Experience of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean and the perspective towards 2015 and beyond". The second book is entitled "Half a century of relevant experiences of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean: 1963-2013", which is co-authored by myself and Consultant Dina Jimenez.

In order to promote the first publication, I had meetings with the Director General of the *Instituto Matías Romero of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico* during the first and second half of 2013, Ambassador Pablo Macedo Riba and Ambassador Alfonso de María y Campos Castelló respectively.

The proposal is that the Report of the 45th Anniversary and the International Seminar is co-edited by OPANAL and the *Instituto Matías Romero*.

In order to promote the second publication, I have sought the support of the Netherlands, a Signatory State to Additional Protocol I to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and a promoter of nuclear disarmament education. I also held follow-up meetings with Ambassador Coenraad Hendrik Adolph Hogewoning and Mr Theo Peters, Head of Division of the Security Policy Department, Non-Proliferation, Disarmament, Arms Control and Export Control Policy Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education

As described in the section of the Working-Group on Education, I held various meetings with representatives of the Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE) in order to promote the course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education. The cooperation project was completed on 30 July 2013, with the signing of the Specific Agreement; as preparations are already in progress, it is expected that the course will begin in early 2014.

6. Academic activities and lectures

a) Youth Delegation – Geneva, Switzerland

On 25 April 2013, I delivered a lecture on the NWFZ in Latin America and the Caribbean to the delegations of Nagasaki, *Ban all Nukes Generation*, and the *Nuclear Age Peace Foundation*. In this session I presented the creation and consolidation process of the NWFZLAC, as well as some good practices and lessons learnt over its 45 years of establishment. There was a brief but very interesting Q&A session at the end.

b) Lecture at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur, Mexico

Within the framework of the opening of the antinuclear exhibition entitled “*From a culture of violence to a culture of peace: transforming the human spirit*” by Soka Gakkai International-Mexico (SGI), I was invited to deliver a lecture on the contribution of Latin America and the Caribbean to the Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Regime. The event was held at the campus of the *Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur*, on 24 May 2013.

c) Lecture “The role of non-nuclear weapon states in the nuclear disarmament process: the case of Costa Rica” – San José, Costa Rica

On 10 July 2013, I delivered a lecture entitled “*The role of non-nuclear-weapon states in the nuclear disarmament process: the case of Costa Rica*” at the Costa Rican Lawyers Bar. The relevance of this event lies on the fact that it was jointly convened by OPANAL, the Costa Rican Commission of

International Humanitarian Law and the Costa Rican Lawyers Bar. When these activities take place within the territory of the NFWLAC, they help to raise public awareness of the work done by the Agency, its relevance and presence.

- d) *Lecture to the students of the Post-graduate course of the Non-Proliferation and Global Security Foundation (NPSGlobal)*

Dr Irma Argüello, President of the Non-Proliferation and Global Security Foundation (NPSGlobal), invited me to deliver a lecture to regional post-graduate students of International Security, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation on *“The contribution of the NWFZLAC to regional peace and security”*. The event took place at the foundation’s headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 24 July 2013.

To conclude this Report, I would like to point out that the XXIII Regular Sessions of OPANAL General Conference are being held 3 months earlier than usual; therefore this Report only covers activities carried out between November 2012 and July 2013 (9 months). The activities that will take place during the second half of 2013, such as the Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly First Committee and the annual meeting with GRULAC, in New York City, are not described in this Report.