



OPANAL

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

General Conference

Contents

1. Report of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference	5
2. Statements by Member States and Observers	27
• Statement by Mexico.....	29
• Statement by Brazil	33
• Statement by Uruguay.....	37
• Statement by Chile	41
• Statement by Argentina.....	45
• Statement by Cuba	49
• Statement by Jamaica	51
• Statement by Guatemala	55
• Statement by Guyana	57
• Statement by ICAN	59
• Statement by the African Commission on Nuclear Energy	61
• Statement by the Soka Gakkai Mexico	65
• Statement by the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	67
• Statement by Russia	71
• Statement by Turkmenistan.....	73
3. Reports	77
• Report of the Secretary-General.....	79
• Report on the activities of the Council to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference	85
4. Documents.....	103

• List of Documents and Resolutions of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference	105
• Interpretative declarations equivalent to reservations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Report of the Working Group.....	109
• Report of the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.....	115
• Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of resolution CG/Res.03/2023 “Methods of Work of OPANAL”	121
• Report on Activities in Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education.....	125
• Report of the Working Group Established to Implement Resolution CG/Res.10/2023 “Establishment of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation”	129
• OPANAL Coordinations in 2025	133
• Report on the status of OPANAL's relations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones	137
• Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL	145
• Financial Situation of the Agency	167
• Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco	169
• Budget and Scale of Assessed Contributions for Financial Year 2025.....	171
• Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor’s Report as of 31 st December 2023.....	173
• Process for Submitting Candidacies for the Election of the Secretary-General for the 2026-2029 Term.....	189
• Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL	195
• Establishment of the "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"	201
5. Resolutions	213

• Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco	215
• Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco	219
• Working methods of OPANAL	223
• Modernization of OPANAL's information and communication technologies	229
• OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	231
• Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean	233
• Internship Programmes at the OPANAL Secretariat	235
• Memorandum of Understanding on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education with the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies	237
• Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea on the Participation of Korean Nationals in the Internship Programme at the OPANAL Secretariat	239
• Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Award	241
• Strengthening of the Secretariat	243
• OPANAL Coordinations for 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM	245
• Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone..	247
• Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL	249
• Financial Obligations of Member States. Status of Collection of Contributions	251
• Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco	253
• Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025	257
• Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor's Report as of 31 st December 2023.....	259
• Appointment of the External Auditor.....	261

• Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029	263
• Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL	265
• Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee).....	269
• Vote of Thanks to the Government of Mexico	271
6. List of Participants	273

**Report of the XXVIII Special Session of the General
Conference**



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024

CG/E/22/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Report of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) was held on 28 November 2024, in person, in the Morelos Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, and virtually.

As stated in the List of Participants (document CG/E/20/2024), the Session was attended by 23 delegations of OPANAL Member States and 8 observer delegations.

1. Opening of the XXVIII Special Session

In accordance with Article 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Head of Delegation of the Republic of Guatemala, Minister Counsellor Esmaylin Thomas Gómez Escobedo, declared open the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.

He recalled that, as indicated in Article 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, “the quorum shall be half of the Member States plus one” to officially start the works and indicated that, at that time, there were 23 Member States accredited and present virtually or in person, so that, at 10:18 a.m. on 28 November 2024, the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference of OPANAL was declared opened.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

In accordance with Articles 12 and 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the President submitted for the consideration of the Session the provisional agenda, document CG/E/01/2024 Corr., which was adopted as follows:

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda Item 2

CG/E/01/2024 Corr.
Original: Spanish/English

Agenda

1. Opening of the XXVIII Special Session

2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Election of the President and two Vice Presidents
4. Report of the Secretary-General
5. Report of the Council
6. General interventions by Member States and observer delegations
7. Interpretative declarations made by the States Party to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco
 - 7.1. Report of the working group tasked with reviewing the interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco
8. Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco
9. Working methods and modernization of technologies for OPANAL's work
10. Education on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation
 - 10.1. OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
 - 10.2. Summer School on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean
 - 10.3. Internship programs at the OPANAL Secretariat
 - 10.3.1. Memorandum of Understanding with the James Martin Center for Non-proliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies
 - 10.3.2. Memorandum of Understanding on Internships with the Republic of Korea
 - 10.4. Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
11. Strengthening and professionalization of the Secretariat
12. OPANAL's coordination in 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM
13. Relations with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones
 - 13.1. Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone
14. Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL
15. Financial situation of the Agency
 - 15.1. Status of contributions
 - 15.2. Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco
16. Budget and scale of contributions for the 2025 financial year
17. External Auditor

- 17.1. Opinion of the External Auditor as of 31 December 2023
- 17.2. Appointment of the External Auditor
- 18. Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029
- 19. Other matters
 - 19.1. Status of signatures and ratifications of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, approved by OPANAL's General Conference, and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL
 - 19.2. Establishment of the "Committee for Cooperation of Intergovernmental International Organizations Based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"
 - 19.3. Vote of thanks to the Government of Mexico
- 20. Closing of the XXVIII Special Session

3. Election of the President and two Vice Presidents

The President indicated that, in accordance with Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, it was necessary to elect the President and two Vice-Presidents from among the Heads of Delegation. The Secretary-General indicated that he had taken note of Mexico's interest in presiding over the work of this special session and of the willingness of the delegations of Guatemala and Brazil to assume the Vice -Presidencies.

Mexico was elected by acclamation as President and Brazil and Guatemala as Vice-Presidents, thus forming the Bureau for the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.

4. Report of the Secretary-General

The President indicated that the report of the Secretary-General had been shared, as part of the working documents, as document CG/E/19/2024 and gave the floor to Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, Secretary-General of OPANAL, for his presentation. The report was read out by the Secretary General and taken note of it by the General Conference.

5. Report of the Council

The President reminded delegations that they had received the document "*Report of the Council to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference*" (CG/E/08/2024Rev) and gave the floor to the delegation of Guatemala, in its capacity as rotating Presidency of the Council.

Presentation of the Report of the Council to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference - Statement by Mr. Esmaylin Thomas Gómez Escobedo, Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Guatemala in Mexico, on behalf of the delegation of Guatemala in its capacity as President in turn.

On behalf of the OPANAL Council, currently made up of Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico and Panama, I have the honour to present to this XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference, the report on the activities carried out during the period between the XXVIII Session, held on 3 November 2023, and this Special Session, in compliance with Article 10, paragraph 6 of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

This report, contained in document CG/E/08/2024Rev., details the issues addressed and the decisions taken by the Council during this period, in which it held a total of seven meetings, alternating the President in accordance with Article 9 of its Rules of Procedure.

During this time, the Council established several ad hoc working groups to address priority issues, of which the following stand out:

- The follow up to the Interpretative Declarations of the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the negotiation of the "Communiqué of the Member States of OPANAL in relation to the potential use of tactical nuclear weapons", under the coordination of Guatemala.*
- The negotiation of the "Declaration of the Member States of OPANAL on the occasion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons", led by Brazil.*
- The preparation and adoption of the regulations of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Prize for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, coordinated by Argentina.*
- The preparation of the draft resolutions that will be reviewed during this XXVIII Special Session, also in charge of Argentina.*

It is important to note that the work of the Council during this period was carried out in accordance with the provisions of resolution CG/Res.03/2023, adopted by the General Conference

in November 2023, on the working methods of the Agency, which this body followed throughout the year.

In accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, I would like to reiterate that the meetings of the Council are open to the participation of all OPANAL member states even if they are not part of the Council. This practice fosters transparency and constructive dialogue in decision-making.

For this reason, the calls and documents of each session were transmitted to the entire membership in Spanish and English in a timely manner. In the same sense, all Council meetings are held with the possibility of remote connection and interpretation services in English and Spanish. This is an occasion to repeat the call for more countries to participate regularly in Council meetings.

During this period, the Council also received and recorded in the records of all its meetings the reports of the President of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Questions (CCAAP) of its 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd and 173rd meetings.

Finally, we advance to the membership the work plan for the year 2025, reiterating the Council's commitment to the effective implementation of its mandates, the improvement of working methods, and the strengthening of the different bodies established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

The Council's work reflects not only the continued commitment of its members to the principles and objectives of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, but also our region's collective effort to move towards a world free of nuclear weapons.

It is in this spirit that we submit for your consideration the report of activities, as well as the draft resolutions that will be discussed during this session. Thanks a lot.

6. General interventions by Member States and observer delegations

The President noted that, in accordance with Article 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, interventions by Member States were made in accordance with the chronological entry in the list of speakers updated by the Secretariat. Interventions were made in accordance with the List of Speakers (CG/E/21/2024) in the following order: Mexico, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, Cuba, Jamaica, Guatemala, Guyana, Panama, Haiti, ICAN, African Nuclear-Weapon-Free

Zone, Soka Gakkai, CTBTO, Russia, China, and the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. All interventions made by delegations are reflected in Annex I.

7. Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

7.1 Report of the working group tasked with reviewing the interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/09/2024 and CG/E/L.03/2024Rev.3., and reminded the membership that, in accordance with the provisions of resolution CG/Res.01/2023, adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023, the Council took the necessary steps to continue the constructive dialogue with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and established an Ad Hoc Working Group, coordinated by Guatemala, to whom he gave the floor.

Presentation of the Report of the Working Group on the Review of Interpretative Declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference - Intervention by Mr. Esmaylin Thomas Gómez Escobedo, Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Guatemala in Mexico, on behalf of the delegation of Guatemala in its capacity as Coordinating Delegation of the Working Group.

Guatemala is certain that this General Conference will make progress on the most relevant decisions and issues that concern us. It is precisely one of these relevant issues on which Guatemala has the pleasure and honour to report to the General Conference: on the progress made in the last year, in particular within the framework of the Working Group, coordinated by the delegation of Guatemala, on the Interpretative Declarations to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

The report contained in document CG/E/09/2024 gives a succinct account of the main results of our discussions, which served for the meetings held on the sidelines of the Second Preparatory Committee of the NPT, in Geneva, but also on the need to continue with the dialogue and agreement on the dialogue strategies among the Member States of OPANAL vis-à-vis the future meetings that we have with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II.

Another element that I would like to highlight from the productive work of the Group is the "Communiqué of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) regarding the threat of use of nuclear weapons", which is a clear example of the pacifist vocation of Latin America and the Caribbean, but also, the unanimous position of the region in unequivocally condemning, as a matter of principle, each and every nuclear threat, whether explicit or implicit and regardless of the circumstances.

As indicated in draft resolution CG/E/L.03/2024Rev.2, on which action will be taken in a few minutes, it is necessary to deepen the dialogue with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco within the framework of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the subject. In that regard, and if the Member States so decide, it will be an honor for Guatemala to continue to lead this Working Group, as well as to explore, together with all of you, the best dialogue strategies that will make it possible to fully comply with the mandate of the resolution. Thanks a lot. Mr. President.

The delegation of Brazil, while indicating its support for the resolution, pointed out that the issue of the revision of the interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco is one of the priority political tasks for OPANAL and requested to put on record that the Brazilian delegation hoped that the adoption of the resolution would contribute to strengthening the process and dialogue with the four States Parties to the relevant Additional Protocols, recalling that, in 2023, a channel of communication was opened, although in 2024 it did not have the same depth, as evidenced by the fact that not all the related countries were present. Finally, the Brazilian delegation signaled for the issue to be considered as one of the political priorities for 2025.

The delegation of Mexico indicated its support for the draft resolution and associated itself with the intervention of Brazil while thanking Guatemala for leading the working group and the Secretariat and facilitating the dialogue with States Parties to the Additional Protocols. The Mexican delegation also asked to place on record the importance that its country attaches to the continuity of this issue, especially at a time when dialogue is very difficult in many sectors and multilateral forums, but not so in OPANAL. For this reason, Mexico indicated that would continue to promote and encourage dialogue in all its aspects, both among the Member States of the Agency and with the States Parties to the Additional Protocols, considering that this exchange is of utmost relevance.

Finally, the delegation of Cuba reaffirmed the importance attached by its country to this matter and expressed its support for the draft resolution, stressing that the Treaty of Tlatelolco could

not be the subject of reservations, nor could its Additional Protocols, since they were contrary to the spirit of the Treaty and *de facto*, became reservations, and should therefore be eliminated. The elimination of these reservations, said, would provide full and unequivocal security guarantees to the States that make up the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone of Latin America and the Caribbean. Cuba also recognized and thanked OPANAL's efforts to comply with resolution CG/Res.01/2023 adopted by the XXVIII General Conference held in 2023.

Subsequently, the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco” as document CG/E/Res.01/2024.

8. Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/05/2024Rev.3 and CG/E/L.10/2024Rev.4. The Secretary-General referred to the report of the Control System prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty itself and the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference and recalled that compliance with article 14 was not a bureaucratic matter, but an unavoidable commitment for the 33 States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco being the very essence of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco” as document CG/E/Res.02/2024.

9. Working methods and modernization of technologies for OPANAL's work

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/03/2024 and CG/E/L.01/2024Rev.3.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Working Methods of OPANAL” as document CG/E/Res.03/2024 and the resolution entitled “Modernization of OPANAL's information and communication technologies” as document CG/E/Res.04/2024.

10. Education on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation

The President indicated that document CG/E/16/2024 was noted for this agenda item.

10.1. OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” as document CG/E/Res.05/2024. The Argentine Republic indicated that it would accompany the document while stating that, for its country its considered that equality between men and women, as formulated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, implied creating structural conditions for equal opportunities for all human beings without discrimination, whether male or female.

10.2. Summer School on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for Diplomats from Latin American and the Caribbean” as document CG/E/Res.06/2024. The Argentine Republic indicated that it would accompany the document while stating that, for its country its considered that equality between men and women, as formulated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, implied creating structural conditions for equal opportunities for all human beings without discrimination, whether male or female

10.3. Internship programs at the OPANAL Secretariat

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference welcomed the report CG/E/16/2024 and adopted the resolution entitled "Internship Programs in the OPANAL Secretariat" as document CG/E/Res.10/2024. The Argentine Republic indicated that it would accompany the document by stating that it considered that equality between men and women, as formulated in the Convention on All Forms of Discrimination against Women, implied creating structural conditions for equal opportunities for all human beings without discrimination, whether male or female.

10.3.1. Memorandum of Understanding with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Memorandum of Understanding on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies” as document CG/E/Res.07/2024.

10.3.2. Memorandum of Understanding on Internships with the Republic of Korea

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea on the Participation of Korean Nationals in the Internship Program in the OPANAL Secretariat” as document CG/E/Res.08/2024.

10.4. Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

The President informed the membership that, in accordance with the provisions of GC/Res.10/2023, entitled “Creation of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Prize for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation,” adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023, the Council was responsible for developing and adopting the rules to regulate the first edition of this Award. Also recalled that, for that purpose, a working group was established coordinated by the delegation of Argentina to whom he gave the floor to present the corresponding report.

Presentation of the Report of the working group established to comply with resolution CG/Res.10/2023. "Creation of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Prize for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation" at the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference. Statement by First Secretary Victoria Urbistondo, on behalf of the delegation of Argentina in its capacity as Coordinating Delegation of the Working Group.

It is an honor to address you to share the progress made in the implementation of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, an initiative that embodies our region's commitment to the principles of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, values that have guided OPANAL since its creation.

As mentioned in Item 5 of this session, the Council, in accordance with the provisions of resolution CG/Res.10/2023, established an Ad Hoc Working Group, coordinated by Argentina, to develop and adopt the rules that would regulate this award. The work of this group is summarized in document CG/E/07/2024Rev., which summarizes the information presented to the Council at its 350th, 351st, 352nd and 353rd sessions.

The Ad Hoc Working Group agreed on the regulations and the call for the first edition of this recognition, as well as the definition of the Jury and the criteria for evaluating the works.

I would like to share with the General Conference that the Jury is evaluating a total of 15 works, which met the criteria established in the rules of the call, and which were submitted by nationals of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and the United States. It should be noted that, among these works, two were co-authored.

The results of this first edition will be announced at the first Council meeting of 2025, scheduled for February 6. Subsequently, we hope that, within the framework of the anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, on February 14, 2025, an award ceremony will be held to recognize the winning person or persons.

In addition, the first place will be invited by the OPANAL Council to present its work to the entire membership, thus promoting the dissemination of research of excellence in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

As a result of this process, the Ad Hoc Working Group has also put forward a series of recommendations for the organization of the second edition of the Prize, which are contained in the Report to which I have referred and prepared the basis for the draft resolution that will be submitted for the consideration of the membership under this agenda item.

With this award, OPANAL not only honors the memory of the distinguished jurist Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade but also reinforces its commitment to the promotion of research and academic analysis as fundamental tools to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.

I am grateful for the dedicated work of Member States, the jury and the Secretariat, who have made this important initiative possible. I am convinced that the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award will be an engine to inspire new ideas and strengthen global efforts for disarmament and peace. Thanks a lot.

The Delegation of Brazil expressed its support and sincerely thanked the Delegation of Argentina for coordinating the working group responsible for the establishment of this Award. In addition, the Brazilian delegation expressed its satisfaction to see that the first edition received 15 submissions from a diverse group of participants and invited to review the experience with a view to

the second edition and to strengthen this important matter within OPANAL's education and outreach activities.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” as document CG/E/Res.09/2024.

11. Strengthening and professionalization of the Secretariat

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Strengthening of the Secretariat” as document CG/E/Res.11/2024.

12. OPANAL's coordinations in 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna and CARICOM

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/06/2024 and CG/E/L.13/2024Rev.3 and recognized the delegations in charge of the Coordinations during 2024 as well as their willingness to maintain them during 2025: Brazil in New York, Ecuador in Geneva and Mexico in Vienna and thanked the representation of Guatemala for expressing its willingness to assume the coordination of OPANAL in the Caribbean.

The delegation of Argentina thanked the delegations that would maintain coordination during 2025, Brazil in New York, Ecuador in Geneva and Mexico in Vienna and expressed its appreciation to the representation of Guatemala for its willingness to assume the coordination of OPANAL in the Caribbean.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “OPANAL Coordinations for 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM” as document CG/E/Res.12/2024.

13. Relations with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones

The President indicated that for this agenda item, document CG/E/17/2024 was noted and recalled that the Latin American and Caribbean Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, having been the first established in a densely populated area, had the historical experience, mechanisms, bodies and universalization that the other Free Zones have taken up as an example. not only for its establishment, but also for its operation. The delegation of Brazil urged other delegations to continue these activities and to continue reviewing the matter within the framework of the Council, with the aim of strengthening the network of memorandums and relations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones.

13.1. Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone” as document CG/E/Res.13/2024.

14. Need for permanent headquarters for OPANAL

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclatures CG/E/15/2024 and CG/E/L.19/2024.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL” as document CG/E/Res.14/2024.

The delegation of Argentina, while thanking the Government of Mexico for its support on this point, emphasized the importance of OPANAL having its own headquarters, adequate to its needs and in accordance with the relevance of the organization. The Brazilian delegation also expressed its gratitude to Mexico for the support provided for the leasing of the offices, which has represented a financial relief for OPANAL. However, Brazil stressed that the current headquarters is only a temporary solution and that it is necessary to move towards a structural and permanent solution, which could be worked on with a view to the 60th anniversary of the Treaty during the next two years.

15. Financial situation of the Agency

The President gave the floor to the President of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP) to introduce the report on the financial situation of the Agency.

Presentation of the Report of the CCAAP to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference. Statement by Mr. Dorian Fernández, representative of the delegation of Mexico, in his capacity as President of the Committee.

Mr. President, during this year, the Committee on Quotas and Administrative and Budgetary Affairs met seven times, in person, with the possibility of remote connection. During this period, the CCAAP has been made up of Belize, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay. At the

first session of the Commission of the current year (January 19), Mexico was elected as president of the CCAAP for the year 2024.

I would now like to highlight the main issues considered by the Commission at those meetings.

In each of the 7 sessions, the financial situation of the Agency was reported as well as the budget execution, showing in all cases an adequate normality in the different reports presented.

According to the most recent information provided by the Secretariat during the 173rd session of the CCAAP, which took place on 7 November, the bank balance as at 31 October 2024 included the following: the Reserve Fund with an amount equivalent to USD 554,745.52, which is higher than recommended by the Financial Regulations (it is recommended that this be an amount equivalent to the total annual contributions of the Member States, or USD 416,989). The total value of the Reserved Amounts totals USD 112,296.54, corresponding to replacement of assets USD 45,913.17, change of vehicle USD 27,074.72 and provision for the travel expenses of the Secretary General USD 39,338.65. It should be noted that the amount recorded by the asset replacement item as of August 31, 2024, compared to the bank cut-off as of October 31 of the current year, had a decrease in resources due to its partial use for the implementation and changes in OPANAL's IT and telecommunications infrastructure.

By the end of last October, the Agency had received USD 258,419.24 from seventeen Member States, resources corresponding to: USD 19,907.31 from previous years' quotas, USD 237,242.46 from 2024 and USD 1,269.47 from future years. The collection percentage of these fees represented 57.10% of the total expected for this year, a collection percentage lower than those of 2022 with 81.31% and 62.90% in 2023.

The balance of the debt accumulated at the end of 2023 amounts to USD 679,037.14 which, together with the outstanding payments of the current year, reach a sum of USD 857,922.57, which corresponds to more than two OPANAL budgets. In that regard, the President of the Commission encouraged Member States during all CCAAP meetings, to take the necessary administrative steps to meet the payment of its assessed contributions and to ensure that the Agency has the necessary resources for its proper functioning.

As for the total expenditure executed as of October 31 of the current year, it was equivalent to USD 314,714.14, that is, 75% of the Budget, an adequate and responsible proportion. Its financing was provided by assessed contributions from Member States and by Mexico's

voluntary contribution for the rental of the provisional headquarters. Regarding the employment contracts of OPANAL officials, on April 30, 2024, following the mandate of the Council, the Secretary General presented to the employees the draft of an employment contract, similar to the one used in previous years, due to the lack of contracts in force since January 1, 2024. The new contracts were temporary from May 15 to July 30, 2024, considering in the salary definition an exchange rate equivalent to that approved in the current year's budget, that is, 18.5 pesos per US dollar.

On May 22, the firm Cannizzo, Ortiz y Asociados, S.C. was selected as an advisor for the process of updating labor contracts. The decision was based on the fact that this firm presented the best cost-quality ratio. On July 15, the five local workers who are part of the Secretariat signed the contracts, which were valid until December 31, 2024. It should be noted that, at the 172nd Meeting of the CCAAP, held on September 27, 2024, the lawyer Anahí Serrano, representative of the law firm Cannizzo, Ortiz y Asociados, S.C., presented to the Member States the results of the work carried out in the process of signing the contracts of OPANAL officials.

The Presidency of the CCAAP, at its 173rd Meeting, held on November 7, presented a report on the two hearings requested by an OPANAL employee in mid-2024, hearings based on the provisions of Article 49 of the rules that regulate the operation of the Secretariat. Since some of the issues discussed in these hearings remain to be resolved, issues that have to do with the definition of specific issues of the next employment contracts, whose signatures are expected to take place in December of this year, as well as issues related to the processes related to the work commissions of the employees, and that CCAAP did not yet have the comments of the Secretariat in this regard, the President proposed to the Member States of CCAAP to have a meeting at an early date with the Secretary General of the Agency so that, as far as possible, mediation could be achieved while proposing recommendations to improve some of the working methods.

With regard to the Agency's new website, in accordance with the mandate set out in paragraph 6 of resolution CG/Res.04/2023 (Modernization of the information and communication technologies of the OPANAL Secretariat), the Secretariat informed Member States on June 27 of the launch of the new website. On the other hand, and taking into consideration the issue of information security, since September 27, Member States can request their own login and password. Another concern mentioned by the membership has been the need for the OPANAL website to be available in the four official languages: Spanish, English, Portuguese and French. Taking into consideration that currently the page is only in Spanish with English translation, the

company AVANTIKA transmits to us that it is technically feasible and will present a quote according to the new project to be developed.

Regarding the draft budget and scale of assessments for the year 2025, in advance and at the request of the CCAAP, the Secretary-General presented at its 168th Session, held in March 2024, a preliminary draft on the subject, consisting of a first approach to the subject, taking into consideration the expenditures actually executed in the financial year 2023, First normal year after the pandemic. Following various proposals and considerations from Member States, on October 24, 2024, the Secretary-General presented document CCAAP/10/2024Rev.2 Alternative for the 2025 financial year, indicating a correction of 4% (USD 16,679.56) with respect to the 2024 budget, which reflects an increase in Official Mission Tickets by USD 4,169.89 and in Official Mission Travel by USD 4,169.89. Accordingly, salaries would increase by USD 1,658.43 for each Professional and USD 956.35 for the Driver and Assistant, which is equivalent to a monthly increase of USD 138.20 for Professionals and USD 79.69. The annual bonus of employees would increase by USD 632.50, while the vacation bonus would increase by USD 117.21, both associated with the readjustment. Employer contributions would increase by USD 6,500.00, these funds would be transferred from the participation of Caribbean Member States, since in 2025 the Japanese non-governmental organization Soka Gakkai will finance the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also CARICOM members.

The exchange rate that is being proposed for 2025 is USD 1 = MXN 19, different from the exchange rate considered in the 2024 budget (USD 1 = MXN 18.5).

At the 173rd session of the CCAAP, it was approved to submit to the Council for consideration the draft budget contained in the above-mentioned document, CCAAP/10/2024Rev.2 Alternative. Likewise, the Council at its 354th Meeting of November 15, 2024, agreed to submit it for approval by the present Special General Conference (XXVIII Session), the Draft Budget and Scale of Assessments for the 2025 Fiscal Year, in accordance with the proposal contained in the aforementioned document.

Finally, I am pleased to report that in accordance with the working methods for OPANAL meetings, in 2023 the Secretariat had simultaneous English-Spanish-English interpretation during all its meetings, considering the importance of increasing the inclusiveness and participation of Member States that do not have representation in Mexico City, through the use of remote connection technologies. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The Delegation of Brazil thanked the President of the CCAAP for the detailed report presented, which reflected the quality of the work of this Committee and stressed that, in addition to facing the usual challenges, the CCAAP had to overcome additional ones, so the role of the President has been fundamental in supporting the Secretariat in this process. The Brazilian delegation also stressed the importance of continuing to advance in the modernization of technologies and working methods.

