



OPANAL
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Statement by the Republic of Paraguay

Thank you very much, Mr. President, Minister Mario Búcaro Flores, for giving me the floor.

First of all, I would like to give Paraguay's government and officials' regards to Guatemala, the host country for welcoming the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean. I am most grateful for your country's efforts and hospitality in hosting this gathering. I would also like to express my congratulations and best wishes to the elected vice-presidency on this occasion, and greetings to all delegations here today.

On behalf of the Paraguayan delegation, I would like to begin by thanking the Secretary General, Ambassador Flávio Bonzanini, for his report and express our support towards the initiatives and activities undertaken during his mandate. In the same way, our gratitude to the Council's report. Finally, on this list of acknowledgements, the staff of the OPANAL Secretariat as well as the Government of Mexico for their constant support.

Mr. President and delegations,

A few months ahead celebrating another anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, Paraguay wishes to reaffirm its commitment with the principles stated at the time of its signature. As well as with the principles of the United Nations, to contribute to keep this hemisphere and other latitudes of the world free of nuclear weapons.

Indeed, Paraguay is proud to be part of this Organization and of the Treaty of Nuclear Non-Proliferation, of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Also, we raise our concern regarding the recently announced plans to revoke international commitments. We hope that this does not mean a setback in the path of the progress achieved so far.

The consequences of the use of nuclear weapons are not exclusive to the countries that use or own them. Instead, its catastrophic effects alter the rest of the world socially, economically, environmentally, and demographically. Hence, the Paraguayan delegation believes that it is important to continue urging the rest of the countries to make efforts to strengthen our instruments and others in the field of nuclear disarmament, in order to achieve the remaining ratifications.

Finally, and as a member of this Organization, that in international forums we continue to emphasize the importance of upholding the principles of peace and security. Our pacifist vocation and our commitment to strive for the well-being and progress of our peoples, embodied by international instruments such as the OAS Charter, as well as the Charter of the United Nations.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.