15.1. Status of contributions

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/12/2024 and CG/E/L.24/2024. The Secretary-General briefly described the document “Financial Situation of the Agency”.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Financial Obligations of Member States. Status of Collection of Contributions” as document CG/E/Res.15/2024.

The Argentine Republic requested to record in the Report that submitted the payment corresponding to 2023. However, due to a banking problem, was working together with the Secretariat to correct the situation.

15.2. Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/13/2024 and CG/E/L.18/2024Rev.2. The Secretary-General presented the summary of the document “Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco” prepared by the Secretariat.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco” as document CG/E/Res.16/2024.

16. Budget and scale of contributions for the 2025 financial year

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/14/2024 and CG/E/L.15/2024.

The Secretary-General recalled that he had submitted to the CCAAP, at its 173rd meeting on 7 November 2024, the document “Proposed Budget and Scale of Assessments for the Fiscal Year 2025” (CCAAP/10/2024Rev.2. Alternative), which was submitted to the Council for consideration at its 354th session on November 15, 2024.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025” as document CG/E/Res.17/2024.

The delegation of Mexico recognized the member's commitment to adopting this resolution, which, after 10 years without increases, represents a financial respite and called for ensuring transparency in the use of resources and continuing to improve processes, in line with the importance of international organizations. The delegation of Brazil noted that, although this measure was positive after a decade of zero nominal growth, it did not completely resolve the situation, as the 4% increase represented negative real growth and, for this reason, stressed that the issue should remain on the agenda of the Agency and expressed the willingness of its country to continue working constructively on its solution.

17. External Auditor

17.1. Opinion of the External Auditor as 31 December 2023

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item had been circulated under the nomenclatures CG/E/11/2024Rev. and CG/E/L.16/2024Rev.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor’s Report as of 31st December 2023” as document CG/E/Res.18/2024.

17.2. Appointment of the External Auditor

The Presidency indicated that the document corresponding to this agenda item was circulated with the nomenclature CG/E/L.23/2024. The Secretary-General recalled that, in accordance with Article 46 of Financial Regulations, Vieyra Mota y Asociados S.C. was appointed by Resolution CG/Res.18/2023 as External Auditor of the Agency for a period of one year from January 1 2024, to December 31 2024, and proposed rehiring Vieyra Mota y Asociados S.C. as External Auditor of OPANAL for the period of 1 January 2024. 2025 to 31 December 2025.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Appointment of the External Auditor” as document CG/E/Res.19/2024.

18. Process for submitting candidacies for the position of the head of the General Secretariat for the period 2026-2029

The President referred to the inclusion of this item on the agenda, reiterating the importance of the issue for the Parties to the Treaty and also thanked, in its capacity as Depositary State, the work and interest of the membership and the Secretariat to discuss the process of presenting candidacies for the election of the head of the General Secretariat for the period 2026-2029. Also, recalled that consideration of this matter by the XXVIII Extraordinary Session of the General Conference not only allows for the early assessment and discussion of the various aspects that the Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco must consider in selecting the next head of the OPANAL Secretariat, but also provides an opportunity to support and thank the current Secretary-General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, as he enters the final year of his mandate.

The President also indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/10/2024Rev.2 and CG/E/L.21/2024Rev.2.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029” as document CG/E/Res.20/2024.

The Argentine Republic stressed the importance of this resolution, through which OPANAL considers the experiences of other international organizations in the field of elections, which contributes to improving practices and transparency while also thanking the delegations and the Secretariat for their work in supporting the efforts that led to the establishment of this resolution. The delegation of Mexico requested that in operative paragraph two, the term “Secretary-General” be revised in Spanish. It also emphasized that this is a priority and highly relevant matter for the consideration of all OPANAL Member States. Therefore, in its national capacity and as the Depositary State, Mexico expressed its hope that all countries would adopt the resolution with enthusiasm and active participation, thereby demonstrating that OPANAL embraces and promotes best practices in budgetary, procedural, and governance matters. Finally, it also recognized the work of Argentina as coordinator and guide of the working group in charge of reviewing all the resolutions of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.

19. Other matters

19.1. Status of signatures and ratifications of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, approved by OPANAL's General Conference, and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item had been circulated under the nomenclature CG/E/18/2024 and CG/E/L.09/2024Rev.2.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL” as document CG/E/Res.21/2024.

19.2. Establishment of the "Committee for Cooperation of Intergovernmental International Organizations Based in Mexico)"

The President indicated that the documents under this agenda item were circulated under the nomenclatures CG/E/04/2024 and CG/E/L.20/2024Rev.2.

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)” as document CG/E/Res.22/2024.

19.3. Vote of thanks to the Government of Mexico

The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted the resolution entitled “Vote of thanks to the Government of Mexico” as document CG/E/Res.23/2024, submitted by the delegation of Argentina. The Delegation of Brazil thanked the presentation of this resolution and acknowledged the work done by the Delegation of Argentina in coordinating the work related to the resolutions. The delegations of Jamaica and Guatemala associated themselves with what was expressed by Brazil.

Statements by Member States and Observers



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Mexico

On behalf of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Juan Ramón de la Fuente, and the Government of Mexico, I welcome you to the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

We gather in an alarming international context, where more than 12,000 nuclear weapons still exist, and where we hear announcements about the modernization, increase, and preservation of existing nuclear weapons; more countries adhering to the supposed security that nuclear weapons provide, in addition to the ongoing escalation in belligerent rhetoric and explicit or veiled threats regarding the possible use of nuclear weapons.

The very existence of nuclear weapons is a threat that adds to other serious concerns, such as the scarcity of resources needed for sustainable development or to mitigate climate change. Historical, scientific, and technical evidence unequivocally demonstrates the catastrophic consequences that would result from an accidental or intentional detonation of a nuclear weapon.

For this reason, Mexico reiterates its rejection of nuclear weapons as the basis for international security. Any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, by any actor and under any circumstances, is contrary to International Law, including the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the principles and norms of International Humanitarian Law.

OPANAL is an international point of reference for promoting collective actions to prevent the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Ambassador Alfonso García Robles was right when he said that, by establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone, we contributed "so that our children can grow up free from the terror that the threat of a nuclear war inspires."

Our zone is, in itself, a contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation; a historically proven measure for reducing nuclear risk, which also coincides with a region that has established itself as a Zone of Peace.

The region paved the way for the establishment of four other similar zones around the world, and we are an example and an inspiration for the potential creation of a weapons of mass destruction-free zone in the Middle East. The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones represents an expression of the sovereign will of their State Parties to create their own structures of common security.

For this reason, we have the responsibility to maintain the relevance and strength of the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean, ensuring compliance with our obligations under the Treaty of Tlatelolco and other complementary treaties of which we are a part, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Mexico, as the depository state of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, calls on all its parties to continue complying with the required reports under Articles 14 and 15 of the Treaty; the timely payment of financial contributions; constant and proactive participation in the Organization's meetings, as well as supporting the OPANAL Secretariat in its functions.

At the same time, in moments when concrete actions are needed for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, OPANAL can be an example of reflection and promote a more structured and proactive discussion on negative security assurances, capitalizing on the accumulated experience in dialogue with Nuclear-Weapon States and their interpretative declarations, and our experience as the only nuclear-weapon-free zone with all its protocols in force.

We believe it is important to maintain the hemispheric dialogue framework on nuclear risk reduction. The meeting held in April 2024 in New York, with the participation of OPANAL members, the United States, and Canada, allowed us to present the regional collective vision on international security, without nuclear weapons, with one state possessing such weapons and another under the so-called nuclear umbrella.

Likewise, OPANAL must continue to encourage education for disarmament. The Nuclear Disarmament Summer School for Latin American and Caribbean diplomats, which this year held its tenth edition, has become a prime example of this priority activity and is now being emulated by other regions.

Furthermore, we invite all countries in the region to consider participating frequently in the main bodies of OPANAL and in the Organization's coordination efforts at the UN headquarters in

Vienna, Geneva, and New York, ensuring equitable rotation. In this way, decision-making in the OPANAL Senate will be enriched by a diversity of ideas, priorities, and emphasis.

This is particularly relevant as, in this General Conference, we will make decisions to begin the process of selecting a new Secretary General. We are pleased that this process has been enriched by the good practices of other organizations, starting with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the Revitalization of the UN General Assembly, demonstrating how OPANAL remains at the forefront in procedural matters.

In line with Mexico's feminist foreign policy, we will continue promoting visible actions that advance gender equality and the meaningful participation of women in decision-making on arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation issues. When we consider leadership positions within the governance structure of our Agency, this conviction should guide us all.

Finally, I would like to express Mexico's respect and gratitude for the work of Secretary-General Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, as well as for the Secretariat staff, who continue to develop professionally for the benefit of the Organization and its Member States.

Thank you very much.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Brazil

Your Excellency, President of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference, through whom I greet the representatives of the Member States and Observers,

Your Excellency, Secretary-General of OPANAL, Ambassador Flavio Roberto Bonzanini, through whom I greet the entire professional staff of the Secretariat,

First of all, Brazil thanks the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its generosity in hosting this session of the General Conference. Brazil also expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General for his report and to all the staff of the Secretariat for their dedication in preparing this session.

Mr. President,

When we look at the broader context, it becomes clear that we are going through a critical moment in history. Nuclear threats, both expressed and veiled, accompanied by aggressive rhetoric and provocative actions are significantly increasing the risk of catastrophe. The most devastating type of weapons of mass destruction are openly used as a tool of threat and intimidation. The unthinkable seems closer than ever.

In the language of nuclear weapons, there is no room for euphemisms. Any use of these weapons, regardless of their magnitude, would have unacceptable humanitarian and environmental consequences and would constitute an abhorrent violation of international law.

In the past year, all nuclear-weapon states have worked to upgrade their arsenals, either quantitatively, qualitatively or both. More than 90 billion dollars have been allocated to these arsenals, which is equivalent to almost 3,000 dollars per second. As Mexico mentioned, resources earmarked for weapons that should never have existed are being diverted from crucial initiatives to address the most pressing global challenges, such as the fight against poverty, hunger and climate change.

We are pleased that our regional group is widely represented in membership of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Brazil's ratification of this treaty is under consideration by Congress and remains a priority for President Lula.

Two months ago, at the United Nations Future Summit, it was recognized that there would be no future without nuclear disarmament. Action 26 of the Pact for the Future sets the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, which requires reversing the current worrying trend.

Fourteen years have passed since we agreed to new commitments at an NPT Review Conference, yet we still face obstacles to implementing them. The nuclear-weapon states must commit to Disarmament with a capital “D”. If we are in a second Cold War, then we must remember the lessons of the first: arms limitation and reduction is possible, even between rivals.

Mr. President,

Each session of this General Conference reaffirms that a world without nuclear weapons is possible. The Treaty of Tlatelolco was a pioneer in declaring Latin America and the Caribbean a nuclear-weapon-free zone, replacing the harmful logic of competition with the virtuous logic of cooperation. It was also a pioneer in establishing OPANAL, the only regional body dedicated exclusively to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. OPANAL remains fundamental to maintaining our region as a zone of peace and is a respected voice in defense of the inherent right to live in a world without nuclear weapons.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco, while anchored in our historical and geographical circumstances, inspired the creation of NWFZs in other parts of the world. We are pleased that at this General Conference we will authorize the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Treaty of Semipalatinsk, represented at this General Conference by Kazakhstan, expanding the network of dialogue already institutionalized with the Treaties of Pelindaba and Rarotonga. Brazil also reiterates its support for the creation of an NWFZ in the Middle East, in compliance with the resolution adopted at the NPT Review Conference in 1995.

We also welcome the adoption by the First Committee of the UN General Assembly of a resolution for the Secretary-General to prepare a new comprehensive study on NWFZs, the first since 1977. This initiative, conceived in OPANAL, was prepared by its membership, both in the Council and through its delegations in New York. We trust that this resolution will gain the widest possible support in the plenary vote of the General Assembly next Monday, December 2.

Mr. President,

Security is an indivisible value, which must be shared equally among all States, regardless of whether or not they possess nuclear weapons. There is no hierarchy between the security needs of one and the other. Universal, unconditional and legally binding negative security assurances are neither a favor nor a concession to be begged for. We therefore reiterate our call for all possessor states to join the Additional Protocols of all NWFZs, without conditions or exceptions.

Also in this area, the Treaty of Tlatelolco continues to be at the forefront, being the only one whose Additional Protocols have been ratified by all five nuclear-armed States. However, we deeply regret that four of these five have issued interpretative declarations limiting or conditioning their guarantees, which amounts to reservations prohibited by the Treaty. This must be corrected. We call on the United States, France, the United Kingdom and Russia to deepen the dialogue already established on this issue. With a minimum of goodwill on their part, it would be possible to achieve a significant increase in the security of our region.

Mr. President,

We are proud of the achievements of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and OPANAL. However, in the face of unprecedented global challenges, it is not enough to rest on a pioneering legacy of almost six decades. Brazil reiterates the importance of updating and strengthening OPANAL, remembering that true pioneering must be constantly renewed.

Within this framework, we celebrate the significant and diverse participation in the first edition of the Antonio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award. We also trust that this General Conference will play a key role in incorporating good practices of transparency and inclusiveness, developed in other international organizations, to strengthen our working methods, especially in the succession processes in the General Secretariat.

There is still room for reflection on how to further strengthen OPANAL. Among possible initiatives, we highlight the need to promote greater participation of women and to integrate the gender perspective in disarmament and nonproliferation forums. In addition, we can also explore how to further support the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, considering that all OPANAL members have already ratified it. It is also necessary to move forward, as already mentioned by the Secretary General in his speech, on the issue of finding a permanent seat for OPANAL.

Mr. President,

The development of nuclear naval propulsion is a legitimate and peaceful use of nuclear energy; Neither the Treaty of Tlatelolco or the NPT prohibits it. As part of its autonomous development of a nuclear naval propulsion program, Brazil is negotiating with the IAEA and with the participation of ABACC, special procedures for the verification of nuclear material used in the propulsion of submarines and prototypes, in compliance with Article 13 of the Quadripartite Safeguards Agreement.

After two and a half years, the negotiations are progressing constructively. Brazil, the IAEA and ABACC are working towards an agreement that safeguards sensitive information and allows verifying the absence of deviations, confirming the exclusively peaceful nature of the project. A few days ago, the IAEA circulated a report on these negotiations, which Brazil requested to make public in line with its commitment to transparency.

Finally, Mr. President,

Brazil once again congratulates the Japanese organization Nihon Hidankyo for receiving the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize. This recognition honors its commitment to a world free of nuclear weapons and joins an outstanding list of laureates for their efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons, among them Mexican Ambassador Alfonso García Robles, whose vision and leadership made the Treaty of Tlatelolco possible.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Uruguay

Mr. President of the XXVIII Extraordinary Session of the General Conference,

Vice Presidents,

Mr. Secretary General, Ambassador Flavio Roberto Bonzanini,

Distinguished representatives of Member States and Observers:

A year ago, we gathered in Guatemala to celebrate a new General Conference of OPANAL, with all the countries present agreeing that the conflicts and tensions we were facing globally clearly affected international peace and security, putting multilateral diplomacy to the test.

In response, we agreed on the importance of revitalizing the work of OPANAL to strengthen its leadership on this matter, as an organization representing the region that was the first to legally institute prohibition, disarmament, and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons through the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

With this objective, during this year, the Member States have advanced in the work already initiated to strengthen the General Secretariat of OPANAL and to improve working methods to foster the inclusivity of all the States Parties, as well as the efficiency, interactivity, and transparency of the deliberations of its organs.

Both the Council and the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters, the latter which my country has the honor of being part of, have worked tirelessly together with the Secretariat towards this strengthening, achieving significant progress in both administrative, technological, and even budgetary aspects.

Mr. President,

At a time when conflicts have not stabilized but have escalated, even presenting a concerning nuclear deterrence component, our region must continue demonstrating its commitment and leadership in disarmament and non-proliferation.

For this reason, we will continue advocating for both the internal revitalization and strengthening of the organization, as well as for maintaining its active presence and participation in the most relevant multilateral forums on the matter.

Likewise, we will urge the continuation of the established dialogue channels set by the OPANAL Council with the States Parties that made interpretative declarations to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and to continue cooperation and exchange with other nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Distinguished Delegates,

Uruguay, faithful to its pacifist vocation and in its capacity as a non-nuclear-weapon state, finds it appropriate to reaffirm once again at this General Conference its unwavering commitment to strengthening the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, including the total elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Uruguay's adherence to the multilateral normative framework finds its best complement in the implementation of a foreign policy that promotes the need to continue advancing in international negotiations aimed at achieving general and complete disarmament under a strict international regime.

On the occasion of the high-level ceremony on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, held during the Treaties Event from September 24 to 27, 2024, in New York, Uruguay firmly reiterated its call for States that have not yet done so to proceed with the signing and deposit of their instruments of ratification of the TPNW. The incorporation of new States into the Treaty is of particular relevance to our country, as it contributes to strengthening the international nuclear disarmament regime and promoting the principles of global peace and security, values to which Uruguay is deeply committed.

In line with its commitment to OPANAL, Uruguay recently voted in favor and co-sponsored the resolution titled "Comprehensive study of the issue of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects," presented within the framework of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.

Finally, Uruguay will once again host the OPANAL course on disarmament and non-proliferation, scheduled for April next year, thus supporting education for disarmament and non-proliferation as a strategy for advancing towards longer-lasting international peace and security, highlighting the role of our region as a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

Thank you very much.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Chile

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Government of Chile, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the delegation I chair, we thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, through it, the Government of Mexico, for once again hosting the General Conference of OPANAL at its XXVIII Special Session.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the coordination work carried out by the Secretary General, Ambassador Flavio Roberto Bonzanini, who, together with his team, has worked with great dedication in the areas of promotion and education in the fields of disarmament and non-proliferation, issues of great relevance and importance in the current international context.

Mr. President,

Nuclear disarmament is one of the oldest objectives of the United Nations at the global level, and was the subject of the first resolution, adopted by the General Assembly in 1946.

Chile notes with dismay the existence of more than 22,000 nuclear weapons, threatening human life, as well as the enormous sums of financial resources that the nuclear-armed States allocate to modernize their nuclear arsenals. We advocate that the current nuclear arms race be set aside and that these funds be released for development and cooperation among States in areas such as the environment, education and the peaceful use of nuclear applications.

In this global context, the decision of our countries to outlaw nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, through the Treaty of Tlatelolco that brings us together today, has been a stimulus and an example for other regions of the world to also create and maintain nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs). Since then, and with pride, we can point out that Latin America and the Caribbean have been at the forefront of all international initiatives in favor of the elimination of this type of weapon.

Mr. President,

We agree that the outlook today is not very encouraging and frustration has increased among the States Members of the United Nations that do not possess nuclear weapons, due to the slow pace of nuclear disarmament. Concerns about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that could occur with the use of just one nuclear weapon are growing, not to mention what a global nuclear war would entail. That scenario can and should vary.

Both the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty), as well as its Review Conferences and Preparatory Committees, has limited nuclear proliferation for decades. However, since 1995, mainly due to the refusal of the five nuclear-armed members to eliminate their arsenals has led to a point where the survival of the treaty is at stake and, indeed, and even more dramatically, the survival of humanity.

During the last Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference, the various delegations attending this meeting witnessed how the nuclear-weapon States (NPSCs) are explicit in their intention not to disarm and to maintain and deepen an arms race, which undoubtedly poses a risk and a challenge to international security.

My country's position on disarmament and non-proliferation maintains and promotes a progressive vision with a sense of urgency in the face of the real nuclear threat. We also believe that our commitment to the third pillar of the NPT is a vision shared by most States present here today, which urges us to reaffirm our commitment to strengthening nuclear security.

Mr. President,

We note with concern the repeated attempts by the NAEPs to delegitimize the effectiveness and relevance of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), persisting in positions that undermine the integrity of the nuclear disarmament process, actions that generate a stalemate in the process. However, the objectives of the TPNW, far from being idealistic, we believe are covered by the cloak of reality, since the mere existence of this type of weapon threatens humanity.

Chile, like other States that have signed it, maintains that the TPNW contributes to the strengthening of international law, promotes the total prohibition of this type of weapon and responds to the concerns of the international community about the devastating humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons.

We wish to highlight the significant number of States that have acceded to this Treaty, which was conceived from the beginning of its discussion and negotiation as an instrument that complements and strengthens the implementation and credibility of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Mr. President,

Chile has a Feminist Foreign Policy, focused on establishing the principle of equality and non-discrimination as a guiding axis in the work of its foreign policy, promoting actions in a transversal manner, which aim to eliminate the obstacles that prevent the advancement of women and girls, towards the full exercise of their autonomy and rights.

In this regard, Chile valued the organization of the Panel on Gender and Disarmament within the framework of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, which took place in Geneva in May 2023 at the Conference on Disarmament (CD), an event that allowed the different delegations to explore and discuss the relevance of the gender perspective in disarmament in general and in the context of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

Similarly, during Chile's presidency of the Conference on Disarmament in 2021, a formal plenary session on the participation and role of women in international security was convened, with the participation of the Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs of our country.

The international scenario requires the reconfiguration of the disarmament architecture, incorporating the gender approach at all times. Likewise, this reconfiguration should also consider discussions related to emerging technologies and their impact on the field of international security.

In this regard, and in accordance with the resolutions emanating from this Conference, we urge the Secretariat, together with the Council, to continue to incorporate a gender perspective, supporting and strengthening the effective participation of women in the Agency, its organs and programs.

Mr. President,

Finally, Chile reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that nuclear weapons will not be used again under any circumstances, and, to that end, the only guarantee is their proscription and total, complete and irreversible elimination within a clearly defined time frame.

For this reason, we would like to recall the leadership that the countries of our region have played in pioneering initiatives at the time, such as the creation of the first nuclear-weapon-free zone

in a densely populated area, and we would like to call for the conviction to maintain the conviction of actively promoting the elimination of nuclear weapons in all existing multilateral bodies.

Our countries have historically demonstrated authority, conviction and experience in non-proliferation and disarmament. We must maintain our commitment to seek all alternatives that will enable us to move forward in this noble task.

Thank you very much.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Argentina

First of all, I would like to thank Mexico for offering to host and chair this meeting, and I would like to express the support of the Argentine Delegation for what is sure to be a successful Conference. I would also like to thank the Vice Presidents of this Special Session of the General Conference, Brazil and Guatemala.

Next, I would like to thank the Secretary General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, the OPANAL Secretariat team and the members of the Council for their hard work throughout this year.

Fifty-seven years ago, with its signing, the Treaty of Tlatelolco made history in establishing the first Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in a densely populated region of the world, such as Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, the outlook is even more challenging: sadly, we are witnessing the erosion of the bilateral and multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation architecture in an increasingly polarized international context.

Mr. President,

Argentina has a nuclear program for exclusively peaceful purposes for more than 74 years, including the first nuclear power plant in Latin America, nuclear technology exports to five continents and mastery of nuclear fuel, in addition to a unique safeguards and verification scheme in the world created together with Brazil, such as the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC). It is always important to remember that it has been 33 years since two nuclear countries renounced the development, production, acquisition and use of nuclear weapons.

It is on the basis of that experience that we reaffirm our commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, in accordance with the norms enshrined in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the cornerstone of the global regime.

We will continue working towards the next review cycle that will culminate with the Eleventh Review Conference in 2026, and we value the role that OPANAL played in the past Second Preparatory Commission in Geneva.

At the regional level, we are pleased to be part of the OPANAL Council for the 2024-2027 cycle, and it is in this spirit that we have chaired the 352nd Council meeting, as well as coordinated the working groups on the Cançado Trindade Award and on the resolutions to be adopted at this Conference, among other activities.

Mr. President,

I would like to emphasize here that Argentina firmly supports the establishment and consolidation of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, considering them an important contribution to peace and security for the participating States, and within the context in which they can be agreed upon.

As far as our region is concerned, the contribution of the Treaty of Tlatelolco has been real and effective, since it strengthened our regional commitment to non-proliferation and disarmament and succeeded, through its system of Protocols, in binding the nuclear-weapon countries so that they do not violate the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone status of our region.

These commitments must be honored and strengthened, particularly regarding the interpretative declarations of the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Additional Protocols to the Treaty. Such interpretative declarations run counter to the object and purpose of the instrument and undermine legitimate assurances that our region is and will be a zone of peace. Even in the current and complex international situation, it is our duty to continue working for the withdrawal or revision of the interpretative declarations to the Protocols, in accordance with the text of the instrument. In this regard, we support the initiatives of the Technical Group on Declarations to Protocols I and II of the Secretariat, as well as the intense efforts of the Council during the current year, with the participation of Argentina.

Precisely connected to the foregoing, one aspect is the effective implementation of the Treaty of utmost relevance for my country, and that is that part of the Argentine national territory, specifically the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, is illegally occupied by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. As a result, the Argentine Republic is de facto prevented from accessing such portion of its territory and, consequently, it does not know whether the Treaty is being effectively complied with in the aforementioned part of its national territory.

This situation has an impact on our region, since the United Kingdom neither confirms nor denies the presence or absence of nuclear weapons in a given place, at a given time, as a way of sustaining its illegitimate occupation of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)¹, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, territories that are an integral part of the Argentine Republic, and for which the United Nations has recognized in numerous resolutions that there is a sovereignty dispute between those two States that must be resolved in a peaceful and negotiated manner. My country has expressed its concern regarding these practices on the part of the United Kingdom and has stressed that they entail a lack of guarantees of transparency regarding the presence or absence of nuclear weapons in the South Atlantic, which ultimately affects the entire region.

Mr. President,

We live in difficult times. In Latin America and the Caribbean, through the Treaty of Tlatelolco and OPANAL, we are privileged to be a nuclear-weapon-free zone and to have an Agency dedicated to its preservation. Let us continue working together to strengthen this framework and ensure its message of peace be heard in the world.

Thank you very much.

¹ ST/CS/SER.A/42



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Cuba

Cuba welcomes the celebration of the XXVIII Extraordinary Session of the General Conference of OPANAL and thanks the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico for hosting this important event. For the Republic of Cuba, the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in a transparent, verifiable, and irreversible manner, is imperative.

In this regard, we recognize the relevance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and its vital role in keeping our region free of nuclear weapons and outside of the nuclear arms race, reaffirming the effectiveness of the creation of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones as a fundamental step in strengthening global disarmament efforts.

Similarly, as a demonstration of our country's irrevocable commitment to the letter and spirit of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, we are proud to have been the fifth state to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and that the Latin American and Caribbean region currently has the highest number of States Parties to the Treaty. This regional consensus and the prestige of our zone as a global model on this issue must be preserved.

Mr. President,

Today, we face a challenging and complex international context, where the goal of achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons remains distant. Nuclear arsenals continue to be modernized, and new nuclear weapon systems are being deployed for potential use. The military doctrines based on nuclear deterrence and so-called strategic stability persist, as well as attempts to condition compliance with nuclear disarmament obligations and legitimize the status quo.

We express deep concern and alarm at the looming danger of a nuclear conflagration, from whose devastating effects no nation would escape. We must never forget the catastrophic consequences of the nuclear bombs dropped in 1945 on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. It is unjustifiable that nearly

13,000 nuclear weapons still exist, of which 3,844 are deployed, ready for immediate use, and more than sufficient to destroy the planet.

It is equally unacceptable for nuclear-armed states to use resources that should be allocated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals to continue developing new types of nuclear weapons and modernizing existing ones; actions inconsistent with the global aspiration for a world free of these weapons, and which violate the norms and principles of international law and the United Nations Charter.

At the same time, we reaffirm our support for the inalienable right of all states to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, without discrimination, in accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In this regard, we reject the imposition of unilateral coercive measures that limit or discriminate against the legitimate right of all states to develop research, production, and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. We strongly condemn the economic, commercial, and financial blockade imposed by the United States government against Cuba, which stands as a prime example of such measures.

Guided by the foreign policy principles enshrined in our Constitution, among which it is established that Cuba rejects the existence, proliferation, or use of nuclear weapons, our delegation will continue to promote, for future generations, a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Thank you.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: English

Statement by Jamaica

Your Excellency Mr. Enrique Javier Ochoa Martinez, Under Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights in the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States, and President of the Twenty-Eighth Special Session of the OPANAL General Conference;

Your Excellency Flávio Bonzanini, Secretary General of the OPANAL;

President of the OPANAL Council;

Distinguished Ambassadors and Representatives of Member States and Observers participating in person well as remotely;

Distinguished delegates,

Good morning,

As I am addressing the meeting for the first time, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mexico, Guatemala and Brazil on assuming the Presidency and Vice Presidencies of this Twenty-Eighth Special Session of the OPANAL General Conference. Please be assured of Jamaica's full support as you lead us through the matters on the agenda for today's meeting. I also extend commendations to the Secretary-General and his team at the Secretariat for the preparations made to hold this Conference. Jamaica's appreciation is also extended to the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico for the provision of this venue for the General Conference.

Mr. President,

Jamaica values the peace and security afforded to our region by the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which established the Latin American and Caribbean region as the first nuclear weapon free zone over five decades ago. We believe that the existence of a nuclear threat anywhere in the world compromises the security and wellbeing of all. We therefore note with concern the recent escalation of international conflicts, which have yet again increased the threat of the use of nuclear weapons. In

this connection, Jamaica strongly believes that this General Conference is opportune for our region to reiterate its firm stance against the nuclear option and call for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

This year, the OPANAL did stellar work and for this I commend the Secretary-General and his small but dedicated and efficient team at the Secretariat. Of note is the Secretariat's efforts to strengthen relations with other nuclear weapons free zones and the collaborative capacity building activities that were held for personnel of the Secretariat. The presentation of the draft resolution, initiated and promoted by OPANAL member states, that charges the Secretary General of the United Nations to carry out a new comprehensive study on the question of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in all its aspects received overwhelming support when it was presented in the First Committee of the Seventy-Ninth Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 1st November. This is a significant achievement as this idea of a draft resolution emanated from the OPANAL Council two years ago. Special appreciation is extended to Brazil, which leads the OPANAL Coordination in New York and spearheaded the work for this draft to advance to this stage. We look forward to the adoption of the draft resolution by the 79th UN General Assembly (UNGA79) at the earliest opportunity and are hopeful that support for it will increase above the 172 countries which voted yes in the First Committee.

Jamaica commends the Secretariat on its continued efforts to improve the inclusivity of OPANAL and to connect with Member States that do not have representation in Mexico City, particularly those of the English-Speaking Caribbean. The reestablishment of the OPANAL Coordination to the Caribbean is a positive move in this direction and Jamaica supports the initiative.

Jamaica also applauds the OPANAL Secretariat on the positive strides made towards the modernization of the operations of the Agency. I make specific reference to the launch of a new website earlier this year, which has current and useful information and allows Member States to access private documents ahead of meetings as well as for past meetings. This is indeed a welcomed improvement.

As the region seeks to strengthen its advocacy against nuclear weapons, the education and capacity building of the next generation of nuclear disarmament diplomats and professionals remain ever relevant. OPANAL has been doing important work in this area. The Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation for diplomats of Latin America and the Caribbean, which is organized in collaboration with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Matias Romero Institute and the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies at the Middlebury Institute of

International Studies, is an excellent programme that has benefitted many Jamaican nationals and other citizens in Latin America and the rest of the Caribbean. The OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation is another excellent initiative and Jamaica is pleased to advise of its interest in hosting an edition of this course in 2025.

Furthermore, Jamaica thanks the OPANAL Secretariat for its persistent efforts to source additional funding for the Internship Programme for Member States of OPANAL that are also Members of CARICOM. In this regard, I reiterate Jamaica's sincere appreciation to the Japanese non-governmental organization, Soka Gakkai, for the pledge to fund this internship programme at the OPANAL Secretariat in 2025. It will certainly contribute to enhancing capacity in the Caribbean region on nuclear matters.

Allow me to commend the Secretary-General on his stewardship of this important organization and the efficient use of its financial resources. I further reiterate Jamaica's commitment to the work of OPANAL and support for its priorities for 2025. We also extend sincere appreciation to the OPANAL Coordinators in New York, Geneva and Vienna for the work undertaken throughout the year. We look forward to a vibrant OPANAL in 2025 that is even more modernized and fit for purpose with an enriched work programme.

Thank you.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Guatemala

Mr. President,

Since this is the first occasion on which my country speaks on a national level, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as President of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, at its Twenty-Eighth Extraordinary Session.

I also wish to extend greetings on behalf of Ambassador Carlos Ramiro Martínez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala, who reaffirms my country's commitment to the prohibition of nuclear weapons in the region and the world, and who firmly believes in the relevance of the work carried out by this International Organization.

My delegation would like to reiterate the Republic of Guatemala's commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and calls on the States Parties to maintain their territories free from nuclear weapons, as well as to ensure that the use of nuclear energy is limited exclusively to peaceful purposes, always with consideration for the well-being of the peoples.

In current times, where we are experiencing various conflicts that have escalated to alarming levels and considering the threats of an unprecedented war, this space becomes fundamentally necessary to raise our voices and engage in dialogue to propose measures that allow for the maintenance of world peace. We cannot afford, nor consider, the search for a solution to these conflicts to involve the use of nuclear weaponry, as this would pose a risk to humanity and its consequences would be catastrophic.

Therefore, we call for the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace based on freedom, justice, equality, and respect for human rights, in accordance with international regulations, and to pursue friendly relations between nations, regardless of the differences that may exist between their political, economic, and social systems.

Mr. President,

Guatemala considers it fundamental that next year progress be made in the process of granting a permanent headquarters to OPANAL, which will allow for the proper exercise of its functions. We value and appreciate the support that the Government of Mexico has provided to maintain the operations of this Organization at a provisional headquarters. However, it is essential to have a headquarters that can safeguard the historical heritage we possess and, above all, provide space to accommodate the various commitments carried out by OPANAL.

Furthermore, Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to OPANAL, as over the past years we have managed to maintain an active working dynamic, which has contributed to the efforts of this International Organization as members of its Council since 2022 and now as Vice Presidents of this Extraordinary Session of the General Conference. We have also had the privilege of coordinating the Working Group on Interpretive Declarations to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and hosting the OPANAL Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Course on four occasions.

Mr. President,

We strongly condemn the use or threat of nuclear weapons anywhere in the world, as this could lead to a breakdown of peace, security, and global stability. Such actions not only put the nations involved at risk but also affect the well-being of humanity.

Therefore, we urge the countries that possess nuclear weaponry to cease any potential use of nuclear arms and call on the members of OPANAL to maintain the Zone of Application defined by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

Thank you.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 6

Original: English

Statement by Guyana

Thank you,

Mr. President,

Guyana extends its congratulations to you on assuming the presidency of this session and expresses gratitude to the host country, Mexico, as well as OPANAL's dedicated Secretariat, for their unwavering commitment and continuous efforts.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco remains a cornerstone of disarmament history, making Latin America and the Caribbean the first Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. This bold initiative set a powerful precedent, inspiring similar agreements in other regions and strengthening the global disarmament architecture.

Yet, today, this architecture is under serious threat. The persistent modernization and expansion of nuclear arsenals, withdrawal from key treaties, and escalating geopolitical tensions among nuclear-armed states jeopardize not only the disarmament regime but also global peace and security. As a region that has demonstrated enduring leadership in non-proliferation and disarmament, we must continue to set an example and urge others to follow suit.

Guyana calls on all states that have not yet done so to join key disarmament instruments, including the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). These treaties are essential to eliminating nuclear weapons and securing a safer, more stable future for coming generations.

On this note, we commend OPANAL for its visionary disarmament and non-proliferation education initiatives. Programmes such as the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and the Internship Programme at OPANAL are not merely initiatives—they are investments in a more

peaceful future. They cultivate a new generation of leaders, experts, and advocates who will continue advancing the cause of nuclear disarmament.

Mr. President,

Guyana remains firmly committed to the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons. We are steadfast in our dedication to implementing the Treaty of Tlatelolco and contributing to the vital work of OPANAL. As we move forward, let us reaffirm our shared responsibility to build a world where nuclear weapons are no longer a threat to humanity.

I thank you.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by ICAN

Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great honor to address you on behalf of ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and to deliver these brief remarks on this special occasion.

In this era of heightened global tensions, as the possibility of nuclear war becomes increasingly real, the example set by the Treaty of Tlatelolco—which established our region as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone—is of paramount significance now more than ever.

We may not always find common ground on every issue. However, the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean stand united in their rejection of nuclear weapons within our region. We do not exchange nuclear threats; nor do we deploy nuclear bombs on warplanes as a means of deterrence. We do not squander the wealth of our people on instruments of terror and mass destruction.

The nuclear-weapon-free status of our region is a remarkable achievement—one that we must celebrate, cherish, and resolutely defend.

Furthermore, our accomplishment has served as an inspiration for the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones across the world. The Treaty of Tlatelolco and its counterparts in other regions continue to make a vital contribution to the cause of nuclear disarmament, having laid the legal groundwork for the successful negotiation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in 2017.

A shared aspiration among all Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones is that their respective regional prohibitions will ultimately lead to the global elimination of nuclear weapons. Given the strong synergy between these zones and the TPNW, it is no coincidence that many member states of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones were among the first to sign and ratify the TPNW.

In August of this year, ICAN had the pleasure of participating in the Workshop to Strengthen Cooperation between Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in Astana, Kazakhstan. This event provided an important opportunity to enhance cooperation among the various Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.

ICAN is grateful for its collaboration with OPANAL, which has brought together representatives of all regional treaties to explore how these treaties and the TPNW can mutually reinforce one another and to propose concrete actions aimed at encouraging all member states of nuclear-weapon-free zones to join the TPNW.

ICAN commends the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean for their leading role in creating the TPNW and their ongoing efforts to promote its universal adoption. Central America holds the distinction of being the first fully ratified subregion of the Treaty. We now look forward to more states following suit.

We therefore urge Argentina and Suriname—the only two states in our region that have yet to sign the TPNW—to do so without delay. Likewise, we encourage the Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Haiti, and Colombia to expedite their respective ratification processes as swiftly as possible. In this regard, we are pleased to note Colombia’s recent progress towards this goal in its Congress.

The Third Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW will take place in New York next March. We look forward to the active participation of all states in the region.

This meeting presents a valuable opportunity for OPANAL to translate into action the ideas discussed in Kazakhstan and to collaborate with other nuclear-weapon-free zones in issuing a joint declaration.

To the states that have already ratified the TPNW, we trust that they will continue to strongly encourage those that have yet to do so, as achieving universal adherence remains an urgent humanitarian imperative.

As the States Parties to the TPNW declared at their first meeting in Vienna in 2022: “We will not rest until the last state has joined the Treaty, the last warhead has been dismantled and destroyed, and nuclear weapons have been entirely eliminated from the Earth.”



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: English

Statement by the African Commission on Nuclear Energy

Excellency, the President of the 28th Special Session of the OPANAL General Conference,

Excellency, the heads of delegations,

Excellency, the Secretary General of OPANAL,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) congratulates Your Excellency the President of the General Conference of the Agency for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), on your election as President of the XXVIII Special Session of OPANAL General Conference.

We assure you of the AFCONE and the African Union Commission (AUC) full support and cooperation towards the success of this Conference and the implementation of its resolutions.

We are sure that, under your leadership, this Conference will attain its objectives.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

The African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) which is established by the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty, commonly referred to as The Pelindaba Treaty, is proud of the cooperation held for years with the Agency for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

The Pelindaba Treaty was signed in Cairo on 11 April 1996 and entered into force on 15 July 2009.

Since the entry into force of the Pelindaba Treaty on 15th July 2009, we are proud of having celebrated this year the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty. This Treaty has been signed by 52 African Member States and ratified by 44.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to inform you that the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) continues to make progress in undertaking its mandate, and hence furthering peace, security and development in Africa.

Knowing that the issues of security, peace and development are major issues facing our world today, AFCONE reiterates its desire and engagement to continuously work hand in hand with OPANAL in order to make both our continents free from nuclear and radiological threats and risks; and also to help our continents have a socio-economic and industrial development.

In this regard, I am delighted to inform you that on 24-25th October 2024, the AFCONE successfully held the 6th Conference of States Parties (CSP) to the Treaty of Pelindaba. The Conference elected Mr. Ishangh Mohamed MOUSSA as the CSP Chairperson and Mr. Ahmed Bezeid Deida as the interim Executive Secretary following the dismissal of Mr. Enobot Agboraw as the Executive Secretary.

We take this opportunity also to thank the Secretary General of OPANAL for his brilliant, rich and constructive intervention during the 6th CSP. I would like to inform that his intervention did reiterate to all State parties to the Pelindaba Treaty of the great importance of both AFCONE and OPANAL to move forward in major cooperation.

M. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

The African Union Commission is the depositary of Pelindaba Treaty. The Treaty prohibits the development, manufacture, stockpiling, acquisition, testing, possession, control or stationing of nuclear explosive devices in the Zone territory of States Parties and the dumping of radioactive waste in the African Zone among other provisions.

This Treaty gives a framework within the African Member States to stand on fighting against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. It also gives the African States Parties the ability to

develop a constructive program on nuclear in order to help the development of Africa on nuclear safety security as well as the development of nuclear energy.

On behalf, of the AFCONE Secretariat, we are proud to say that the African States parties are in compliance with their obligations under the Treaty and the Protocols, and therefore demonstrating peaceful, safe and secure uses of Nuclear Science and Technology in the continent, as well as advancing global disarmament and non-proliferation efforts.

AFCONE is proud to inform to you that African States are maintaining highest standard of physical protection of nuclear material, facilities and equipment's in the region. Furthermore, the nuclear material is exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Regarding nuclear non-proliferation in Africa, AFCONE is working very closely with African State Parties, in conjunction with the IAEA and other partners to develop capacity in meeting safeguards and nuclear security obligations that African States have taken under the Pelindaba Treaty.

AFCONE would like to intensify its relationship with OPANAL in order to develop more program and activities which will help our continents in terms of security, peace and socio-economic and industrial development.

The AFCONE reaffirms its full support to the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

In conclusion, I express my sincere thanks to the OPANAL, to all AFCONE partners, and to African State Parties to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and to the African Union for their support to the AFCONE, and for the important roles that they play in working with us to further peace, security and development in the world.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

I thank you and wish successful deliberations to your sessions.

God Bless AFCONE.

God bless OPANAL.

God bless you.

Thank you very much.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by the Soka Gakkai Mexico

President and Vice Presidents of the General Conference of OPANAL

Representatives of the Participating States

Colleagues from Civil Society Organizations

Twenty-one years ago, the General Council of OPANAL approved Resolution 456, establishing a connection between the institution and the Soka Gakkai of Mexico.

We are deeply grateful for the two decades of collaboration towards a world free of nuclear weapons—a goal that, in September 1957, that is, six and a half decades ago, was set by the second president of Soka Gakkai, Mr. Josei Toda.

I am honored to report on OPANAL's cooperation with the Soka Gakkai of Mexico in 2024.

On three occasions, in May, August, and September, the Secretary General participated in the opening of the exhibition "Everything You Treasure: For a World Free of Nuclear Weapons." I am pleased to highlight his presence at the Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE), El Colegio de México, and at the Anáhuac University campus in Querétaro.

In 2022 and 2023, OPANAL stood out for its presence at the inaugural ceremonies in Zamora, the birthplace of Ambassador Alfonso García Robles; at the Benemérita Autonomous University of Puebla; at the University of Guadalajara; and at the Mora Institute in Mexico City.

I would also like to highlight, with gratitude, that the exhibition was presented at the Plaza de las Tres Culturas, marking the fifty-sixth anniversary of the first signatures of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. This exhibition has been showcased in 21 countries.

Soka Gakkai of Mexico remains committed to advocating for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In these spirits we thank OPANAL and the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the opportunity they provide us.

Also noteworthy are the meetings held in 2024 between OPANAL representatives and Soka Gakkai International at forums such as the United Nations General Assembly on October 21 and in Astana, Kazakhstan, during the workshop “Promoting Cooperation and Improving Consultation Mechanisms Among Existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones,” held in the last week of August.

I also appreciate the opportunity to share a quote from the message delivered by participants from civil organizations during the Second Meeting of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, proudly presided over by Mexico from November 27 to December 1, 2023, at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Publicly, Soka Gakkai International read a Joint Declaration from various non-governmental institutions. I will quote a few brief paragraphs:

“We live on a beautiful planet (...) However, this planet and its inhabitants face the threat of the terror of nuclear weapons.

...

We honor those who have preceded us: the hibakusha of the world who suffered the horrors of nuclear weapons tests and use, as well as those from diplomacy, religion, activism, research, art, and human rights who have dedicated their lives for generations to making the world a safer place.

...

[It is real] the support of a broad circle of people from around the world who believe that a world without nuclear weapons is possible and will continue to work, write, march, pray, sing, meditate, and speak to make that new world a reality.”

I conclude by quoting a brief phrase from the founder of Soka Gakkai International, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda (1928-2023):

“The only way to overcome the problem of nuclear weapons, which are forces that instigate division and the destruction of the world, will be the collective effort of ordinary citizens to inaugurate, with the driving energy of hope, a new era in human history.”



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Statement by the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Mr. President, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

I am honored to participate in this OPANAL General Conference on behalf of Dr. Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO).

The strong collaboration between our organizations is long-standing and was reinforced in 2002 with the signing of a cooperation agreement; in fact, it was the first one we had with a regional organization. Both the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the Treaty of Tlatelolco prevent and prohibit nuclear tests and are based on verification, playing a key and complementary role within the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, which, in turn, has as its cornerstone the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1969 established the world's first nuclear-weapon-free zone in a populated area and has since been internationally recognized as a source of inspiration for subsequent nuclear-weapon-free zone agreements. Nuclear-weapon-free zones are key regional approaches to strengthening global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and consolidating international efforts for peace and security, a common goal of the CTBT.

Mr. President,

Latin America and the Caribbean have a long tradition and recognized leadership in disarmament and non-proliferation, evidenced by the fact that CTBT has universal adherence in the region. All 33 States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco have signed and ratified it.

Although CTBT has not yet entered into force, its adherence at the international level is almost universal. It currently has 187 States that have signed it and 178 that have ratified it, and it has managed to establish a de facto global norm against nuclear testing. Since its opening for signature

in 1996, fewer than a dozen test events have been detected – a surprisingly low number compared to the more than 2,000 carried out in the previous five decades. In this century, only the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has carried them out.

In addition, the success story of CTBT is demonstrated by the provisional operationalization of one of the key components of its verification regime, the International Monitoring System. More than 90% of the 337 facilities provided for the treaty are already operating and collecting data. 13 OPANAL States Parties host 43 of these facilities, including 2 radionuclide laboratories. All the facilities contemplated in the CTBT for Latin America and the Caribbean are complete, except for a station to be installed and a radionuclide laboratory that remains to be certified.

On 5 October, two seismic events that occurred in the Islamic Republic of Iran caused a stir on social networks. A publication by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization was the one that clarified the situation, refuting erroneous claims about a possible nuclear test after the detection of these events by the stations of the International Monitoring System and their analysis by the International Data Center, thus demonstrating once again their effectiveness.

Additionally, although the main purpose of the International Monitoring System is to detect nuclear tests, the data recorded also have civil and scientific uses, allowing us to better know and understand our planet. Its applications range from the study of whale behavior to climate change or knowing when monsoon rains will occur or can even be used to generate an early warning of tsunamis.

Nearly one billion dollars have been invested daily in this valuable monitoring system, which now requires constant and sustainable maintenance to ensure high-quality, reliable data. Therefore, at present, discussions are being held on how to finance its long-term maintenance.

Mr. President,

I would not like to miss this opportunity without informing those present about the upcoming CTBTO Science and Technology Conference to be held in Vienna, Austria, from September 8 to 12, 2025 and encouraging them to attend and participate.

Let me close by acknowledging that these are challenging times for international security, and the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime is under pressure. In the current environment of risk and uncertainty, transparent and reliable data are essential, as well as acting together and collaboratively among various actors. Therefore, we at CTBTO look forward to

continuing efforts with OPANAL to build a safer and more peaceful world and thereby advance our common goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Thank you very much.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: Spanish

Courtesy translation

Statement by Russia

On behalf of the Russian Federation, I am pleased to greet everyone present at this Extraordinary Session of the General Conference of the Member States of the Organization for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

We highly appreciate the more than half a century of effective operation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which, for the first time in history, even before the drafting of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), established the nuclear-weapon-free regime for such an extensive and densely populated region. This step marked the beginning of the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones around the world. As a result, the global nuclear non-proliferation regime based on the respective Treaty has been significantly strengthened.

Russia signed and ratified the Protocols to the Treaties in force regarding the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), the South Pacific (Treaty of Rarotonga), Africa (Treaty of Pelindaba), and Central Asia (Treaty of Semipalatinsk), thus providing guarantees to more than a hundred States Parties in these nuclear-weapon-free zones against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. By adhering to such Protocols, Russia traditionally formulates reservations that are of a clarifying nature and do not affect the interests of the States that sincerely follow the "letter and spirit" of the agreements on nuclear-weapon-free zones.

The need for such clarifying reservations regarding the Protocols to the Treaties on nuclear-weapon-free zones is exemplified by the current situation concerning the AUKUS partnership, established by the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, under which it cannot be excluded that nuclear-weapon States may deploy military infrastructure on the territory of a non-nuclear State Party to the Treaty of Rarotonga.

We regret that, to date, only one nuclear-weapon-free zone has been fully recognized under International Law. We believe that the ratification of the Protocols to the other Treaties by the United

States would contribute to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free regime in a significant number of regions of our planet that have expressed the desire to have it.

The Russian Federation strictly complies with its obligations under Additional Protocol II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. We are always open to dialogue and the exchange of opinions with the States Parties to the Treaty and the Organization on matters of common interest.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 6

Original: English

Courtesy translation

Statement by Turkmenistan

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my honour to address the OPANAL General Conference on behalf of the States Parties to the Treaty on Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, namely Turkmenistan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan and Republic of Uzbekistan.

We express our deepest appreciation to all States Parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean for their constructive and fruitful engagement throughout the negotiation process of finalising the Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and the OPANAL Agency. Their collective efforts have resulted in a comprehensive outcome.

The seed for a nuclear-weapon-free Central Asia was first sown at the 48th session of the General Assembly in 1993. This idea was further cultivated at the 1997 International Conference in Tashkent, where the vision of a nuclear-free Central Asia took shape.

Driven by a shared commitment to global nuclear disarmament, the five Central Asian states signed the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in September 2006 that entered into force in 2009, marking a significant milestone in regional and global nuclear non-proliferation efforts.

It's important to note that beyond its nuclear disarmament goals, the Treaty also prioritizes cooperation in peaceful nuclear energy utilization and environmental rehabilitation of nuclear test sites.

Let me also list a number of distinct characteristics of the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone:

First: It is the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in the Northern Hemisphere.

Second: It is the first time that a nuclear-weapon-free zone has been created in a region having a long border with two states possessing nuclear weapons.

Third: Central Asian zone includes a state which previously possessed nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

We stay committed to enhancing partnership with the existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones with the aim of strengthening NPT regime and uniting international efforts to ensure peace and security.

On August 29, 2019, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) co-organized with Kazakhstan a seminar for representatives from all existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.

In December 2023 our zone signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the African Commission on Nuclear Energy.

On August 28, 2024, Kazakhstan and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) co-organized an international Seminar on Fostering Cooperation Among Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZ).

Mr. Chairman,

This year we celebrate the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Treaty's entry into force, and today, Central Asian states are even stronger in their commitment to fulfilling regional nuclear-weapon-free mandate.

We are looking forward to adopting a new comprehensive and ambitious resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on "Treaty on Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia" in December of this year.

As stated in the operative part of the draft resolution, we intend to mark this anniversary in Turkmenistan and convene the Meeting of States parties to the Treaty with a focus on enhancing cooperation between existing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

In this regard, I would like to mention that today's adoption of the respective resolution authorizing the OPANAL Secretary-General to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the

Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and the OPANAL Agency would be a very important step to consolidate our efforts globally.

Mr. Chairman,

We invite all Member States to support the signing of our Memorandum of Understanding on December 5, 2024 in online format.

To conclude, allow me to emphasize that for the states of Central Asia, the establishment of a zone was a practical necessity, driven by the need to ensure that the people of our region will never suffer the consequences of a nuclear arms race.

Thank you for your attention.

Reports



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 4

CG/E/19/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Report of the Secretary-General

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

Good morning to all of you.

First, allow me to congratulate you on your election as President of the Twenty-Eighth Special Session of the General Conference of OPANAL.

I am confident that under Mexico's leadership, this Special Session of the General Conference will be able to adopt the necessary decisions not only to ensure the proper functioning of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), which I have the privilege and high honor of leading for nearly five years now, but also to continue strengthening the institution of international law established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

Over its 57 years of existence, the Treaty of Tlatelolco has become a key instrument of the international nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation regime. However, this regime not only faces the challenge of maintaining its validity and relevance on the global stage but also of reinforcing its structure, especially in these turbulent times marked by a heightened threat of nuclear weapons use and escalating tensions among nuclear-armed states.

It is critical to remember that the mere existence of nuclear weapons poses a constant risk to international peace and security. For this reason, demonstrations of force and actions that weaken the international consensus against the use of nuclear weapons must be condemned, as they undermine efforts toward a safer, nuclear-free world.

Distinguished delegates,

It is my pleasure to address this Special Session of the General Conference today to fulfill the mandate entrusted to the Secretary General under Article 11.4 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. On this occasion, I am tasked with informing Member States about the most significant developments since

the last session, as well as highlighting the priority topics and activities we aim to implement effectively in 2025.

Before getting started with the report, I would like to express my deepest and most sincere gratitude to all the representatives of the Member States. Your dedication, commitment, effort, and active collaboration within the Working Group established to review the documents and draft resolutions to be submitted to this General Conference have been fundamental. Your commitment to the tasks and support for the Secretary-General undoubtedly reflect the spirit of cooperation that guides our collective actions.

In reference to OPANAL's work and activities, allow me to highlight what follows:

- Firstly, I would like to underscore the need to continue advancing the procedural and institutional strengthening of OPANAL and the Treaty itself. In reference to the Agency, we have undoubtedly made some progress in terms of working methods and the modernization of information and communication technologies. However, there are still many pending tasks to achieve the OPANAL that Member States desire and deserve. For this, continued support from the membership is essential.
- One of these tasks relates to the lack of permanent headquarters. Over time, the OPANAL Secretariat has maintained a consistent focus on this issue. Despite relocating the Agency's headquarters to its current provisional facilities in 2015, this measure does not resolve the fundamental problem. OPANAL remains dependent on a lease agreement, which poses long-term security and sustainability issues. Lease dependency is unsuitable for an international organization, which requires a permanent, independent, visible headquarters with adequate space for its proper functioning. Moreover, the absence of a permanent headquarters raises political and practical concerns for Member States. It is unacceptable for an intergovernmental body to lack a permanent base and face the possibility of eviction. While the host and depository State of the Treaty has generously supported the Agency's financial viability, it is the responsibility of Member States to unite efforts to address this matter.
- Another issue to consider is OPANAL's budgetary management and financial situation. On this point, I would also like to thank Member States and the CCAAP Presidency for their work over the past year and the proposed 2025 budget. It remains a priority for the Secretary-General to uphold transparency in resource allocation while reviewing working methods to improve administrative processes and ensure the efficient use of Member States' contributions.

- In this regard, the current status of ratifications of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the OPANAL Convention on Privileges and Immunities poses a challenge that we must address with determination. In line with the Secretary-General's vision of fostering inclusivity and considering the Treaty as a living, evolving instrument, it is crucial to take concrete actions to overcome these challenges. I strongly urge Member States to renew their commitment and strengthen their cooperation to advance not only the pending ratifications of the Treaty amendments but also those of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities, which, under Article 23 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, constitutes another essential pillar.
- Regarding the Control System, which is the backbone of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, particularly Article 14, it stands as a pioneering verification mechanism through formal declarations by each Member State to ensure that no activities contravene the Treaty within their respective territories. Compliance with Article 14 is vital, as without it, we cannot guarantee full adherence to the Treaty.
- The topic of Interpretative Declarations to Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco has again shown significant progress derived from the establishment of dialogue mechanisms with the United States, France, the United Kingdom, and Russia.
- I reiterate the need for the commitment of not only Council Member States but also all Member States in defining strategies for engaging with each State Party to Protocols I and II that issued these declarations upon signing and/or ratifying.
- Relations with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones: The regime established by the treaties creating nuclear-weapon-free zones in densely populated areas of the planet has contributed not only to international peace and security but also to the development and codification of international law. Therefore, the Treaty of Tlatelolco and OPANAL bear an unavoidable responsibility to strengthen cooperation, exchange information, and support the creation of other NWFZs. In recent years, OPANAL has worked to establish direct contact with organizations and countries responsible for NWFZs and strengthen cooperation with them.
- Moreover, through the OPANAL Coordination in New York (Brazil), Member States presented a draft resolution at the 79th UN General Assembly First Committee requesting the UN Secretary-General to undertake a new comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-

weapon-free zones in all its aspects, which was adopted with significant support from the UN Member States¹.

- The issue of the Fourth Conference on Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia remains pending. It is important to explore options and strategies to support its convening in 2026, prior to the Eleventh NPT Review Conference. A step in this direction would be for a Member State to consider coordinating and convening the Fourth Conference on NWFZs and Mongolia.
- Disarmament and nonproliferation education: Training new generations of experts and highly skilled personnel in nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation is the responsibility of all OPANAL Member States. OPANAL's course, providing basic training, is one of its flagship education programs available to requesting States. Additionally, the Summer School for Latin American and Caribbean diplomats has become the most comprehensive specialized program, resulting from the close collaboration between Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Matías Romero Institute, the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, and OPANAL. I thank the governments of Mexico, Uruguay, and Peru for hosting the OPANAL Course in 2025. I also invite all Member States to submit candidates for the Summer School on nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation in July 2025.

Priorities for 2025

In this final point, I would like to address some of the priorities OPANAL has for 2025, including its participation in key meetings such as the Third Preparatory Committee for the 11th NPT Review Conference in New York and the Third Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW, also in New York and which will be chaired by Kazakhstan.

Regarding the NPT preparatory process, the Secretary-General will continue supporting Council Member States in advancing dialogue with States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II. Additionally, the Secretariat will further its dialogue with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to exchange best practices and lessons learned, aiming to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding in the near future. Moreover, the Secretariat will seek to engage with Mongolia to explore potential areas of cooperation.

¹ <https://reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-ora/1com/1com24/resolutions/L68Rev1.pdf>

Lastly, but no less important, is the process for electing the next Secretary-General: It is a matter of great importance for the future of our Organization to start the period of election for the next Secretary-General of OPANAL, through a process of presenting candidacies that is unprecedented and is the result of the efforts of the Council's Member States to establish a mechanism to ensure that the best candidates are considered for this and future processes of electing the highest-ranking administrative person in the Secretariat.

Thank you for your attention.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 5

CG/E/08/2024Rev.
Original: English/Spanish

Report on the activities of the Council to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

The OPANAL Council, in accordance with Article 10, paragraph 6, of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), presents to the General Conference the report of its activities during the period between the XXVIII Session (3 November 2023) and the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference (28 November 2024). The activities carried out during this period considered, to the extent possible, the provisions outlined in the “2024 Council Work Plan” (C/01/2024Rev.2). Similarly, the Council’s work during this period was conducted in accordance with the provisions established in the resolution “Working methods of OPANAL” (CG/Res.03/2023), adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023.

I. Composition of the Council and Sessions Held

The Member States of the Council during the intersessional period were: Belize, Honduras, and Nicaragua (2020–2023)¹; Brazil and Guatemala (2022–2025)²; and Argentina, Mexico, and Panama (2024–2027)³.

Since the XXVIII Session, the Council has met seven times, alternating the Presidency in accordance with Article 9 of the Council’s Rules of Procedure. The dates, delegations present, and meeting records are presented as Annex I.

II. Thematic Report of the Council’s work

i. Communiqués, Statements, and Other Pronouncements Issued by OPANAL

¹ Resolution CG/Res.02/2019 XXVI Session of the General Conference, 7 November 2019.

² Resolution CG/Res.14/2021 XXVII Session of the General Conference, 30 September 2021.

³ Resolution CG/Res.19/2023 XXVIII Session of the General Conference, 3 November de 2024.

- “*Communiqué of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco*”: A draft communiqué prepared by the Secretariat (Inf.01/2024) was circulated at the 348th Council meeting on 7 December 2023. A technical meeting, coordinated by Guatemala, was held on 19 January 2024. The final communiqué was adopted under the silence procedure on January 31, 2024, under the nomenclature Inf.01/2024Rev.
- “*Communiqué of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) related to the threat of use of nuclear weapons*”: On 6 May 2024, the Secretariat presented a draft communiqué (Inf.23/2024) to the 351st Council meeting. This document was reviewed by an ad hoc Working Group established to monitor interpretative statements made by States Parties to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. The final communiqué was adopted under the silence procedure on 11 July 2024, with the nomenclature Inf.23/2024Rev.4.
- “*Declaration of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean OPANAL International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (26 September 2024)*”: The Secretariat prepared a draft (Inf.47/2024), which was circulated via notes S-409/2024 and S-410/2024 on September 4, 2024. Two technical meetings, coordinated by Brazil, were held on September 17 and 20, 2024. The final declaration was circulated as document Inf.47/2024Rev.2.
- “*OPANAL Congratulates the Japanese Organization Nihon Hidankyo on Receiving the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize*” (11 October 2024): The Secretariat, in collaboration with the rotating Presidency of the Council, prepared document Inf.58/2024, which was published on the Organization's website and disseminated via social media.

ii. Commemoration of the Opening for Signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

- At its 348th meeting on 7 December 2023, the Council noted a draft communiqué prepared by the Secretariat (Inf.01/2024) and Mexico's interest in holding a commemorative event for this anniversary. The invitation for the “57th Anniversary Commemoration of the Opening for Signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco” and a outreach strategy document prepared by the Secretariat (Inf.08/2024) were circulated to the membership via notes S-046/2024 and S-047/2024 on 1 February 2024.

iii. **Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco**

- In accordance with the obligations established in the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Control System, as well as resolution CG/Res.02/2023 on the “Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco”, the Secretariat transmitted to Member States the optional format for submitting semi-annual reports under Article 14 of the Treaty. The Secretary-General provided updates to the Council on the status of the Treaty’s control system at all its meetings.

iv. **Interpretative Declarations Made by States Parties to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco**

- In accordance with resolution CG/Res.01/2023, the Council took the necessary measures to continue constructive dialogue with States Parties to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. An ad hoc Working Group, coordinated by Guatemala, held four sessions: June 6, 13, and 24, and July 11, 2024. The group's efforts contributed to developing agendas and dialogue strategies with five States Parties to Protocols I and II of the Treaty, which informed meetings held on the sidelines of the Second Preparatory Committee for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in Geneva. The report of this group is contained in document CG/E/09/2024.

v. **Education and Outreach Activities**

- *OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*: The Council noted the course offerings and corresponding reports from:
 - **Ecuador**: 5-7 December 2023, at the “Galo Plaza Lasso” Diplomatic Academy. Document (Inf.56/2023). Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
 - **Mexico**: 15-25 January 2024, virtual format, organized with the support of the Matías Romero Institute (IMR) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Document (Inf.11/2024). Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
 - **Colombia**: 27-29 May 2024, at the “Augusto Ramírez Ocampo” Diplomatic Academy. Document (Inf.27/2024). Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.

- **Guatemala:** 12-14 August 2024, at the “Antonio José de Irisarri” Diplomatic Academy. Document (Inf.46/2024). Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
- *Internship Programs at OPANAL Secretariat:* The Council noted the following participation in this program:

First Semester of 2024:

- Valery Guevara Rodríguez (Mexico), graduate in International Relations from the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).
- Wonick Bae (South Korea), student of International Trade at Kwangoon University.
- Dyna Dorbane (France/Algeria), graduate in Strategic International Relations from Paris Sorbonne Nord University.
- Chloé Martínez Orellana (Spain/France), student in International Studies at the Universitat de Barcelona.

Summer Program 2024:

- Owen Dyer (USA), student of International Relations at the College of William and Mary.

Second Semester of 2024:

- Carla Regina Núñez Guerrero (Mexico), graduate of Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education.
- Kim Mijeong (South Korea), student at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.
- Camila Alderete Alvarez (Paraguay), graduate of Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest, Hungary), Foreign Service Officer.

Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also CARICOM Members:

- Leslie St Albord II (Bahamas), Foreign Service Officer.

- *Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also CARICOM Members:* At the 350th meeting on 25 April 2024, the Council was informed that the Secretariat presented to the Japanese organization Soka Gakkai a proposal to finance the Internship Program under Resolution CG/Res.09/2023 “Internship Program” (Inf.13/2024). At its 353rd meeting, the Council noted Soka Gakkai’s approval to fund the participation of two individuals in the program for 2025.
- *Tenth Edition of the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats of Latin America and the Caribbean (1-5 July 2024):* The Council noted the execution of this edition, jointly organized by the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, and OPANAL, with participation from diplomatic personnel from 26 countries in the region.
- *Antonio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation:* To comply with Resolution CG/Res.10/2023, the Council established an ad hoc Working Group coordinated by Argentina, which reported to the Council at its 350th, 351st, 352nd, and 353rd meetings. The report for the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference is contained in document CG/E/07/2024.

vi. **Strengthening the International and Academic Presence of the Secretariat**

- The Council noted the following activities and participation by Secretariat staff per Resolution CG/Res.11/2023:
 - *UN Model Universidad de Baja California (BCMUN 2023)*, Mexicali, 8-10 November 2023: Participation by Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
 - Conference “*Prohibition of Weapons of Mass Destruction: Utopia or Future?*”, Tecnológico de Monterrey, 16 November 2023: Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
 - *Younger Generation Leaders Network Meeting*, Istanbul, 20-22 November 2023: Participation by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina.
 - Regional Expert Workshop “*Latin American Perspectives on Nuclear Disarmament Irreversibility*” Rio de Janeiro, 18–19 December 2023: Organized by VERTIC and NPS Global. Participation by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.

- *Second Annual Conference of the Beyond Nuclear Deterrence Working Group*, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School, held at El Colegio de México, 21–24 February 2024: Participation in the working group by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto and Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina.
- Conference “*From Tlatelolco to the Nuclear Ban*” at El Colegio de México, 23 February 2024: Delivered by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.
- *Wilton Park Dialogue on “Irreversibility in Nuclear Disarmament”*, Steyning, UK, 4–6 March 2024: Presentation on “Political and Legal Aspects of Irreversibility: The Role of NWFZ Treaties or Other Regional Arrangements” by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.
- Publication of the article “*Redressing the Toxic Legacy of Nuclear Testing*” in *Arms Control Today*, edited by the Arms Control Association: Authored by Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
- *Regional Approaches to Nuclear Non-proliferation and Security Conference*, Williamsburg, Virginia, April 26, 2024: Participation by Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
- Inauguration of the exhibition “*Everything You Treasure: For a World Free of Nuclear Weapons*”, organized by Soka Gakkai Mexico, 28 May 2024, at the headquarters of the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE): Participation by Secretary General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini.
- *New Issues in Security Course (NISC) 2024*, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, hybrid format online and in-person in Geneva, 22 April –14 June 2024: Participation by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.
- Publication of the article “*Engaging the P5 to Address the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons*”, part of the anthology “*Strengthening the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons Agenda within the NPT*”, edited by the British American Security Information Council (BASIC): Authored by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina.

- Conference “*The Tlatelolco Treaty: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century*”, at the Universidad Rosario Castellanos, Mexico City, 5 June 2024: Delivered by Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
- Seminar “*Foreign Policy, Gender, Nuclear Disarmament, and the Environment: Perspectives from the South*”, 13 June 2024, organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), virtual format from Geneva, Switzerland: Participation by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.
- *Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament’s Conference “Reinvigorating Nuclear Disarmament”*, Uppsala University, 18–19 June 2024: Participation by Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas.
- Seminar: “*Understanding the Principle of Irreversible Nuclear Disarmament*”, virtual format, 26 June 2024, organized by VERTIC and NPS Global: Participation by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.
- Inauguration of the exhibition “*Everything You Treasure: For a World Free of Nuclear Weapons*”, organized by Soka Gakkai Mexico, 5 August 2024, at El Colegio de México: Participation by Secretary General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini.
- Inauguration of the exhibition “*Everything You Treasure: For a World Free of Nuclear Weapons*”, organized by Soka Gakkai Mexico, 25 September 2024, at Universidad Anáhuac Querétaro. Conference “*The Tlatelolco Treaty and Contributions to Nuclear Disarmament from Latin America and the Caribbean*”, delivered by Secretary General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini.
- Trilateral Conference “*Supporting Nuclear Disarmament Verification Expertise in Non-Nuclear Weapon States*”, Rio de Janeiro, 30 September –1 October 2024: Organized by VERTIC and NPS Global. Participation by International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto.

vii. External Relations of OPANAL

The Council took note of the following information presented by the Secretariat:

- *Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)*, 27 November –1 December 2023, at the United Nations headquarters in New York: The Secretary-General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, and Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina attended the sessions of this meeting. The Secretariat's report is contained in document Inf.54/2023.
- *Session of the Hemispheric Security Commission (HSC) of the Organization of American States*, 25 January 2024: Remote participation by the Secretary-General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini. The intervention delivered at this meeting is included in document Inf.05/2024.
- *Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 11th Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*, 22 July –2 August 2024, at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva: The Secretary-General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, and Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas attended the sessions of this meeting. The working document submitted by the States Parties to the Tlatelolco Treaty is included in document Inf.17/2024Rev.2.
- “*Sharing Experiences Between OPANAL and ASEAN on the Signing and Ratification of Nuclear Weapon States to the Protocols of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Treaty of Bangkok*”, joint event by OPANAL and ASEAN, virtual format, 3 May 2024: The elements prepared by the Secretariat to support the participation of the Council are included in documents Inf.19/2024 and Inf.20/2024.
- *Seminar on Cooperation Between Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, 27–28 August 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan*: Research and Communication Officer Alain Ponce Blancas and Research and Education Officer Natalia Zhurina attended the sessions of this meeting. Documents Inf.49/2024, Inf.50/2024, Inf.51/2024, and Inf.52/2024 supported the Secretariat's participation and report.
- 68th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), September 16–20, 2024, at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna:
- Ambassador José Antonio Zabalgoitia, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the International Organizations in Vienna, acting as OPANAL Coordinator at this venue,

delivered an intervention during the general debate. The intervention is available in document Inf.48/2024.

- *United Nations General Assembly – First Committee*, 14–18 October 2024, at the United Nations headquarters in New York: The Secretary-General, Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, and Research and International Relations Officer Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto attended the sessions of this meeting.
- *OPANAL's Contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of Resolution 77/52 "United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education"*: Documents Inf.15/2024 and Inf.15/2024Add.
- *OPANAL's Contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of Resolution 77/55 "Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Arms Control"*: Document Inf.21/2024.
- *OPANAL's Contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of Resolution 78/69 "Oceans and the Law of the Sea"*: Document Inf.28/2024.
- *Memorandum of Understanding with the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia*: The Council followed up on this matter through an ad hoc Working Group coordinated by Argentina. In its 352nd meeting on 6 August 2024, the Council instructed the Secretariat to undertake the necessary actions for consideration. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the corresponding draft resolution (CG/E/L.09/2024Rev.).
- *Memorandum of Understanding with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies*: The Council followed up on this matter and instructed the Secretariat to undertake the necessary actions for consideration. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the corresponding draft resolution (CG/E/L.07/2024).
- *Memorandum of Understanding on Internships Received from the Republic of Korea*: The Council followed up on this matter and instructed the Secretariat to undertake the

necessary actions for consideration. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the corresponding draft resolution (CG/E/L.08/2024Rev.).

- “*Committee on Cooperation of Intergovernmental International Organizations Based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)*”: The Council instructed the Secretariat to undertake the necessary actions for consideration. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the corresponding draft resolution CG/E/L.20/2024 and accompanying document CG/E/04/2024.

viii. Coordinations of OPANAL

- The Council monitored the coordination of OPANAL’s work in New York, Geneva, and Vienna, which in 2024 remained under the responsibility of Brazil, Ecuador, and Mexico, respectively.
- Under Resolution CG/Res.05/2023, adopted by the XXVIII General Conference, the Council reviewed the establishment of a mechanism to coordinate OPANAL’s work in the Caribbean, aiming to foster inclusivity and participation among Caribbean Member States without representation in Mexico City. At its 349th, 350th, 351st, 352nd, and 353rd meetings, the Council reviewed the issue but noted that no Member State expressed interest in taking up this coordination. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the corresponding draft resolution CG/E/L.13/2024Rev.2 and accompanying document CG/E/06/2024.

ix. Visits to OPANAL’s Provisional Headquarters

- The Council took note of the following visits to OPANAL’s provisional headquarters:
 - Meeting between the Secretary-General and the Ambassador of Portugal to Mexico, Mr. Manuel Carvalho, 24 October 2023.
 - Meeting between the Secretary-General and the Ambassador of Russia, Mr. Nikolai Sofinski, 2 February 2024.
 - Meeting between the Secretary-General and the Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Mr. Timur Primbetov, 29 February 2024.

- Meeting between the Secretary-General and Brazil’s Secretary for Multilateral Political Affairs, Ambassador Carlos Márcio Cozendey, accompanied by Ambassador Gilda Santos Neves (Director General for the United Nations), Ambassador Fernando Coimbra, and their advisors, 5 April 2024.
- Meeting between the Secretary-General and the Ambassador of Argentina, Ms. María Gabriela Quinteros, 11 April 2024.
- The Council also followed up, per its work plan (C/01/2024Rev.2), on the joint request submitted through Note S-506/2023, dated 15 August 2023, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to arrange a meeting or visit to the provisional headquarters.

x. Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Tlatelolco Treaty and its Amendments

- The Council noted, during its 352nd meeting, the ratification by Belize, completed on 20 June 2024, of the amendment referenced in Resolution 268 (XII), approved by the General Conference of OPANAL on 10 May 1991, which modifies Article 25, paragraph 2, of the Tlatelolco Treaty.

xi. XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

- The Council reviewed this topic in accordance with its “2024 Work Plan” (C/01/2024Rev.2), starting in the second quarter of the year. At its 352nd meeting on 6 August 2024, the Council noted the proposed date (November 28) presented by the Secretary-General. At its 353rd meeting on 4 October 2024, the Council approved the provisional agenda for the XXVIII Special Session and agreed to establish an ad hoc Working Group, coordinated by Argentina, to prepare the corresponding draft resolutions. Five technical meetings were held on 24 and 28 October and 7, 19, and 22 November 2024.

xii. Need for a Permanent Headquarters for OPANAL

- The Council addressed this matter in all its meetings throughout the year, in line with Resolution CG/Res.13/2023 and document CG/17/2023Corr.
- During its 352nd and 353rd meetings, the Council noted that the Secretary-General and the property owner signed a modified agreement to the relevant lease contract, extending its validity from 30

June 2024 to 30 June 2025. It was also noted that the rent is fully covered by funds deposited by the Government of Mexico until March 2025.⁴

xiii. Working Methods of OPANAL

- The Council followed up on this topic in all its meetings throughout the year, adhering to the provisions of Resolution CG/Res.03/2023. The XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference will review the report presented by the Secretariat (CG/E.03/2024) and the corresponding draft resolution (CG/E/L.01/2024Rev.3).

xiv. Administrative and Budgetary Matters

- The Council received and recorded the following reports from the President of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP) in its summary records throughout the year:
 - 166th meeting, 23 November 2023.
 - 167th meeting, 19 January 2024.
 - 168th meeting, 21 March 2024.
 - 169th meeting, 23 April 2024.
 - 170th meeting, 6 May 2024.
 - 171st meeting, 22 July 2024.
 - 172nd meeting, 27 September 2024.
 - 173rd meeting, 7 November 2024.
- *Modernization of OPANAL's Information and Communication Technologies*: The Council reviewed this matter during its 351st, 352nd, and 353rd meetings.

⁴ Ídem.

- *Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2025*: The Council reviewed this matter at its 353rd and 354th meetings on 4 October and 15 November 2024, respectively.
- *Status of Labor Contracts and Salaries Paid in Mexican Pesos to OPANAL Staff*: The Council reviewed this matter during its 351st, 352nd, and 353rd meetings.⁵
- *Composition of OPANAL Secretariat*: The Council noted, in accordance with Article 37 of the “Rules Governing the Functioning of the Secretariat (Amended)” (Doc.CG/E/666), that there were no changes in the composition of the OPANAL Secretariat during the year, as presented in the 167th CCAAP meeting on 19 January 2024:
 - **Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini**, Secretary-General (Brazilian), re-elected for the term 1 January 2022–31 December 2025.
 - **Natalia Chreties Ceriani** (Uruguayan), joined 15 March 2018.
 - **Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto** (Mexican), joined 27 August 2018.
 - **Alain Ponce Blancas** (Mexican), joined 2 May 2019.
 - **Natalia Zhurina** (Russian), joined 15 July 2019.
 - **Israel David Ramírez Flores** (Mexican), joined 18 October 2010.

xv. **Work Plan of the OPANAL Council for 2025**

- Taking into account the draft resolution CG/E/L.01/2024Rev.3, to be considered by this XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference, the OPANAL Council, currently composed of Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, and Panama, presents document C/01/2025 to the membership. (Annex II).

⁵ Actas C/07/2024, C/09/2024Rev. y C/11/2024.

Annex

Meetings of the Council since its last report presented at the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023

Meeting	Date	Members of the Council	Observer Delegations	Summary Record
348 ^a	07/12/2023	Belize, Brazil (President), Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua	Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Perú, Dominican Republic, Suriname, Trinidad y Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela	C/19/2023
349 ^a	23/01/2024	Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala (Presidencia), Mexico, Panama	Beliza, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela	C/03/2024
350 ^a	25/04/2024	Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama (President)	Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Perú, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela	C/05/2024
351 ^a	25/05/2024	Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico (President), Panama	Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Perú, Dominican Republic, Uruguay	C/07/2024
352 ^a	06/08/2024	Argentina (President), Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama	Belize, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Haití, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Perú, ,Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela	C/09/2024 Rev.
353 ^a	04/10/2024	Argentina, Brazil (President), Guatemala, Mexico, Panama	Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Perú, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela	C/11/2024
354 ^a	15/11/2024	Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala (President), Mexico	Belize, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Venezuela	C/13/2024

Annex II

C/01/2025

Council Work Plan for 2025

The OPANAL Council, composed of Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, and Panama⁶, in accordance with the provisions of the resolution “Working methods of OPANAL” (CG/E/Res.03/2024) adopted by the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference, held on 28 November 2024, presents the Membership with the following considerations for its work during 2025:

- This document is merely indicative of the activities for the year and aims to assist the Member States of the Council and the rest of the Membership in planning meetings, without prejudice to its updating or modification as necessary.
- According to Article 1 of its Rules of Procedure (Inf.26/2016), the Council shall meet request of the President, or of the Secretary-General or of any of its Member States. However, the interval between Council meetings should not exceed sixty days. The tentative meeting schedule is presented as an annex (Annex I).
- The Council will continue to highlight the important contribution that the participation and inclusion of the entire OPANAL Membership represent in all regular meetings of its various bodies. In this regard, the Council will address the relevant provisions of the resolutions “Working methods of OPANAL” (CG/E/Res.03/2024) and “Modernization of OPANAL's information and communication technologies” (CG/E/Res.04/2024), adopted by the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.
- The Council will maintain the practice of circulating the meeting invitation, provisional agenda, and annotated provisional agenda to the Membership at least two weeks in advance, considering the possible dates agreed upon in this work plan's schedule.
- The Council will include the item “General Interventions” in all its meetings' agendas to allow the Membership, if deemed appropriate, to share their perspective on the international context concerning OPANAL's matters.

⁶ Resolution CG/Res.14/2021 of the XXVII Session of the General Conference of 30 September 2021 and Resolution CG/Res.19/2023 of the XXVIII Session of the General Conference of 3 November 2023.

- The Council, through the Secretariat, will make available for consultation and download, at least seven days in advance, the working documents for each session via the restricted section for Member States on OPANAL’s website. When circumstances permit, the working documents will be circulated along with the invitation and provisional agenda to foster interactive deliberations.
- The Summary Record of each meeting will be sent by the Secretariat to the President of the Council no later than two working days after each meeting, after which it will be circulated to the entire Membership.
- The Council, through the Secretariat, will continue to request support from the Depositary State to secure an adequate venue for each of its meetings according to the possible dates stipulated in this work plan. If a meeting room is not available, the meeting will be held at OPANAL’s Provisional Headquarters.
- The Council, recognizing that multilingualism is essential to promoting dialogue and cooperation—indispensable elements of multilateralism—will support the continuation of simultaneous Spanish-English and English-Spanish interpretation during its meetings, using a specialized interpretation service provider, whose hiring should consider the quality/price ratio.
- The Council will encourage Member States with resident diplomatic representation at the Organization’s headquarters to prioritize in-person participation in meetings convened in that format, with the option of remote connection.
- The Council, through the Secretariat and by maximizing the use of available information and communication technologies, will prioritize the electronic distribution of all session documents to increase productivity and reduce paper use. Member States requiring printed notes and working documents may request them from the Secretariat.
- The Council will continue to include the topic “Working methods of OPANAL” in its meeting agendas.
- The Council may review the following matters throughout the year, which may be discussed in one or more regular or extraordinary sessions or in other bodies, as established in the relevant regulations. This does not exclude the possibility of addressing other matters that may arise within its competence:

- Commemoration of the 58th Anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco
- Communications, declarations, resolutions, and other statements issued by OPANAL
- Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco
- OPANAL's external relations
- Education and outreach activities
- Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
- Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco
- OPANAL Coordinations
- Strengthening the international and academic presence of the Secretariat
- XXIX Session of the General Conference
- Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029
- Visits to OPANAL's Provisional Headquarters
- Administrative and budgetary matters
- Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL

Provisional Meeting Schedule of the Council in 2025

Bimonthly Period	Presiding Chair	Scheduled Meeting	Tentative Date
January-February	Mexico	356 th	6 February 2025
March-April	Panama	357 th	25 April 2025
May-June	Argentina	358 th	PENDING
July-August	Brazil	359 th	PENDING
September-October	Guatemala	360 th	PENDING
November-December	Mexico	361 st	6 November 2025

Documents



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024

CG/E/02/2024Rev.8
Original: Spanish/English

List of Documents and Resolutions of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

Agenda Item CG/E/01/2024 Corr.	Document Title	Nomenclature
-	Documentation of the XXVIII Special Session	CG/E/02/2024Rev.8
Item 1	List of Participants XXVIII Special Session	CG/E/20/2024
Item 2	Provisional Agenda	CG/E/01/2024Corr.
Item 4	Report of the Secretary-General to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference	CG/E/19/2024
Item 5	Report of the Council to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference	CG/E/08/2024Rev.
Item 6	List of Speakers XXVIII Special Session	CG/E/21/2024
Item 7	Resolution “Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco”	CG/E/Res.01/2024
Item 7.1	Report of the Working Group in Charge of Reviewing the Interpretative Declarations Made by State Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco	CG/E/09/2024
Item 8	Report on the Status of the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco	CG/E/05/2024Rev.3
	Resolution “Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco”	CG/E/Res.02/2024

Item 9	Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of Resolution CG/Res.03/2023. Working methods of OPANAL	CG/E/03/2024
	Resolution “Working methods of OPANAL”	CG/E/Res.03/2024
	Resolution “Modernization of Technologies for OPANAL's Activities”	CG/E/Res.04/2024
Item 10	Report on the Status of Education Activities on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	CG/E/16/2024
Item 10.1	Resolution “OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation”	CG/E/Res.05/2024
Item 10.2	Resolution “Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean”	CG/E/Res.06/2024
Item 10.3	Resolution “Internship Programs at the OPANAL Secretariat”	CG/E/Res.10/2024
Item 10.3.1	Resolution “Memorandum of Understanding with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies”	CG/E/Res.07/2024
Item 10.3.2	Resolution “Memorandum of Understanding on Internships with the Republic of Korea”	CG/E/Res.08/2024
Item 10.4	Report of the Working Group Established to implement Resolution CG/Res.10/202. " Establishment of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Trindade Award on Nuclear Disarmament and Nonproliferation "	CG/E/07/2024Rev.
	Resolution “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Award”	CG/E/Res.09/2024
Item 11	Resolution “Strengthening of the Secretariat”	CG/E/Res.11/2024

Item 12	OPANAL Coordination in 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM	CG/E/06/2024
	Resolution “OPANAL Coordination in 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM”	CG/E/Res.12/2024
Item 13	Report on the Status of Relations with Other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones	CG/E/17/2024
Item 13.1	Resolution “Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone”	CG/E/Res.13/2024
Item 14	Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL - Annex: Inf.40/2023Rev.	CG/E/15/2024
	Resolution “Need for a Permanent Headquarters for OPANAL”	CG/E/Res.14/2024
Item 15	Report on the Financial Situation of the Agency	CG/E/12/2024
Item 15.1	Resolution “Financial obligations of Member States”	CG/E/Res.15/2024
Item 15.2	Report on Measures to Support Compliance with Financial Obligations Established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco	CG/E/13/2024
	Resolution “Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco”	CG/E/Res.16/2024
Item 16	Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025	CG/E/14/2024
	Resolution “Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025”	CG/E/Res.17/2024
Item 17	Resolution “Financial Statements and External Auditor’s Opinion as of 31 December 2023”	CG/E/Res.18/2024

Item 17.1	Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor's Report as of 31st December 2023 - Annex: CCAAP/25/2024Rev.	CG/E/11/2024Rev.
Item 17.2	Resolution "Appointment of the External Auditor"	CG/E/Res.19/2024
Item 18	Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029	CG/E/10/2024Rev.
	Resolution "Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029"	CG/E/Res.20/2024
Item 19.1	Report on the Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, Approved by the OPANAL General Conference, and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL	CG/E/18/2024
	Resolution "Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL"	CG/E/Res.21/2024
Item 19.2	Establishment of the "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"	CG/E/04/2024
	Resolution "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"	CG/E/Res.22/2024
Item 19.3	Resolution "Vote of Thanks to the Government of Mexico"	CG/E/Res.23/2024



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 7.1

CG/E/09/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Interpretative declarations equivalent to reservations made by States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Report of the Working Group

This report is presented by the Coordination of the Working Group in charge of reviewing the Interpretative Declarations made by the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco). The Council decided to establish a Working Group on the Interpretative Declarations to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, under the coordination of Guatemala, which met four times during the months of June and July 2024.¹

I. Background

The Treaty of Tlatelolco contains two other legal instruments annexed to it: Additional Protocols I and II, which are inseparable from the Treaty.

The legal commitments of the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II represent critical guarantees for the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean. However, interpretative declarations made by some States Parties to the Protocols at the time of signing and/or ratifying the Protocols limit, in some cases, such commitments and, therefore, constitute reservations.² In the interpretative declarations made by four States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II,³ the following two issues are identified as reservations:

¹ 6, 13 and 24 June; and 11 July 2024, respectively.

² According to article 2, paragraph (d), of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, for a "unilateral statement" to be a reservation, reference must be had not to "its wording or name", but to the fact that it "purports to exclude or modify the legal effects of certain provisions of the Treaty in their application to that State". *Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties*. United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1155, p. 331.

³ France, the United States, the United Kingdom and Russia.

1. The non-recognition of the zone of application of the Treaty of Tlatelolco – reservations introduced by France and Russia, which directly oppose a fundamental clause of the Treaty.⁴
2. The hypothesis that a State Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco could commit military aggression with the support of a nuclear weapon State or in support of a nuclear weapon State – reservations introduced by the United States, the United Kingdom and Russia, which limit the negative security assurance established by the Treaty, *i.e.* the non-use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against any of the States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

On 19 November 2014, the XXIII Special Session of the General Conference adopted resolution CG/E/Res.568, by which it requested the Secretary General "[...] *to present to the Member States for their consideration and adoption an action plan with the aim that the States Parties to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco revise or delete the Interpretative Declarations they have made with respect to those instruments.*"

In accordance with the resolution, the Secretary-General presented document CG/05/2015, which contains a "*Study on the issue and Plan of Action*", requested by the General Conference. On 15 November 2015, the XXIV General Conference of OPANAL adopted resolution CG/Res.03/2015, whereby it resolved: "*To instruct the Council, based on the plan of action presented by the Secretary General in document CG/05/2015, to take the necessary decisions to implement said plan of action.*"

With the aim of implementing the aforementioned plan of action (*corrigendum*, CG/05/2015Corr.), the Secretary-General submitted to the Member States of the Council document C/08/2016 entitled "*Interpretative Declarations made by the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Implementation of Resolution CG/Res.03/2015 of the General Conference*", which contains in annex three memoranda:

1. The first memorandum is addressed to France on the non-recognition of the zone of application of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
2. The second memorandum is addressed to Russia on the non-recognition of the zone of application of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; and

⁴ Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco (Zone of Application).

3. The third memorandum is also addressed to Russia, but on the eventuality of an act of military aggression with the support of a nuclear-weapon State or in support of a nuclear-weapon State.

Each memorandum contains a concrete proposal for an Adjustment, which is a type of international act, with the effect of an agreement between the signatory parties to a treaty or other international instrument, in order to clarify some dispute over the text of such instrument. The intention of such a proposal is to eliminate the ambiguities currently present in interpretative declarations that constitute reservations. However, the four States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II have, on several occasions, expressed their reluctance to introduce changes or updates based on the proposals submitted by OPANAL.

II. Démarches undertaken by the Representatives of the Member States of the Council before States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco (2022-2023)

The XXVII Special General Conference adopted resolution CG/E/Res.03/2022, which mandated the Council to take "*the necessary measures to establish a constructive dialogue with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco so that they may give positive consideration to the proposals for Adjustment to Interpretative Declarations.*" To this end, at the 341st meeting of the Council, the Member States decided to reactivate the negotiations with the United States, France, the United Kingdom, and Russia, through the sending of joint notes from the five Member States of the Council, requesting a virtual meeting to review jointly with OPANAL the specific points that make up reservations to withdraw or eliminate them.

At the 343rd meeting of the Council, the Secretary-General reported on the dispatch of joint notes to the United States (S-183/2023); United Kingdom (S-184/2023); France (S-185/2023); and Russia (S-186/2023); electronic copies of which were shared with the Member States of the Council in note S-196/2023 of 3 March 2023. At the 344th meeting of the Council, the Secretary-General reported that the Russian Federation replied to Note S-186/2023 through Notes No. 163/n of 16 March and No.171/n of 22 March 2023 indicating the readiness of Mr. Sergei Ryabkov, Vice Minister of

Foreign Affairs, to hold a virtual meeting with the Member States of the Council, which was verified on 28 March 2023.⁵

The Secretary-General also reported on the receipt of Note 061/2023, dated 5 May 2023, from the Embassy of the United Kingdom communicating that the Government of that country had taken due note of the proposed dialogue mechanism and that the matter was being analyzed by the corresponding authorities. Likewise, it reported that on 12 May 2023, the OPANAL Secretariat received a Note from Ambassador Bonnie D. Jenkins, Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security of the United States, in response to Note S-183/2023, of 28 February 2023, designating Ambassador Adam M. Scheinman, Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, as point of contact for the establishment of a dialogue to jointly address the concerns of OPANAL Member States with respect to the interpretative declaration of the United States on Additional Protocol II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

At the 345th meeting of the Council, the Secretary-General reported on the virtual meeting of the Member States of the Council held on 28 June 2023, with Ambassador Adam M. Scheinman, Special Representative of the President of the United States for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, to precisely address the matter of the Interpretative Declaration to Protocol II.⁶ The Secretary-General also indicated that he would seek to establish dialogue with States Parties to the Additional Protocols with which there had been no communication (France and the United Kingdom), within the framework of the First Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Vienna, 31 July-11 August 2023), as well as a follow-up meeting with Russia.

At the 346th meeting of the Council, the Secretary-General highlighted the most relevant aspects of the report on the meetings held with States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II within the framework of the NPT Preparatory Committee.⁷ He noted that France, the United Kingdom, and Russia welcomed the dialogue and are ready to continue the exchange of views with OPANAL Member States at upcoming multilateral meetings. They also stressed that nuclear-weapon-free zones, their strengthening, and the creation of other zones are among their priorities, and they are ready to

⁵ Document (Inf.16/2023). "Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of OPANAL with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the interpretative declarations made by the country to Additional Protocol II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco".

⁶ Document (Inf.27/2023). "Minutes of the meeting of the States Members of the Council with Ambassador Adam Scheinman, Special Representative of the President of the United States for Nuclear Non-Proliferation on the Interpretative Declaration to Protocol II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco"

⁷ Document (Inf.42/2023). "First session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)."

support the efforts of the States Parties to these treaties, including those pertaining to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

France, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom reiterated their interest in exploring ways to meet the concerns of OPANAL Member States. The United Kingdom and the Russian Federation agreed to make the necessary efforts to continue the dialogue in order to strengthen recognition of the status of the zone and to explore ways to make their support for nuclear-weapon-free zones more evident in their nuclear postures. With regard to the United States, and as a follow-up to the virtual meeting of the Member States of the Council held on June 28 with Ambassador Adam M. Scheinman, Special Representative of the President of the United States for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, on September 21, he transmitted a note in which he explained the position of the United States on Article III of Additional Protocol II and the proposed adjustment presented by OPANAL

III. Latest developments (2024)

At the 350th Meeting of the Council on 25 April 2024, it was decided to establish a Technical Group to advance in the implementation of resolution CG/Res.01/2023, adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference, which instructed the Council “[...] *to take the necessary steps to continue the constructive dialogue with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, initiated in 2023 [...]*”.

The resolution also instructed the Secretary General to continue supporting the démarches carried out by the Council before the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II, at the bilateral and multilateral levels, so that they to revise or withdraw the segments of their interpretative declarations that are equivalent to reservations and/or contrary to international law that were made regarding such instruments.

As a result of the four sessions in which it met, the Technical Group, in accordance with its mandate, recommended to the Council that:⁸

⁸ In addition to discussing and establishing the dialogue strategy, the Working Group, under the coordination of Guatemala, agreed on document **Inf.23/2024Rev.4** containing the “Communiqué of the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) regarding the threat of use of nuclear weapons”, which was shared with the States Parties to the NPT within the framework of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference.

1. To authorize the Secretary General to arrange meetings with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II;⁹
2. To approve the agenda proposals elaborated by the Secretariat of OPANAL for the meetings with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II;
3. To instruct the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements and coordinate the respective meetings, in collaboration with the coordination of OPANAL in Geneva (Ecuador), with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II, in the margins of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons NPT, held from 22 July to 2 August 2024;
4. To instruct the Secretariat to prepare and send talking points for the meetings with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II;

On 6 August 2024, at its 352nd meeting, the Council took note of the report presented by the representative of Guatemala in its capacity as coordinating delegation of the Working Group, who reported on the agreements reached among the membership, as well as the agendas and points to be addressed with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II. The work of the Working Group, as a result of its four sessions, contributed to establishing the agendas and strategies for dialogue with each of the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, during the meetings held in the margins of the Second Preparatory Committee for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which took place in Geneva from 28 April to 9 May 2024.

Notwithstanding the above, the Member States, through the Council and within the framework of the Working Group, should discuss and agree on the level of dialogue and strategy that OPANAL should maintain with the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II, which is contemplated in the Work Plan of the Council in 2025, taking into consideration the geopolitical context as well as the change of administration in the United States.

⁹ In addition to the meetings held with the four States Parties to the Protocols that issued interpretative declarations (France, United States, United Kingdom and Russia). Meetings were also requested with China and the Netherlands. Only with the Netherlands was not possible to arrange a meeting.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 8

CG/E/05/2024Rev.3
Original: English/Spanish

Report of the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

I. The obligations of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The obligations of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) are recorded in its article 1:

1. *The Contracting Parties hereby undertake to use exclusively for peaceful purposes the nuclear material and facilities which are under their jurisdiction, and to prohibit and prevent in their respective territories:*
 - a. *The testing, use, manufacture, production or acquisition by any means whatsoever of any nuclear weapons, by the Parties themselves, directly or indirectly, on behalf of anyone else or in any other way, and*
 - b. *The receipt, storage, installation, deployment and any form of possession of any nuclear weapons, directly or indirectly, by the Parties themselves, by anyone on their behalf or in any other way.*
2. *The Contracting Parties also undertake to refrain from engaging in, encouraging or authorizing, directly or indirectly, or in any way participating in the testing, use, manufacture, production, possession or control of any nuclear weapon.*

The head of paragraph 1 establishes the positive obligation to “use nuclear material and facilities exclusively for peaceful purposes”. Subparagraphs a, b of paragraph 1, and paragraph 2 include a series of negative obligations that cover all the necessary ways for Latin America and the Caribbean to be free of nuclear weapons. In Article 1 the very essence of the Treaty of Tlatelolco is condensed and specified.

II. Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

In order to verify compliance with the obligations of Article 1, the Treaty of Tlatelolco establishes a Control System that is applied in accordance with the provisions of Articles 13 to 17. Although Article 24 is not part of the Control System, its observance is essential to ensure compliance with the obligations of the Treaty. Consequently, this article is linked to the Control System.

Articles of the Treaty of Tlatelolco that refer to the Control System address the following aspects:

- **Article 13** – The Parties shall enter into nuclear safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- **Article 14** – The Parties must submit semiannual reports to OPANAL stating that no activity prohibited by the Treaty has occurred in their respective territories.
- **Article 15** – Special reports at the request of the Secretary-General with respect to any extraordinary fact or circumstance that affect the fulfillment of the Treaty, at the initiative of any of the Parties and with the authorization of the Council.
- **Article 16** – Special inspections by the IAEA, at the request of any of the Parties and with the authorization of the Council.
- **Article 17** – The Treaty does not restrict the rights of the Parties to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.
- **Article 24** – The Parties must notify OPANAL of any international agreement they conclude on the matters referred to in the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

In accordance with Article 13 of the Treaty, all 33 States Parties have concluded nuclear safeguards agreements with the IAEA. This obligation is fully covered. For their part, articles 15 to 17 refer to peaceful uses of nuclear energy and mechanisms to be used in case of special events or circumstances that affect compliance with the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

This report focuses on articles 14 and 24; in particular, the need for all the States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco to comply fully with these two articles.

As established in article 10, paragraph 5, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, "the Council, through the Secretary-General, shall ensure the proper functioning of the Control System". It is under this provision that the Secretary-General is compelled to bring to the attention of the General Conference the need for all OPANAL Member States to maintain full compliance with articles 14 and 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

III. Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

One of the responsibilities of OPANAL in the application of the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco is to receive and record the reports of the Member States *"stating that no activity prohibited under this Treaty has occurred in their respective territories"* (Article 14, paragraph 1). Compliance with article 14 is not a bureaucratic issue, but an unavoidable commitment for the 33 States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. In order for the supervision and oversight of the Treaty to operate properly, it is required that the Parties formally express their compliance by regularly submitting reports on Article 14.

There is consensus in the international community that legal instruments in the field of nuclear weapons require verification clauses. In the case of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the basis for verification –Article 14– rests on the States Parties themselves through formal declarations. The biannual frequency of compliance with article 14 makes not only political and legal, but also practical sense. It is not possible to guarantee that a State Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco is complying with the Treaty if it does not send the corresponding certifications. Compliance with the Treaty is not only important for its States Parties but also for the entire international community and the United Nations.

The XXVI Special Session of the General Conference (15 November 2018), by resolution CG/E/Res.02/2018, decided to *"adopt, as an option for compliance with the obligation provided for in Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the semiannual reporting format proposed by the Secretary-General in his Report on the Control System, attached to document CG/E/05/2018Rev.2"*.

The XXVI Regular Session of the General Conference (7 November 2019), through its resolution CG/Res.01/2019 resolved to *"... instruct the Secretary-General to transmit to all Member States the optional format for the presentation of semi-annual reports of Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, proposed by the Secretary-General in his Report on the Control System, attached to document CG/E/05/2018"*, and *"...request the Council and the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, within their respective powers, to ensure that all Member States regularize their situation regarding compliance with Articles 14 and 24"*.

As of 22 November 2024 eleven Member States are in full compliance with Article 14 of the Treaty, having submitted the necessary certification covering the period up to 30 June 2024; another seven Member States reported their compliance as of 31 December 2023, and can be considered as relatively up to date the 54.55% of the Membership. The status of reporting according to the above is as follows:

- **Reports submitted up to the first semester of 2024:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Uruguay
- **Reports submitted up to the second semester of 2023:** Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Guyana, Honduras, Peru, Suriname
- **Reports submitted up to the first semester of 2023:** El Salvador, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, St. Vincent & the Grenadines
- **Reports submitted up to the second semester of 2022:** Chile, Dominica, Saint Lucia
- **Reports submitted up to the first semester of 2022:** Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago
- **Reports submitted up to the first semester of 2020:** Antigua and Barbuda
- **Reports submitted up to the first semester of 2019:** Venezuela
- **Last report submitted up to the first semester of 2016:** Grenada
- **Last report submitted up to the second semester of 1984:** Barbados

Without compliance with Article 14 by all States Parties, it is not possible to ensure the effective functioning of the nuclear-weapon-free regime in Latin America and the Caribbean.

IV. Article 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

Since the entering into force of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, 14 February 1967, a large number of legal instruments have been added to strengthen the international regime for disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. To these international instruments other arrangements concerning the use of nuclear energy have been added. This is of great importance for the work of OPANAL, in

particular, for the achievement of the principles and objectives of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Article 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco states:

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.

Unlike article 14, article 24 does not have to be complied with under a specific temporality, but it states that the conclusion of an international agreement related to the matters covered by the Treaty of Tlatelolco shall be notified “immediately” to the Secretariat.

There are two Member States that have never reported on the signing of agreements on the matters referred to in the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

V. Observations to the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

The Treaty is not a political declaration. It is a legal instrument that establishes obligations. OPANAL administers compliance with these obligations of the Member States.

The periodic –semiannual– nature of the certification of article 14 was included in the Treaty of Tlatelolco as a concrete measure. Wisely, the Treaty of Tlatelolco establishes as a central point of the Control System a mechanism of great simplicity –Article 14–, which depends entirely on each Member State.

The OPANAL Secretariat has the function of registering the certifications of article 14. There is the possibility of special reports at the request of the Secretary-General (article 15) and of Special inspections by the IAEA (article 16), mechanisms that complement article 14. Articles 15 and 16 exist to resolve special situations. If a Member State fails to comply with article 14 for several semesters, the interpretation that fits is that it does not do so because it is not complying with Article 1 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

There are 4 Member States that have not complied with article 14 for more than two years. It has not been proposed so far to activate articles 15 and 16, but it is necessary to overcome the situation of non-compliance with article 14.

In all their meetings and sessions, the Council and the General Conference invariably ask all Member States to comply with article 14. The Secretary-General sends semiannually reminder notes with a certification model attached.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 9

CG/E/03/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of resolution CG/Res.03/2023 “Methods of Work of OPANAL”

I. Background

Resolution “Working methods for OPANAL meetings in 2023” (CG/E/Res.10/2022), adopted by the XXVII Extraordinary Session of the General Conference on 17 November 2022:

Resolution “Working methods of OPANAL” (CG/Res.03/2023), adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference, on 3 November 2023.

II. Measures implemented

Regarding the support of the Secretariat to intergovernmental bodies

- a) The Secretariat the provisional agendas and notices for convening meetings of the Council, and when possible, for the CCAAP and Working Groups, were circulated to the membership at least two weeks in advance as an essential measure to facilitate the attendance of Member States.
- b) The Secretariat continued the practice of convening, after prior consultation with the presidencies and coordinations in question, the meetings of the Working Groups consecutively to the meetings of the CCAAP.
- c) The Secretariat included in the agendas of all Council meetings an agenda item entitled "general interventions".
- d) The Secretariat ensured that the documentation to be examined at the meetings of the Council, and when possible, at the CCAAP and the Working Groups are circulated to the membership at least seven days in advance, unless otherwise decided by the organ in question, an indispensable measure to promote the inclusiveness, effectiveness, and interactivity of the deliberations.

- e) When possible, the Secretariat prioritized documents subject to negotiation by the membership.
- f) The Secretariat ensured that the annotated agendas provide not only a description of the items to be addressed, but also make explicit the action expected as a result of the deliberation.
- g) The Secretariat ensured that draft minutes of Council and, when possible, of the CCAAP meetings were sent to their respective presidencies for review and approval no later than two business days after the meeting. The minutes were written in a summarized manner, for the benefit of conciseness.
- h) The Secretariat coordinated suitable venues with the host State for Council meetings, as feasible, in line with the dates provided in its work plans.
- i) The Secretariat continued providing Spanish-English and English-Spanish simultaneous interpretation at all Council, CCAAP, and Working Group meetings, using independent and specialized interpretation service for whose hiring the quality/price ratio must be taken into consideration.
- j) The Secretariat continued the practice of convening all meetings of OPANAL bodies in an in-person format, with the possibility of remote connection.

Regarding the declarations and communiqués negotiated in OPANAL

- k) The Secretariat continued prioritizing the preparation of concise, easily communicable texts.
- l) The Secretariat took necessary measures to manage time limits for interventions when required.

Regarding the working methods of the Secretariat,

- m) While, when possible, the Secretariat organized its professional staff’s activities to ensure support for the day-to-day work of the intergovernmental bodies of the Agency, especially through the preparation and timely circulation of documentation, the Secretariat should continue to work on this aspect.

- n) While, when possible, the Secretariat utilized the possibilities offered by the information and communication technologies that have been provided to increase its productivity, including with the objective of reducing the use of paper, the Secretariat should continue to work on this aspect.
- o) While, priority has been given, as feasible, the Agency's new website has been used to discontinue printing documents for meetings of OPANAL bodies, including the book of the General Conference, the Secretariat should continue to work on this aspect.
- p) At the 168th meeting of the Committee on Quotas and Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CCAAP), the Secretariat presented the document "Expenses Associated with the Secretariat's Participation in Conferences and International Events" (CCAAP/09/2024), which established administrative procedures for expenses related to the Secretariat's participation in conferences and international events to ensure timely programming and pursue possible savings.
- q) The Secretariat took advantage of the spaces of other forums and events in which it participates by invitation so that, if appropriate, make contacts with the representatives of States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, Additional Protocols I and II, other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, the Secretariats of other relevant international organizations and with civil society organizations and academia with activities in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 10

CG/E/16/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Report on Activities in Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education

I. Introduction

In accordance with Resolution 57/60 "United Nations Study on disarmament and non-proliferation education" of the United Nations General Assembly, adopted at its LVII Session, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) has carried out various activities in the field of education for peace, disarmament and non-proliferation. This report compiles the activities carried out since the XXVII Special Session of OPANAL.

II. OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is one of the Agency's initiatives to follow up on the implementation of education for peace programs and to contribute to the training of cadres specialized in the region in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As of 2021, the Course has been taught by the OPANAL Secretariat, taking into account the professional cadre that currently integrates the staff of the Secretariat, which, to date, is made up of specialized profiles in line with the matters dealt with by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

Since 2017, ten editions of the Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation have been held:

1. Uruguay: December 11 - 15, 2017, Instituto Artigas del Servicio Exterior (IASE)
2. Bolivia: December 3 - 7, 2018, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
3. Guatemala: May 13 - 17, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4. Nicaragua: September 24 - 27, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
5. Guatemala: November 8 - 10, 2022, Academy of Diplomacy "Dr. Jorge García Granados"
6. Guatemala: July 24 - 26, 2023, Diplomatic Academy "Antonio José de Irisarri"
7. Ecuador: December 5 - 7, 2023, Diplomatic Academy "Galo Plaza Lasso"

8. Mexico: January 15 - 25, 2024, virtual, organized with the support of the Matías Romero Institute (IMR) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
9. Colombia: May 27 - 29, 2024, Diplomatic Academy Augusto Ramírez Ocampo
10. Guatemala: August 12 - 14, 2024, Academy of Diplomacy “Antonio José de Irisarri”

The General Conference of OPANAL, in its XXVIII Session, held on November 3, 2023, adopted Resolution CG/Res.07/2023, which resolved to "Invite Member States to host the OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation."

III. Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Latin American and Caribbean diplomats

The Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean is the educational space resulting from the close collaboration between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Matías Romero Institute, the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies, and OPANAL, whose objective is to train diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean in issues related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

To date, the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation has had nine editions: from 7 to 11 of July of 2014; from 13 to 17 of July of 2015; from 4 to 8 of July of 2016; from 10 to 14 of July of 2017; from 13 to 17 of July of 2018; from 6 to 17 of July of 2020 (virtually); from 29 of June to 9 of July of 2021 (virtually); from 11 to 15 of July of 2022, in from 10 to 15 of July of 2023, and from 1 to 5 of July of 2024.

The XXVIII Session of the General Conference, held on November 3, 2023, for the first time adopted the Resolution entitled "Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean," which highlighted the support of Member States for this initiative, which in 2024 celebrated its tenth anniversary.

IV. Internship Programs at the OPANAL Secretariat

Resolution CG/Res.01/2015 of the General Conference opened the internship program, organized in two modalities: Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM, and the Internship Program for countries in the rest of the world.

Since 2023, the internship program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), aimed at encouraging their participation in OPANAL and

previously sponsored by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, has been funded by the Agency itself. However, due to limited budget resources, this has reduced its scope and impact. In line with Resolution CG/Res.09/2023 adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference, the Secretary General initiated efforts with the Japanese organization Soka Gakkai International to secure funding sources to ensure the continuity of the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of CARICOM. In August 2024, Soka Gakkai International confirmed its availability to finance the Program in 2025.

Under the framework of the internship program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of CARICOM, between 2016 and 2024, the Secretariat welcomed fourteen young professionals from eight countries: The Bahamas (1), Barbados (1), Belize (3), Dominica (1), Guyana (3), Haiti (2), Jamaica (1), and Saint Lucia (2).

Since the launch of the Internship Program open to all countries, the Agency has hosted forty-four interns from sixteen countries: Germany (1), Algeria (1), Bolivia (1), Brazil (2), Colombia (1), South Korea (2), Costa Rica (1), Ecuador (1), Spain (1), United States (3), France (2), Japan (1), Mexico (22), the Netherlands (1), Paraguay (1), and Peru (1).¹

Since 2022, interns receive MXN 1000 per month as a stimulus and recognition of their constant work during their period at OPANAL, in accordance with Resolution CG/Res.03/2021, adopted by the XXVII Session of the General Conference.

Additionally, OPANAL has explored new avenues for international cooperation through programs such as the internship program, which allows for the participation of young international talents. A recent example of this effort is OPANAL's engagement with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, with the aim of formalizing the existing cooperation and signing Memoranda of Understanding with both institutions, which frequently nominate candidates for OPANAL's Internship Program. These Memoranda not only expand educational opportunities but also enrich knowledge exchange and strengthen ties between Latin America, the Caribbean, and other regions of the world in the field of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

V. Recommendations

According to the above, the following is recommended:

¹ And two interns in 2012 and 2013 with unidentified nationality.

- a) **To invite** Member States to host the OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.
- b) **To instruct** the Secretary-General to undertake actions that ensure the availability of necessary resources to maintain the continuity of OPANAL's educational and outreach activities, while ensuring gender parity among the individuals delivering them.
- c) **To invite** Member States to submit their applications to participate in the eleventh edition of the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.
- d) **To urge** Member States to promote and support the Internship Program, disseminating calls for applications through national academic institutions.
- e) **To continue** providing interns with a monthly stipend of MXN 1000 as an incentive and recognition of their ongoing work during their period at OPANAL.
- f) **To express** gratitude to Soka Gakkai International for its decision to fund the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM in 2025.
- g) **To instruct** the Secretary-General to ensure the continuation and permanence of the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM, and to keep Member States informed about the implementation of this resolution.
- h) **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea regarding the participation of Korean nationals in the OPANAL Secretariat Internship Program.
- i) **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the CNS.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.4

CG/E/07/2024Rev.
Original: English/Spanish

Report of the Working Group Established to Implement Resolution CG/Res.10/2023 “Establishment of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation”

I. Background

Resolution CG/Res.10/2023, titled " Establishment of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation," adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023, assigned the Council the responsibility of drafting and adopting the regulations for the award, with a completion deadline of 30 June 2024.

II. Working Group

At its 349th meeting on 23 January 2024, the Council noted the interest of Argentina's delegation in coordinating a working group to advance this mandate.

At the 350th Council meeting on 25 April 2024, Argentina, as the working group's coordinator, presented to the Member States the feedback collected on the proposed call (Inf.14/2024Rev.) distributed by the Secretariat via Notes S-110/2024 and S-111/2024 on March 12, 2024. Argentina proposed adopting the "Objective" and "Guidelines" of the call as outlined in the document. The Council took note of these proposals and requested that Member States submit recommendations for jury formation and suggestions for potential awards by 2 May 2024.

During the 351st Council meeting on 23 April 2024, the coordinating delegation shared responses from Brazil and Mexico to Secretariat Notes S-152/2024 and S-153/2024, dated 29 April 2024, along with prior feedback from Cuba. A revised version of the document, “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” (Inf.14/2024Rev.2), including a proposed Rules and Call for the award's first edition, was presented. The Council requested the Secretariat to proceed with the call for the first edition and agreed on the jury's composition, including the OPANAL Secretary-General and Council members.

At its 352nd meeting on 6 August 2024, the Council took note of a newly revised version of the document “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” (Inf.14/2024Rev.3), circulated by the Secretariat via Notes S-245/2024 and S-246/2024 on 24 June 2024, and approved the dates for the first edition call's publication.

The Secretariat widely disseminated the call for the first edition of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Award in OPANAL's four working languages on 15 August 2024.

At the 353rd Council meeting on 4 October 2024, the Council approved a new composition for the first edition jury of the “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” (Inf.14/2024Rev.4), incorporating Mexico's proposal to include Ambassador Miguel Ruiz-Cabañas Izquierdo and Dr. Ryan Musto as jury members.

At its 354th meeting, the Ambassador Miguel Ruiz-Cabañas Izquierdo, Director of the Initiative on the Sustainable Development Goals at the Tecnológico de Monterrey, transmits his regrets, informing that he would not be able to serve as a member of the Jury for the Award. The document “Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation” was updated accordingly (Inf.14/2024Rev.5).

III. First Edition of the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Award

The Secretariat received a total of fifteen submissions meeting the criteria outlined in the call's guidelines (Inf.14/2024Rev.4) from nationals of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, and the United States. Of these, two submissions were co-authored.

IV. Considerations for the Second Edition

- a) It is recommended to assign the Council with the task of reviewing and adopting the regulations governing the award, based on document Inf.14/2024Rev.4 and considering its inclusion in the 2025 work plan.
- b) It is suggested that the guidelines for the second edition of the award be established by 30 June 2025, at the latest.
- c) It is recommended to include the following points in the competition's regulations:
 - Permit only one submission per author per edition.

- Establish that submitted works cannot be resubmitted in subsequent editions.

- Include a length limit for submissions in the call’s guidelines for the second edition.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 12

CG/E/06/2024
Original: English/Spanish

OPANAL Coordinations in 2025

I. General Aspects of Coordinations in Geneva, New York, Vienna and to the Caribbean

Currently, the coordination of OPANAL's work at the United Nations and relevant bodies in Geneva, New York, and Vienna aims to contribute to strengthening the institutional capacity of the Agency, keeping its agenda updated, and enhancing the outcomes of its international efforts.

The two-way communication channel established between the coordinations at the UN headquarters in Geneva, New York, and Vienna and the OPANAL Secretariat serves as the focal point between these and the Member States. Additionally, the coordinations in these locations act as OPANAL's liaison with the Missions of Member States accredited to these respective bodies.

Among other actions, the coordinations in these venues support OPANAL's participation in the following ways:

- a) Representing the Secretary-General at meetings and events that he is invited to but cannot attend.
- b) Serving as a contact point with various entities at these locations.
- c) Implementing decisions, disseminating agreements, and transmitting communications agreed upon by the various OPANAL bodies.
- d) Acting as a link between the Secretariat, whether with Member States, the United Nations and its different bodies, or other States or Non-Governmental Organizations as indicated.

II. Mechanism for Electing Coordinators in Geneva, New York, Vienna

The coordination of OPANAL's work at the United Nations and relevant bodies in Geneva, New York, and Vienna is voluntarily assumed by a Member State through its Missions at the respective headquarters.

For each period, the Secretariat consults Member States and informs about countries that have the conditions or demonstrate interest in assuming a coordination. This information is brought to the attention of the Council and, if decided, submitted for consideration by the General Conference.

The coordination of OPANAL's work is held for a period that preferably lasts one year. Depending on circumstances, this term may be extended or reduced, with timely communication to the Secretariat to ensure continuity of OPANAL's work.

III. Main Activities

- a) Working with the Secretariat to establish constant two-way communication from Mexico City to Geneva, New York, and Vienna, and vice versa, to facilitate communication between the OPANAL Secretariat and the Permanent Missions of Member States at these locations, as well as the implementation and follow-up of OPANAL agreements.
- b) Actively participating in UN bodies that have nuclear disarmament on their agenda; specifically, the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the First Committee and Disarmament Commission in New York, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) in Vienna.
- c) Disseminating and presenting official documents, as determined, issued by various OPANAL bodies, while also keeping the Secretariat and Council informed about the agenda and significant issues discussed and agreed upon in relevant forums.
- d) Reporting on relevant sessions and documents on Nuclear Disarmament in the General Assembly and United Nations Security Council.
- e) Facilitating relations with Representatives of States Parties of other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, as well as with other regional groups, to support coordination and cooperation efforts in line with OPANAL body decisions.
- f) Assisting the Secretariat with meetings with Representatives of the States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco during visits to these headquarters and, when appropriate, coordinating consultations and meetings of the group of Latin American and Caribbean countries in New York, Vienna, and Geneva.
- g) Supporting the Agency in circulating statements it may be required to make on behalf of the Secretariat or the group of States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

- h) When appropriate and previously agreed within the OPANAL bodies, defending the positions reflected in GRULAC position papers during meetings and negotiations related to the topic.
- i) Any other activity or task requested by the Secretariat or other subsidiary bodies in accordance with OPANAL's nature.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 13

CG/E/17/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Report on the status of OPANAL's relations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones

I. Introduction

As the first region to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ) in a densely populated area, it is one of OPANAL's responsibilities to foster cooperation and share good practices, contribute to the institutionalization and strengthening of other existing NWFZs, as well as promote the establishment of new NWFZs.

This document compiles OPANAL's activities in the field of cooperation with NWFZs.

II. OPANAL's cooperation with existing NWFZs

South Pacific Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. OPANAL and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) have had a cooperation agreement since 11 February 2003. The Agreement has led to greater cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two agencies, particularly in recent years.

In this regard, the agencies participated in the meetings of the States Parties. On December 15, 2020, the OPANAL Secretariat participated remotely in the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty of Rarotonga, in which the Secretary-General of OPANAL delivered a statement. Likewise, on September 30, 2021, the Secretary-General of the PIF, Mr. Henry Puna, participated remotely in the XXVII Session of the General Conference of OPANAL and in its general debate.

The OPANAL Secretariat also participated in the outreach activities organized by PIF. On August 27, 2021, the Secretary-General of OPANAL participated, at the invitation of PIF, in the webinar *"From Nuclear testing to Nuclear-free – how can we secure our Blue Pacific future?"* on the occasion of the International Day Against Nuclear Tests.

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. At its 326th meeting, in order to strengthen OPANAL's relations with other NWFZs, the Council decided to create a Technical Group to negotiate the text of a Memorandum of Understanding to be presented to the agencies or countries that coordinate these zones. As a result, the agreed text was subsequently sent to the African Nuclear Energy Commission

(AFCONE), in its capacity as the agency in charge of the African NWFZ; the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), as the agency in charge of the Southeast Asian NWFZ; and Kazakhstan, in its capacity of only Central Asian NWFZ Asia with representation in Mexico City.

AFCONE accepted OPANAL's proposal without amendments, and the XXVII Session of the General Conference of OPANAL, which was attended virtually by the then Executive Secretary, Mr. Messaoud Baaliouamer, who also gave a speech during the general debate, instructed the Secretary-General, through Resolution CG/Res.02/2021, to conclude the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the African counterpart.

On December 1, 2021, the Memorandum of Understanding between OPANAL and AFCONE was signed. On this occasion, the Secretary-General of OPANAL and the Executive Secretary of AFCONE issued a statement welcoming the formalization of cooperation between the two NWFZs.¹ Likewise, within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding, on June 20, 2022, the Secretary-General of OPANAL and the Executive Secretary of AFCONE issued in Vienna a joint communiqué on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and the importance of the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), in which they participated.

Since 2021, OPANAL and AFCONE have participated as observers in the conferences of States Parties to the Pelindaba Treaty and the Tlatelolco Treaty, respectively.

Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. The ASEAN delegation attended, virtually, the XXVII Session of the General Conference of OPANAL held on September 30, 2021.

On November 18, 2021, the Secretary-General held a virtual meeting with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Mr. Lim Jock Hoy, in which he presented the proposal for the Memorandum of Understanding between OPANAL and ASEAN. As a follow-up, on March 15, 2023, the secretariats of OPANAL and ASEAN held an informal meeting in which they discussed a series of possible joint activities that would eventually lead to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, including joint positions, the exchange of good practices and lessons learned on the universalization of additional protocols, among others.

¹ Inf.46/2021

As a result, on May 2, 2024, the OPANAL Council and ASEAN Member States organized a virtual workshop focused on sharing experiences related to the signing and ratification of the Additional Protocols to the Tlatelolco Treaty and the Bangkok Treaty by nuclear-weapon states.

Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. On May 6, 2021, the Secretariat, through the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, sent the proposal of the Memorandum of Understanding for the consideration of the countries that are part of the NWFZ in Central Asia.

On the margins of the XXVII Session of the General Conference held on September 30, 2021, Kazakhstan made an intervention on behalf of the countries that form part of the NWFZ in Central Asia, in which it expressed the interest of the mentioned region to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with OPANAL as soon as possible.

On 26 July 2022, the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan in New York, in its capacity as Coordinator of the NWFZ in Central Asia, sent to the OPANAL Secretariat a counter-proposal of the Memorandum of Understanding, that included several changes and proposed amendments, so the Council at its 338th meeting, decided to renew the work of the Technical Group to negotiate the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian NWFZ. In this regard, the Group met on two occasions, under the coordination of Argentina. As a result, on November 28, 2022, the Secretariat sent to the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan in New York the counterproposal of the Memorandum of Understanding, along with the justification for the changes proposed by OPANAL. On June 11, 2024, the OPANAL Secretariat received a response from the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan in New York, in its capacity as the coordinator of the NWFZ in Central Asia this year, with a proposal for amendments, which was accepted by the OPANAL Council in its 353rd meeting. It is expected that the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference of OPANAL will adopt the resolution "*Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone*," instructing the Secretary General of OPANAL to sign, on behalf of the Organization, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

It should be noted that the Secretary-General of OPANAL held a meeting with the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi, on the margins of the First Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW, in Vienna, in June 2022, in which the Minister not only informed on the support of the Central Asian NWFZ for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with OPANAL, but also expressed Central Asia's interest in replicating OPANAL's experience in institutionalizing the NWFZ in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mongolia. In the case of Mongolia, OPANAL has had discreet contact and exchange since Mongolia declared itself a nuclear-weapon-free State in 1998. The most recent interactions came in preparation for the Second Conference of NWFZs and Mongolia, as it hosted a meeting of focal points in Ulán Bator, Mongolia (27-28 April 2009); and its role as coordinator of the Fourth Conference of NWFZs and Mongolia in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/71. Mongolia decided to leave the coordination of the Fourth Conference due to differences between two African states.

Workshop on Fostering Cooperation and Strengthening Consultation Mechanisms among Existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, Astana, 27-28 of August of 2024.

The Secretariat participated in the Workshop on Fostering Cooperation and Strengthening Consultation Mechanisms among Existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held from August 27 to 28, 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan. The Workshop was co-organized by the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Government of Kazakhstan to promote and strengthen cooperation and information exchange mechanisms among the various existing nuclear-weapon-free zones. It was co-chaired by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Ambassador Akan Rakhmetullin, and the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu. In addition to representatives from all nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, the Workshop included participants from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as well as civil society organizations and academia.

In its opening remarks, the Secretariat shared key aspects of the activities carried out by the Organization, such as dialogue with the States Parties to Protocols I and II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; cooperation activities with other nuclear-weapon-free zones; education and outreach for disarmament; and a comprehensive study of the nuclear-weapon-free zones in all their aspects, among others.

Additionally, alongside representatives from AFCONE, the Secretariat participated in a parallel event organized by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) titled “*Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons: synergies, contributions, and cooperation*,” where it discussed the complementarity of nuclear-weapon-free zones in general, and the Treaty of Tlatelolco in particular, with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

III. Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Middle East

Bearing in mind the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, first adopted in 1980, calling for the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, OPANAL has participated, in New York, when required, in the process for the establishment of a Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Middle East.

IV. Fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia

The proposal to create an International Conference of NWFZs is an initiative of OPANAL, that dates back to the XVI Session of its General Conference (Lima, Peru, 30 November – 1 December 1999), through Resolution CG/Res.388 "Strengthening of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL)", which determined: *"To request the Secretary-General of the Agency, with the approval of the Council, to prepare a proposal containing the specific objectives for the holding of an International Conference of the Parties to Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones; and to establish contacts with the authorities of other NWFZs in order to convey to them the interest in holding such a Conference and to know their opinion [...]"*.

The NWFZs Conferences were designed as mechanisms to improve communication between States Parties and signatories to the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties and Mongolia. They also seek to contribute to affirming the legitimacy of treaties and decisions establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones as valuable instruments for the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

To date, three Conferences of NWFZs and Mongolia have been held. The first Conference was proposed by OPANAL and was held in Mexico, under the coordination of the Government of Mexico. The second and third, in 2010 and 2015, were held in New York one day before the NPT Review Conference and were coordinated by Chile and Indonesia, respectively.

Past Conferences of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia	
First Conference (Mexico City)	26 - 28 April 2005, coordinated by Mexico
Second Conference (New York)	April 30, 2010, coordinated by Chile
Third Conference (New York)	24 April 2015, coordinated by Indonesia

The Fourth Conference of NWFZs was convened by the United Nations General Assembly through resolution A/RES/73/71, adopted in December 2018. Among the most relevant aspects of the resolution are:

- It states that the Conference would be held on April 24, 2020, with a duration of one day and under the coordination of Mongolia.
- It invites *"all Member States and observer States of the United Nations that are States Parties and signatories to the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to participate in the Conference"*.
- Decides that the central objective of the Conference is *"to consider ways and means of enhancing consultations and cooperation between the nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, the treaty bodies and interested States, in order to promote coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in the strengthening of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime"*.

As a result of the global pandemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the Fourth Conference of the NWFZs was postponed several times. By General Assembly decision 74/549 of 13 April 2020, the Fourth Conference of NWFZs and Mongolia was postponed to a period in 2021. By General Assembly decision 75/575 of 29 July 2021, the Conference was further postponed to a later date that would be decided by the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session. In 2022, the General Assembly took the decision not to convene the fourth conference indefinitely, until the assembly itself decides otherwise.² Differences between two African states would be the foundations of the decision.

V. Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects

In December 1974, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 3261 F (XXIX) to *"undertake a comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects"*, which was prepared by *"a group of governmental experts"* within the framework of the then Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. The resolution further requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations *"to provide the services ... and assistance"* necessary for that purpose. As a result, in October 1975, the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament submitted to the General Assembly a special report A/10027/Add.1 containing the comprehensive study of the question of free zones in all its aspects.

² United Nations General Assembly decision A/76/L.79

To date, the 1975 comprehensive study represents one of the first efforts on NWFZs, despite the fact that Latin America and the Caribbean was the only one of such zones in force in a densely populated area.

In 2022, OPANAL Member States decided to establish a Working Group, under the coordination of Brazil, to prepare a draft resolution to request the United Nations Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive study on the issue of NWFZs. The draft resolution was the result of the working group during 2022 and 2023, under the coordination of Brazil, which ultimately resulted in the consensus of OPANAL Member States on its content. The OPANAL Member States believe that a second comprehensive study will go a long way towards promoting the full implementation of the principles and objectives of existing treaties establishing NWFZs, as well as supporting the establishment of other zones in regions where they do not exist.

Within the framework of the First Committee of the 79th United Nations General Assembly, Brazil, in its capacity as coordinator for OPANAL in New York, presented draft resolution A/C.1/79/68/Rev.1 entitled "Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects."³ The draft was adopted by the First Committee on November 1, 2024, with 172 votes in favor, 2 against, and 3 abstentions. It is noteworthy that the draft was co-sponsored by a significant number of countries, including those that are parties to treaties establishing the five nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia.

Recommendations to the General Conference regarding the draft resolution "Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone":

- a) **To thank** the Technical Group for its work in negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
- b) **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign on behalf of the Agency, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
- c) **To urge** Member States to continue with the promotion of strengthening of cooperation between nuclear-weapon-free zones through the conclusion of agreements and Memoranda of Understanding that foster dialogue and the exchange of best practices.

³<https://reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/1com/1com24/resolutions/L68Rev1.pdf>

- d) **To instruct** the Secretary-General to keep Member States informed on the progress in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 14

CG/E/15/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL

I. Establishment of the Agency

1. The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) establishes in its Article 7 that:

“1. In order to ensure compliance with the obligations of this Treaty, the Contracting Parties hereby establish an international organization to be known as the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, hereinafter referred to as “the Agency.” Only the Contracting Parties shall be affected by its decisions.

2. The Agency shall be responsible for the holding of periodic or extraordinary consultations among Member States on matters relating to the purposes, measures and procedures set forth in this Treaty and to the supervision of compliance with the obligations arising therefrom.

3. The Contracting Parties agree to extend to the Agency full and prompt co-operation in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty, of any agreements they may conclude with the Agency and of any agreements the Agency may conclude with any other international organization or body.

4. The headquarters of the Agency shall be in Mexico City.”

2. OPANAL began its functioning immediately after the entry into force of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, on 29 April 1969, in accordance with Article 7 of the Treaty. On 2 September 1969, the first Period of Regular Sessions of the General Conference was convened, in Mexico City.

3. The headquarters agreement between the United Mexican States and OPANAL was signed on 6 February 2003¹. That agreement does not determine that Mexico, as Host State, would provide the Agency with the necessary facilities to accommodate its headquarters. However, the Mexican Government has expressed on several occasions, particularly at meetings of the Council and at the General Conference of OPANAL, its intention and commitment to, jointly with OPANAL, identify a building in Mexico City that can serve as its permanent and own headquarters.
4. In its 54 years of mandate, OPANAL has never had its own permanent headquarters.
5. Since 1969, OPANAL has had its headquarters in six different facilities:
 - In 1969², during the first months of mandate, the Agency was installed inside the Headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico; at Av. Nonoalco No. 1, 16th floor, Col. Nonoalco-Tlatelolco, Mexico City;
 - As of March 1, 1970³, the Agency rented offices at Av. Morelos No. 110, office 506, Col. Juárez, Mexico City ("Morelos-Reforma" building);
 - From May 1976⁴, it was located in Temístocles number 78 in Colonia Polanco, also in a rented building;
 - As of April 1, 1998⁵ at Av. Sierra Tarahumara 715-A, Lomas de Chapultepec, 11000, Mexico D.F.
 - As of December 2001⁶, OPANAL leased the 5th floor of the building of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela located at Calle Schiller No. 326, Col. Polanco;

¹ Published on September 12, 2003 in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

² CG/24, Annual Report of the Secretary-General. OPANAL/24 § 79, p.25. Available in http://www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CG01_024.pdf

³ CG/24, Annual Report of the Secretary-General. OPANAL/24 § 80, p.25. Available in http://www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CG01_024.pdf

⁴ C/PV/38, Verbatim record of the 38th Meeting of the Council, p.8

⁵ C/AR/167, Summary record of the 168th meeting of the Council, p. 3

⁶ C/DT/77, Aide mémoire – Location of the Headquarters building, pp. 1 & 2.

- From May 2015 to date, the property located at Calle Milton 61, Col. Anzures was leased. The lease agreement was signed on April 21, 2015 (building with land use permit for offices) and a modification agreement signed on July 18, 2017⁷, effective until June 30, 2021 (to see blueprint of the house, go to Annex I).
- On May 13, 2021, a modification agreement for the lease was signed, extending its effectiveness to June 30, 2022.
- In turn, on July 6, 2022, a modification agreement for the lease was signed, extending its effectiveness until June 30, 2024.

II. Need for a permanent, independent and visible Headquarters

6. A few months after assuming functions, the Secretary-General elaborated on the matter of the headquarters during the 287^o Meeting of the Council held on 10 April 2014. In agenda item 8 entitled Headquarters of OPANAL, *“Ambassador Macedo Soares said that he had the opportunity to speak broadly about this matter at the Meeting of the CCAAP since its nature is more administrative. He reiterated that the headquarters of the Agency is a very important in all aspects. He mentioned that he does not know how the Agency ended inside of the Embassy of Venezuela. He added that even though he feels very comfortable, the meeting room is very small to accommodate the representatives of the Member States with representation in Mexico. Also, he noted that it is necessary to improve the workspaces of the staff. Another aspect to consider, probably the most important, is the visibility of the Agency. It is very important to have a facility where everybody knows that OPANAL’s headquarters are located there. Other international organizations with headquarters in Mexico have their own facilities, which is not the case of OPANAL. Ambassador Macedo Soares expressed to be convinced of having full visibility, thus it would be good to place the bronze plaque in a visible spot. He also called the attention to the bust of the Nobel Peace Laureate Alfonso García Robles, which is not quite visible in the current location, hence it would need to be placed at the entrance of an own headquarters.”*⁸
7. Although in 2015 it was possible to relocate the headquarters of OPANAL to a larger facility, this does not resolve the issue, since it does not provide the Agency with the

⁷ S-542/2017, Amending Agreement to the Lease Agreement of the house located at Milton 61.

⁸ C/AR/287Rev.

security of permanency in that location considering it is still subject to the legal figure of tenant. An international body should not rely permanently on a lease.

8. An international organization requires a permanent, independent and visible facility with the proper space for its functioning thus it cannot be located inside the headquarters of another institution that may limit or condition the Agency's functioning, whether it is inside a coworking space, government buildings or in a cluster of representation of international organizations. It is important to note that OPANAL must not be observed as a representation of international organization before the Mexican Government. OPANAL is an intergovernmental organization, not a representation.
9. It is politically inconvenient for its Member States that an intergovernmental organization does not have a permanent headquarter and its vulnerable to be evicted.
10. The Agency requires of 350 m² to accommodate the institutional archives of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, a meeting room of 45 m² that accommodates at least the 22 delegates of the Member States with representation in Mexico, spots for the President, the Secretary-General and occasional guests, and workspaces for its 8 staff members. (See Annex I and III).
11. Between mid-2000 and the end of 2001, the CCAAP and the Council addressed the matter pertaining to the permanent headquarters on several occasions. In the second half of 2000, the possibility to leave the facility indicated in paragraph 6, section 4 was discussed and to relocate to the building that had been the headquarters of GEPLACEA after the extinction of that body on loan, which would be granted to OPANAL by the Mexican Government.

At that time, the Mexican Government was in a six-year transition period, nonetheless, during the following year the matter continued to be addressed.

Representatives of Mexico sometimes referred to the commitment of the Mexican State to provide the Agency with headquarters.

12. As it is noted in summary records and documents of the different bodies of the Agency, the Mexican representatives have reiterated in several occasions the intention of the government of providing the Agency with a proper facility to accommodate its headquarters. For example, in Resolution CG/E/Res.31910 of 1994, the General Conference *“resolves to thank again the Government of Mexico of the offering of*

surrendering a facility in order for OPANAL to accommodate its headquarters, without a payment whatsoever for the Agency.”⁹

13. On 5 August 2011, through Note DNU-0005467, the Mexican Government presented a proposal to OPANAL of accommodating its headquarters at the ground-level offices of the “Edificio Triángulo” of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The space offered was 162.5m², insufficient to accommodate the Secretariat and its staff. After a series of conversations and visits to the facilities from the Secretary-General and the Council, it was concluded that these facilities were not adequate for the Agency’s correct functioning.¹⁰ The Secretariat holds in its archives the blueprints and details of the area offered.

14. In 2019, the Secretary-General met with different government officials of Mexico in order to resume the matter, emphasizing the urgent need of a permanent, independent and visible headquarters for the Agency. The Secretary-General met with the Under Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (30 January 2019), with the General Director to the United Nations (23 April 2019), with the General Coordinator of Advisers and International Affairs of Mexico’s City Government (7 May 2019) and with the Legal Advisor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (8 May 2019).
 - a) In January 28, 2021, representatives of the Secretariat, the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government of Mexico City visited a building located on calle República del Perú in the Historic Center of Mexico City, in the Cuauhtémoc City Hall. The building, which was recovered and in the process of remodelling by the Historic Center Trust of Mexico City, offered a comfortable space for OPANAL, however, it did not meet the technical requirements for useful area and accessibility needed for the proper functioning of the Secretariat.

 - b) Through Resolutions CG/Res.13/2021 and CG/E/Res.09/2022, the General Conference resolved:
 - 1) To request the participation and support of all member states to ensure that OPANAL has permanent and independent headquarters.

⁹ Summary records of the CCAAP meetings 19° (9 June 2000), 23° (20 September 2000), 25° (15 February 2001), 27° (7 May 2001), 29° (8 July 2001), 31° (3 October 2001); and Council Meeting 190° (31 July 2001).

¹⁰ C/AR/266, Summary record of the 266° Meeting of the Council held on 29 March 2012.

- 2) To instruct the Council to continue with the analysis and discussion of the considerations contained in document CG/14/2019, presenting a report to the General Conference at its next session.
- c) To acknowledge and thank the efforts of the Mexican Government, which, since July 2020, has been paying for the rent of the current headquarters of the Agency while managing the award of a property to establish the permanent headquarters.

III. International Organizations with headquarters in Mexico

15. The Secretariat has knowledge that three international organizations with headquarters in Mexico City are accommodated in facilities provided by the Mexican State: the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (IPGH, for the Spanish acronym), the Latin-American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE, for the Spanish acronym), and the Inter- American Conference of Social Security (CISS, for the Spanish acronym) (see Annex IV).
16. Other international organization with headquarters in Pátzcuaro, Michoacán, with a facility provided by the Mexican State is the Center of Regional Cooperation for Adults' Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CREFAL, for the Spanish acronym).
17. It is important to note that OPANAL, according to the Headquarters Agreement, has a legal status of International Organization (Article II) with headquarters in Mexico, which is different to that of the representations of International Organizations with offices in Mexico, some of which curiously have facilities provided by the Mexican Government (see Annex V).
 - a) It is important to note that the Latin American and Caribbean Space Agency (ALCE) has its headquarters in the state of Querétaro, which was recently donated by the Mexican Government.

IV. Financial situation and related matters

18. In the 54 years of its existence, OPANAL has allocated a considerable amount of the annual budget for rent. In the period 2000-2019, the budget managed in this area at current prices is equivalent to approximately USD 1,430,251.31. In average, the amount of rent of the annual budget is of 14,78% (see Annex II).

19. The financial crisis that the Agency faced between 2006 and 2008, which originated from the low collection of contributions, put the matter of finding a permanent headquarters for the Agency in discussions again. After having being delayed in the rent payment for a few months, the then Deputy Secretary-General suggested to add an *Addendum*¹¹ to the Headquarters Agreement between Mexico and OPANAL stating the compromise of the Host State of surrendering a facility to the Agency for its permanent functioning. Unfortunately, that proposal did have any response or reaction.
20. The financial crises faced by the Agency were aggravated by the continuing obligation to pay rent, which impedes investing the resources in other initiatives and activities required by the Agency's busy agenda. For instance, educational courses, scholarship and funding for the internship program, seminars, publications, among others.
21. The contract lease of the house that the Agency is currently renting is valid until 2020, however, that lease has an adjustment provision in the month of July equivalent to the inflation index plus 3 percent.
 - a) The current agreement amending the lease of the property is effective until June 30, 2024. The current monthly value of the rent is MXN 89,426.93 (MXN 1,033,930.44 from January to December 2023).
 - b) Since July 2020, the rent of the Agency's headquarters is covered in its entirety by the support of the Mexican Government. The value deposited last year covers the rent until March 2024.
 - c) Since April 2022, the Mexican Government regularly provides equipped rooms at the headquarters of the S.R.E. for meetings of the Agency.

V. International Organizations with headquarters in other countries

22. Different International Organizations with the same legal personality as OPANAL were provided with a permanent headquarters by the State that hosts them. For instance:

¹¹ S/Inf.971 of 25 March 2008.

- United Nations – the headquarters in New York City were built on donated land. The construction of the building was financed by the United States Government and subsequently paid by the United Nations¹²;
- Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) – The Government of the Netherlands provided a fully serviced building free of charge during the preparatory phase (5 years), while the permanent headquarters were being built. In accordance with the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the Netherlands and the OPCW, the Organization received the permanent headquarters belonging to the Netherlands, but with the guarantee of not being dispossessed of the property;
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - By decree dated 22 December 1952, the Government of France allocated land in the VII arrondissement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to make it available to UNESCO. The land remains the property of the French State, but is subject to a renewable lease for 1000 francs per year with a duration of 99 years. The agreement guarantees the Organization's permanence in Paris;
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) - The Government of Austria transferred to the United Nations the complex called "Vienna International Centre", which became the permanent headquarters of the IAEA and the United Nations Offices at Vienna (symbolic annual rent of one Austrian shilling).

VI. Final considerations and proposed solutions

23. Taking into account that in 2023 OPANAL celebrated 54 years of exercising its functions, this situation must not continue. The solution to this problem depends on the support of all Member States in order to bring this issue forward.
24. It is all Member States best interest to obtain permanent headquarters for OPANAL under adequate and independent conditions.
25. The States of Latin America and the Caribbean rightly consider the Treaty of Tlatelolco to be a source of pride for the region.

¹² A/RES/169(II).

26. Possible solutions include:

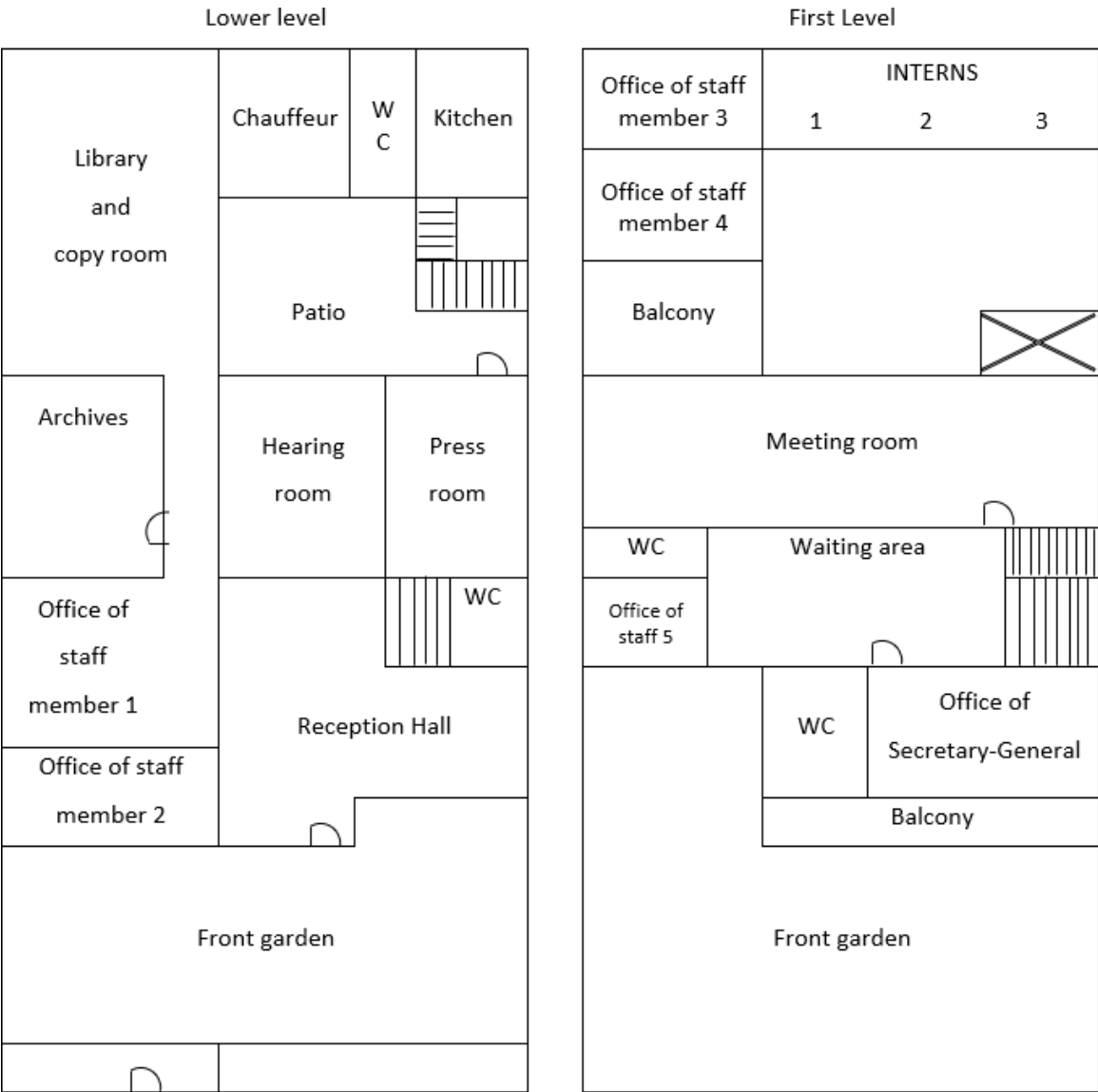
- the donation of a property;
- the loan of a property;
- the Host State could donate land and execute construction as a loan, which the Agency would pay for monthly;
- the reception of donations or contributions designated to purchase a property;
- the purchase of a property through financing.

27. The first two proposals are the most feasible and for these the action of the Host State is essential to solve the problematic situation described; however, the participation of all Member States of OPANAL is not dismissed, at least theoretically.

28. The Secretariat has prepared a compilation of documents from the different bodies at OPANAL that have addressed the topic of the headquarters. That documentation is available to the Member States.

Annex I

Blueprint of the house located at Milton 61, col. Anzures, Miguel Hidalgo C.P. 11590, Mexico City



Annex II

Designated Budget to pay the rent of headquarters in the last 20 years

AÑO	MONTO DE LA RENTA USD EN EL AÑO EJECUTADO (a)	TC (b)	PRESUPUESTO ANUAL EJECUTADO EN USD (c)	MONTO DE LA RENTA MXN EN EL AÑO EJECUTADO (d)	% DE PRESUPUESTO QUE SE GASTÓ EN RENTA
1998	\$ 47,769.95	9.14	\$ 347,702.28	\$ 436,617.34	13.74
1999	\$ 49,872.18	9.56	\$ 348,850.66	\$ 476,778.04	14.3
2000	\$ 55,381.97	9.46	\$ 314,600.97	\$ 523,913.44	17.6
2001	\$ 48,155.09	9.34	\$ 260,395.11	\$ 449,768.54	18.49
2002	\$ 46,645.09	9.66	\$ 294,139.88	\$ 450,591.57	15.86
2003	\$ 47,089.51	10.79	\$ 317,450.00	\$ 508,095.82	14.83
2004	\$ 47,083.00	11.38	\$ 310,003.00	\$ 535,804.54	15.19
2005	\$ 35,413.00	10.9	\$ 206,205.00	\$ 386,001.70	17.17
2006	\$ 4,982.00	11.04	\$ 152,278.00	\$ 55,001.28	3.27
2007	\$ 6,677.29	10.9	\$ 199,181.09	\$ 72,782.46	3.35
2008	\$ 47,943.42	13.32	\$ 181,995.83	\$ 638,606.35	26.34
2009	\$ 47,644.91	12.92	\$ 191,236.78	\$ 615,572.24	24.91
2010	\$ 51,061.94	12.47	\$ 322,680.64	\$ 636,742.39	15.82
2011	\$ 48,865.19	13.61	\$ 332,053.78	\$ 665,055.24	14.72
2012	\$ 49,898.17	12.93	\$ 336,285.13	\$ 645,183.34	14.84
2013	\$ 49,735.14	13.11	\$ 354,794.00	\$ 652,027.69	14.02
2014	\$ 56,000.00	13.9	\$ 366,028.30	\$ 778,400.00	15.3
2015	\$ 48,399.99	16.59	\$ 365,320.37	\$ 802,955.83	13.25
2016	\$ 45,735.49	20.34	\$ 364,675.25	\$ 930,259.87	12.54
2017	\$ 51,639.95	18.53	\$ 956,692.04	\$ 956,888.27	13.6
2018	\$ 53,737.70	20.11	\$ 374,476.17	\$ 1,080,665.15	13.06
2019	\$ 56,115.61	19.03	\$ 360,955.09	\$ 1,067,880.06	15.55
2020	\$ 57,364.21	19.21	\$ 324,915.56	\$ 1,101,966.47	17.66
2021	\$ 53,732.72	20.42	\$ 371,015.96	\$ 1,097,222.14	14.5
2022	\$ 45,306.32	19.61	\$ 318,748.08	\$ 888,456.94	14.2
2023*	\$ 58,414.15	17.7*	\$ 416,989.00	\$ 1,033,930.46	14.01*

- (a) Annual Income data in USD were obtained from the Financial Statements, the reports of the corresponding auditors and presented at the General Conference of each year.
- (b) Exchange rate obtained from the Financial Statements of each year's audit reports.
- (c) The data of the annual Budget executed in USD were obtained from the Financial Statements of the corresponding auditors' reports and presented at the General Conference of each year.
- (d) Since July 2020, the rent of the Agency's headquarters is covered in its entirety by the support of the Mexican Government, the value deposited last year covers until March 2024.

Annex III

Measurements of the surface area of the current headquarters of OPANAL

According to the draft budget of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, financial exercise of 1969 and 1970 (REOPANAL/2), in which the following was agreed:

	<u>Area (2019)</u>	<u>To be needed</u>
Calculated space area		
Office of the Secretary-General	15.5 m2	15.5 m2
Waiting room for staff and guests	24.8 m2	24.8 m2
Office of the International Relations Officer	3.9 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Research and Communications Officer	6.3 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Research Officer	10.4 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Programme Officer	8.5 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Administration Officer	8.5 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Driver and Courier/Usher	6.5 m2	6.5 m2
Archives	14.8 m2	30 m2
Library	12 m2	15 m2
Storage and copy room		12 m2
Area for three interns (students)	19 m2	20 m2
Meeting room	37.6 m2	45 m2
Reception Hall (flags)	42.4 m2	42.4 m2
Hearing room	14.4 m2	14.4 m2
Press room	14 m2	14 m2
Restrooms (3)	16.4 m2	16.4 m2
Kitchen and dining area	8 m2	10 m2
Total office area	263 m2	354 m2
Front garden	66 m2	66 m2
<u>Interior garden</u> (terrace)	34.7 m2	34.7 m2
Outdoor parking	4 spots	4 spots

The total area was thus 300 m2.

Current situation of OPANAL's headquarters – Secretariat

	<u>Area (2019)</u>	<u>To be needed</u>
Calculated space area		
Office of the Secretary-General	15.5 m2	15.5 m2
Waiting room for staff and guests	24.8 m2	24.8 m2
Office of the International Relations Officer	3.9 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Research and Communications Officer	6.3 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Research Officer	10.4 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Programme Officer	8.5 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Administration Officer	8.5 m2	8.5 m2
Office of the Driver and Courier/Usher	6.5 m2	6.5 m2
Archives	14.8 m2	30 m2
Library	12 m2	15 m2
Storage and copy room		12 m2
Area for three interns (students)	19 m2	20 m2
Meeting room	37.6 m2	45 m2
Reception Hall (flags)	42.4 m2	42.4 m2
Hearing room	14.4 m2	14.4 m2
Press room	14 m2	14 m2
Restrooms (3)	16.4 m2	16.4 m2
Kitchen and dining area	8 m2	10 m2
Total office area	263 m2	354 m2
Front garden	66 m2	66 m2
<u>Interior garden</u> (terrace)	34.7 m2	34.7 m2
Outdoor parking	4 spots	4 spots

Necessary requirements for OPANAL headquarters

Area of approximately calculated spaces	<u>To be needed</u>
Office of the Secretary-General	15.5 m2
Office of the International Relations Officer	8.5 m2
Office of the Research and Communication Officer	8.5 m2
Office of the Research Officer	8.5 m2
Office of the Programme Officer	8.5 m2
Office of the Administration Officer	8.5 m2
Office of the Driver	6.5 m2
Archive (according to the requirements of the Historical Collection ¹⁴)	30 m2
Library	15 m2
Storage and copy room	15 m2
Local for three interns (students)	20 m2
Multimedia room (Annex VI room plan ¹⁵)	80 m2
Reception room (flags)	42.4 m2
Hearing room	14.4 m2
Restrooms (3)	16.4 m2
Kitchen and dining room	10 m2
Wine cellar	6 m2
Outdoor parking	4 spaces
Total office area	313.7 m2
Outdoor parking	4 spaces

¹³ For the archive:

- Temperature: 18°C, with permissible variation between +- 2°C.
- Relative humidity: 35%, with permissible variation between +-5%.
- It is necessary to continuously monitor the conditions of temperature and humidity, this is done through the installation and review of Datalogers, thermohydrometers, in order to avoid strong variations or fluctuations, because they directly affect the documents.
- Furniture: stainless steel, high temperature enamelled metal; Avoid wooden furniture.
- Lighting: controlled with motion sensors or turn on only when entering and off when leaving; prefer the use of Led lights, since they do not generate heat or emit UV rays that damage the documents.
- Storage systems: corrugated polypropylene boxes, acid-free paper folders.
- Placement of the documents inside the box: vertically ensuring that they hold each other, without being tight and without being loose to prevent them from deforming.

¹⁴ Multimedia room with capacity for the 33 Member States, the OPANAL Secretariat and the translation booths.

Annex IV

Photographs of the properties of other Intergovernmental Organizations with headquarters in Mexico

Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS) – Calle San Ramón S/N, Colonia San Jerónimo Lídice, Mexico City



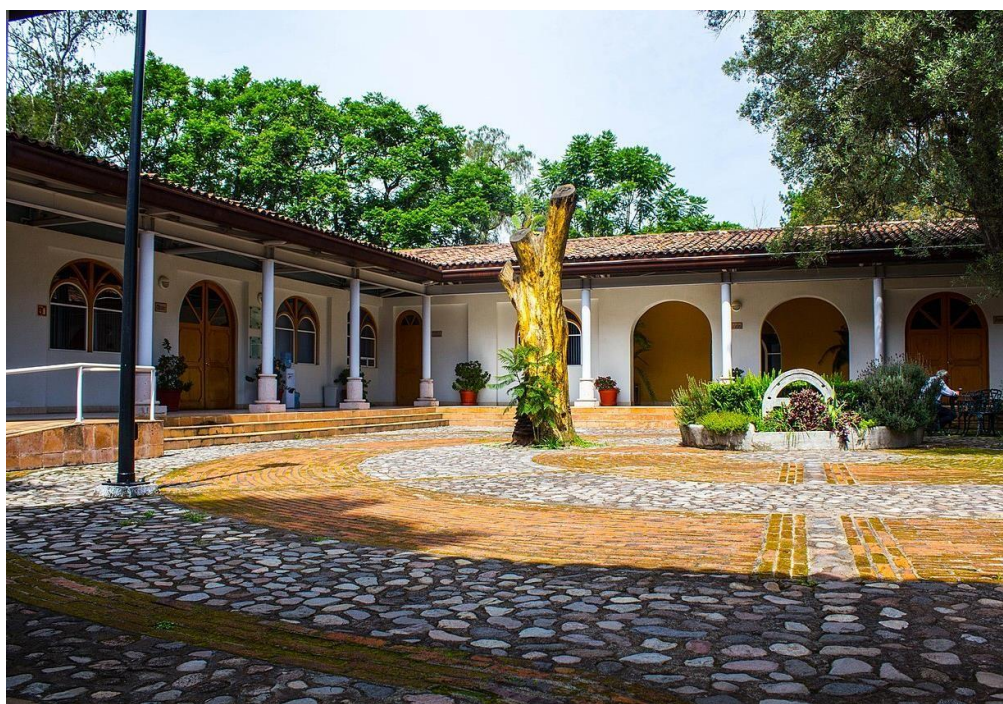
Latin American Institute of Educational Communication (ILCE) – Calle Del Puente No. 45, Colonia Ejidos de Huipulco, Mexico City



Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) – Calle Ex arzobispado No. 29, Colonia Observatorio, Mexico City



Regional Cooperation Center for Adult Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CREFAL) –
Avenida Lázaro Cárdenas No. 525, Colonia Revolución, city of Pátzcuaro, Michoacán, Mexico



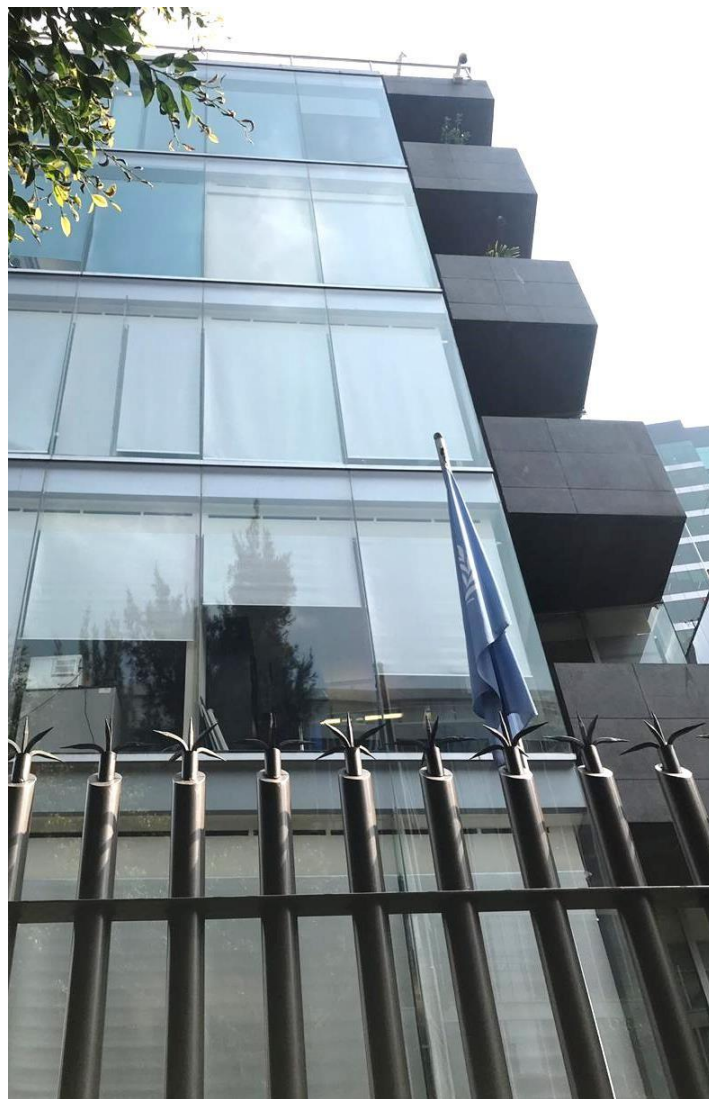
Annex V

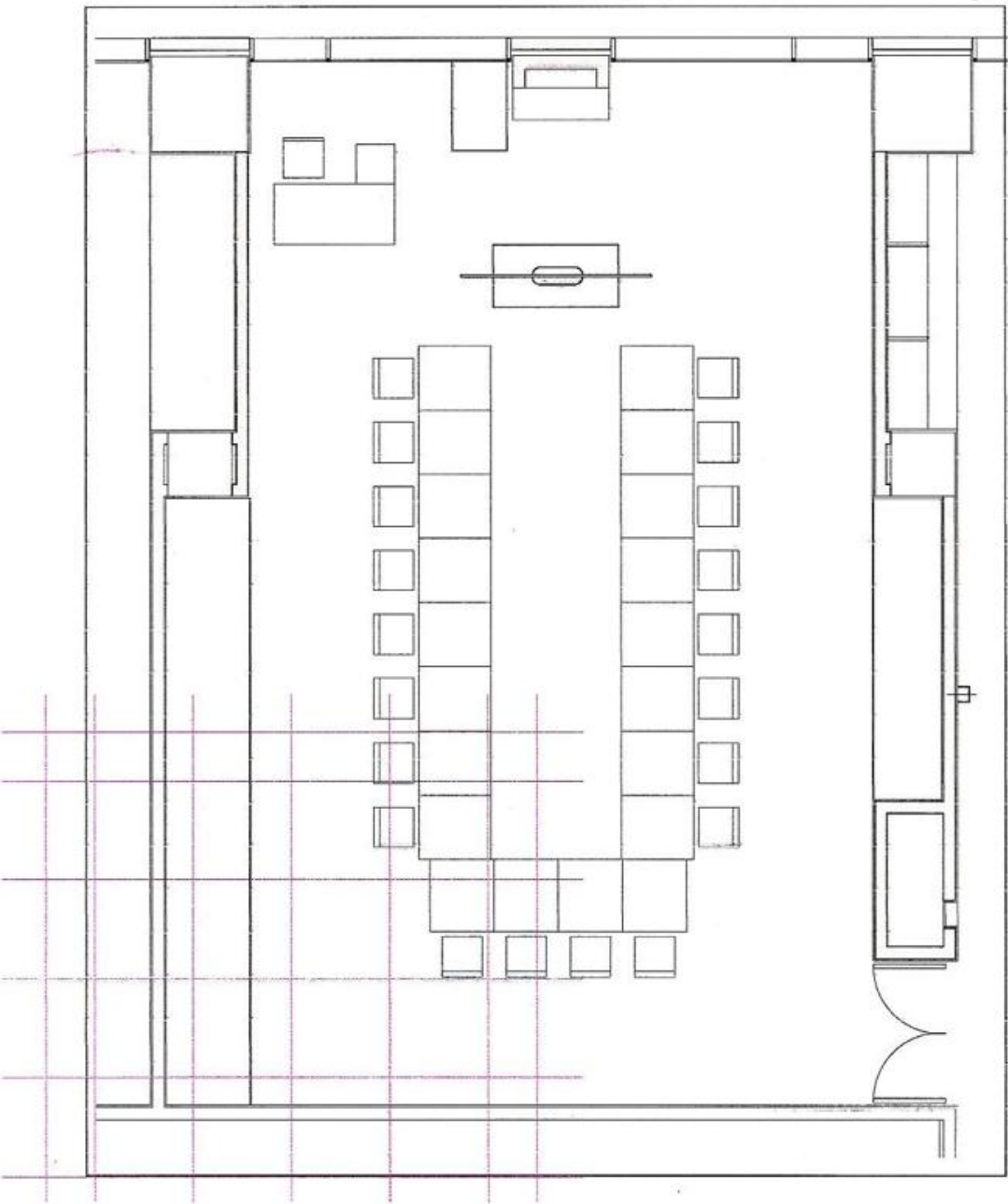
Photographs of the properties of Representations of International Organizations with headquarters in Mexico

International Labour Organization – Calle Comte No. 35, Colonia Anzures, Mexico City.



United Nations Mexico (Pan American Health Organization – PAHO/WHO, United Nations Development Program – UNDP) – Calle Montes Urales No. 440, Colonia Lomas de Chapultepec III Sección, Mexico City.





MULTIMEDIA ROOM



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 15

CG/E/12/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Financial Situation of the Agency

See below: Status of Collection of Member States' Contributions (Inf.02/2024Rev.17).

Contribution Collection Status of Member States (USD)											
MEMBER STATES	Accumulated debts as of 2019	Debt				Accumulated debts as of 2023	Contribution 2024		Raised by 2024	Pending Balance	Raised for future financial years
		2020	2021	2022	2023		%	Share			
ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA	11,465.65	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	17,637.65	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 19,180.65	
ARGENTINA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66,718.00	66,718.00	16	66,718.00		\$ 133,436.00	
BAHAMAS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	4,170.00		\$ 4,170.00	
BARBADOS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00	\$ 83.60	\$ 1,459.40	
BELIZE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00	\$ 1,543.00	\$ -	
BOLIVIA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.00	23.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 1,566.00	
BRASIL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.55	\$5,691.00	\$ 85,691.00	\$ -	
CHILE	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,849.00	20,849.00	41,698.00	5	20,849.00		\$ 62,547.00	
COLOMBIA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5	20,849.00	\$ 20,849.00	\$ -	\$ 833.96
COSTA RICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	3,127.00	\$ 3,127.00	\$ -	\$ 92.11
CUBA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.83	3,461.00	\$ 3,461.00	\$ -	
DOMINICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	3,086.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 4,629.00	
ECUADOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.2	5,004.00		\$ 5,004.00	
EL SALVADOR	128,574.50	1,668.00	1,668.00	1,668.00	1,668.00	135,246.50	0.4	1,668.00		\$ 136,914.50	
GRENADA	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	3,086.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 4,629.00	
GUATEMALA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	4,170.00	\$ 4,170.00	\$ -	\$ -
GUYANA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00	\$ 1,543.00	\$ -	\$ 131.10
HAITI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 1,543.00	
HONDURAS	32.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	6,204.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 7,747.00	
JAMAICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00	\$ 1,543.00	\$ -	
MEXICO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.5	93,822.00	\$ 93,822.00	\$ -	
NICARAGUA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.00	38.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 1,581.00	
PANAMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	4,170.00		\$ 4,170.00	
PARAGUAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	3,127.00		\$ 3,127.00	
PERU	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.6	10,842.00	\$ 10,842.00	\$ -	\$ 212.29
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	4,170.00	\$ 4,047.97	\$ 122.03	
SAINT KITTS & NEVIS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00	\$ 1,543.00	\$ -	
SAINT LUCIA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 1,543.00	
ST VINCENT & GRENADINES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,505.00	1,505.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 3,048.00	
SURINAME	6,172.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	12,344.00	0.37	1,543.00		\$ 13,887.00	
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,465.00	8,465.00	2.03	8,465.00		\$ 16,930.00	
URUGUAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.4	5,838.00	\$ 5,838.00	\$ -	
VENEZUELA	192,173.99	47,703.00	47,703.00	47,703.00	47,703.00	382,985.99	11.44	47,703.00		\$ 430,688.99	
TOTAL	338,418.14	54,000.00	54,000.00	77,935.00	154,684.00	679,037.14	100.00	416,969.00	\$ 238,103.57	\$ 857,922.57	\$ 1,269.46
PERCENTAGE OF COLLECTION		87.05%	87.05%	81.31%	62.90%	% raised as of 2024		57.10%			



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 15.2

CG/E/13/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The Secretariat has drawn attention to the importance of all Member States complying with their obligations under the Treaty of Tlatelolco, including financial obligations (Article 9, paragraph 3).

The accumulated debt of El Salvador in 2023 amounts to USD \$135,246.50. On the other hand, four Member States - Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Suriname and Venezuela - have a debt exceeding two years. The Secretariat proposes that the necessary contacts and procedures be carried out so that El Salvador, Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Suriname and Venezuela overcome the legal and political situation of non-compliance with the Treaty of Tlatelolco in which they find themselves and achieve their full reintegration into the activities of the Agency.

The Secretariat proposes a discount payment program to regularize the situation of these five States, which could consist of the following provisions:

- a) payment of its contributions due until 2023 with a 50% discount for El Salvador;
- b) payment of their contributions due until 2023 with a 20% discount for Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Suriname, and Venezuela;
- c) each of the aforementioned Member States must express in writing, no later than 31 March 2025, their acceptance of the proposed payment plan to regularize their situation.
- d) the payment plan is detailed according to the following table;
- e) the Government of El Salvador will be able to make the payment of its debts in 4 (four) stages: 1) USD 16,905.81 el 01/04/2025; 2) USD 16,905.81 el 01/05/2025; 3) USD 16,905.81 el 01/06/2025; 4) USD 16,905.81 el 01/07/2025.

Annex

Member State	Debt to 31/12/2023 (USD)	Discount according to the payment plan	Total amount to be deducted (USD)	Total amount to be paid (USD)
El Salvador	135,246.50	50%	67,625.25	67,625.25
Antigua y Barbuda	17,637.65	20%	3,527.53	14,110.12
Honduras	6,204.00	20%	1,240.20	4,963.20
Suriname	12,344.00	20%	2,468.80	9,875.20
Venezuela	382,985.99	20%	76,597.20	306,388.79



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 17

CG/E/14/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Budget and Scale of Assessed Contributions for Financial Year 2025

The Secretariat presented to the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters - CCAAP, at its 173th Meeting on November 07, 2024, the document “Draft Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025” (CCAAP/10/2024Rev.2 Alternative).

On that occasion, the CCAAP approved submitting it for consideration by the Council (354th Meeting on November 15, 2024). As there were no objections to the Budget Proposal and in accordance with Article 21 of the Financial Regulations, the Council authorized the Secretary-General to send the document to all Member States.

The Council submits for approval by the General Conference the Budget Proposal and Scale of Contributions for the financial year 2025 (CCAAP/10/2024Rev.2 Alternative).



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 17.1

CG/E/11/2024Rev.

Original: English/Spanish

Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor's Report as of 31st December 2023

This document contains the following annex:

Financial Statements and External Auditor's Report as of December 31, 2023
(CCAAP/25/2024Rev.).

Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

= Figures expressed in US dollars =

1. Constitution and Purpose

OPANAL is an intergovernmental organization created by the "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean" (Tlatelolco Treaty), to ensure the fulfillment of the Treaty's obligations. The Tlatelolco Treaty was opened for signature on February 14, 1967, in Mexico City, and entered into force on April 25, 1969.

Article 1 of the Tlatelolco Treaty, regarding the Obligations, establishes the following:

1. The Contracting Parties hereby undertake to use exclusively for peaceful purposes the nuclear material and facilities which are under their jurisdiction, and to prohibit and prevent in their respective territories:
 - a. The testing, use, manufacture, production or acquisition by any means whatsoever of any nuclear weapons, by the Parties themselves, directly or indirectly, on behalf of anyone else or in any other way, and
 - b. The receipt, storage, installation, deployment and any form of possession of any nuclear weapons, directly or indirectly, by the Parties themselves, by anyone on their behalf or in any other way.
2. The Contracting Parties also undertake to refrain from engaging in, encouraging or authorizing, directly or indirectly, or in any way participating in the testing, use, manufacture, production, possession or control of any nuclear weapon.

OPANAL is responsible for convening and holding regular or special meetings between Member States as they relate to the purposes, measures, and procedures outlined in the Tlatelolco Treaty, and for overseeing the fulfillment of the obligations set forth in this legal instrument.

The States Parties to the Tlatelolco Treaty, and therefore Members of OPANAL, are: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Article 8 of the Tlatelolco Treaty establishes the organs of OPANAL as the General Conference, the Council, and the Secretariat. Articles 9, 10, and 11 further define the structure and functions of each organ, respectively.

Article 11, paragraph 1 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco establishes that the OPANAL Secretariat will be composed of a Secretary General, who will be the highest official of the Organization, and the personnel that it requires (local employees).

2. Main Accounting Policies

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the financial reporting provisions established in the Financial Regulations of OPANAL (Doc. Inf.01/2019). In cases where the Financial Regulations do not address the accounting recognition, the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and developed by its International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) have been adopted.

The main accounting policies and criteria followed by OPANAL in the preparation of its financial statements are summarized below.

A. Preparation Basis

In accordance with the Financial Regulations, OPANAL maintains its accounting records in United States dollars (USD). However, since most expenses are incurred in Mexican pesos, the conversion of transactions in the national currency to USD is carried out using the weighted exchange rate, except for payroll payments, for which the exchange rate on the 14th day of the month or the previous business day is used.

The Organization operates with two funds and other income:

I. The General Fund

II. The Reserve Fund

III. Other income

I. The General Fund (Annex 5)

The Financial Regulations (Doc. Inf. 01/2019) in its article 11 define the General Fund and its application.

The General Fund contains the resources from the fees paid for the execution of the budget. The General Fund may contain other income in accordance with article 32, among which are the reserved amounts.

As of December 31, 2023, the Reserved Amounts corresponding to: Replacement of Assets USD\$ 5,953, Purchase of Vehicle USD\$ 27,075 and the Provision for the transfer and installation expenses of the Secretary General USD\$ 39,338, which as of December 31, 2023 total USD\$ 72,336.

II. The Reserve Fund

The Reserve Fund and its use are the subject of Article 12 of the Financial Regulations.

The purpose of the Reserve Fund is to ensure that OPANAL continues to operate in case of insufficient collection of contributions.

The Reserve Fund is constituted by resources that exceed the amounts necessary to finance the budget.

Efforts shall be made to ensure that the Reserve Fund reaches an amount equivalent to the total annual contributions of the Member States. The Reserve Fund may be used temporarily to:

- a) Financing the Budget in the event that there are insufficient resources in the General Fund, with the Secretary General being required to inform the Council of the transfers made;

- b) Financing necessary expenses not foreseen in the Budget, with the authorization of the General Conference or the Council, which will first review the report of the CCAAP on the status of the Reserve Fund and the reasons for such expenses.

In the case that the Reserve Fund is reduced to less than 50% of the total annual contributions of the Member States, the Secretary-General may include in the Draft Budget an allocation to replenish the Reserve Fund as indicated in Article 12, paragraph 2.

In the event that the Reserve Fund substantially exceeds the total annual contributions of the Member States, the Secretary-General shall propose to the Council to transfer resources from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund.

The Reserve Fund as of December 31, 2022 had a balance of USD\$ 315,325. In 2023, a transfer of USD\$ 101,664 was made, totaling an accumulated balance of USD\$ 416,989 as of December 31, 2023.

III. Other income

Other income includes resources derived from:

- a) Donations or inheritances;
- b) Proceeds from the sale of assets;
- c) Unidentified bank deposits;
- d) Bank interest.

The amounts from other income will be allocated to either the General Fund or the Reserve Fund at the discretion of the Secretary-General, who must report this to the CCAAP.

B. Bank accounts of the Agency

Currently, the Agency has six bank accounts, three in HSBC and three in Scotiabank. These accounts contain the funds corresponding to:

- **The General fund:**

- HSBC Bank, pesos account No. 4018671016: Used for the expenses outlined in the Budget. Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$3,703.
- HSBC Bank, dollar account No. 199312100: Used for the collection of contributions and to make the expenses specified in the Budget. Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$292,972.
- Scotiabank, pesos account No. 104194809: Used for the expenses outlined in the Budget. Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$320.
- Scotiabank, dollar account No. 107272022: Used for the collection of contributions and to make the expenses specified in the Budget. Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$47,142.
- **The Reserve Fund and Reserved amounts:**
 - Scotiabank, dollar account No. 107270887: Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$489,325.
- **Donations with a Specific Purpose:**
 - C. HSBC Bank, pesos account No. 4059454249: This account contains funds from the Government of Mexico for the implementation of the Summer School on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation. Balance as of December 31, 2023: USD \$33,284.

D. Permanent Equipment (Fixed Assets)

The acquisition cost of assets and their depreciation are recorded annually by applying the maximum percentages authorized by the Income Tax Law. Both asset additions (purchases), disposals of equipment no longer in use, and depreciation are recorded in the Equity (see Note 5).

E. Outstanding Contributions (Annex 6)

This represents, in general terms, the contributions that are still pending payment to OPANAL by the Member States.

F. Income

Income is recorded when an OPANAL Member State pays its annual contribution established in the Scale of Contributions, which is approved by the General Conference each year or when it comes from other income (see Note III).

G. Conversion of balances from National Currency to dollars

The conversion of balances in national currency to U.S. dollars for accounts denominated in national currency was carried out by dividing the national currency balances as of December 31, 2023, by the weighted exchange rate for December 2023 (USD \$16.867 per peso).

3. Cash

The amounts available to cover the operations of the Organization as outlined in the Budget were composed, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, as follows:

		2023	2022
Revolving fund or petty cash	USD\$	148	73
HSBC bank No. 4018671016 (pesos)		3,703	53,952
HSBC account No. 0199312100 (USD)		292,972	281,493
Scotiabank bank S.A. No. 00104194809 (pesos)		320	152
Scotiabank account No. 00107272022 (USD)		47,142	16,624
	USD\$	344,285	352,294

The Reserve Fund is in the Scotiabank account – 0889 and the amounts contained (point III) in the HSBC-4249 account, which are not part of the cash mentioned.

4. Outstanding collection fees (Annex 6)

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022 (See Note 14.c), it is composed as follows:

		2022	2023
Balances receivable as of December 31, 2023 / 2022	USD\$	977,075	947,054
Amounts pending collection from the budget for the year 2022 / 2023		244,990	168,420
Collections for recovery of quotas from 2023 and previous / 2022 and previous		(279,600)	(314,102)
Collected for future financial years		(52)	(980)
Application of balances in favor of previous years		4,641	260
	USD\$	947,054	800,652

5. Permanent Equipment

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the value of permanent equipment amounted to USD \$11,337 and USD \$3,907, respectively, and is composed as follows:

		2023	2022
Transportation equipment	USD\$	22,574	22,574
Computer equipment		21,983	12,472
Furniture and equipment		24,396	24,047
		68,953	59,093
Accumulated depreciation		(57,616)	(55,186)
	USD\$	11,337	3,907

Depreciation for fiscal years 2023 and 2022 was USD\$2,430 and USD\$2,907 respectively, which was applied against Equity.

6. Security deposits

The balance as of December 31, 2023, is comprised of USD\$ 3,931 corresponding to one month's rent with Mr. Federico Mendoza Mirassou (Second Clause and second paragraph of the Headquarters Lease Agreement), USD\$ 74 from Pegaso (mobile phone service) and USD\$ 682 from ADT (headquarters building alarm).

7. Accounts Payable

The total accounts payable as of December 31, 2023, is USD \$318,951. These are composed of the following:

- i. USD \$1,849 for IMSS, SAR, INFONAVIT contributions for the month of December, to be paid in January 2024;
- ii. USD \$33,028 corresponding to the accounting entry for "Asset Replacement";
- iii. USD \$234,036 balance in favor of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SRE) for the 2022 Summer Course and for another potential headquarters of the Organization or rental assistance for the same;
- iv. U USD \$677 corresponding to the balance in favor of the Netherlands for the internship program;
- v. USD \$2,523 from Brazil, Costa Rica, Guyana, and Peru;
- vi. USD \$39,338 provision for the relocation and installation of the Secretary-General;
- vii. USD \$7,500 corresponding to the December payment for the Secretary-General, applied in January 2024.

8. The Reserve Fund and Reserved Fund

The resources of this fund are deposited in dollar account No. 107270887 of the Scotiabank, its balance as of December 31, 2023 is USD \$489,325.

The Scotiabank- USD- 0887 account is made up of:

		2023		2022
Reserve Fund and Reserved Amounts as of December 31, 2023/2022	USD\$	393,677	USD\$	482,341
Reserved Amounts Expenditures / Haiti Refund		(20,016)		(101,664)
Transfer to Reserved Amounts		14,000		13,000
Transfer to Reserve Fund		101,664		-
Reserve Fund and Reserved Amounts as of December 31, 2023/2022	USD\$	489,325	USD\$	393,677

9. Transfer of Reserved Amounts (Annex 2)

In February 2023, USD\$ 10,000.00 was transferred from the Scotiabank account - dollars - 001072722022 to the Scotiabank account - dollars -107270887, as a provision for expenses for the transfer and installation of the Secretary General and USD\$ 4,000.00 for the purchase reserve of an OPANAL vehicle. On the other hand, during 2023, the replacement of assets decreased by USD\$ 20,016 due to the purchase of computer equipment, installation of internet antennas, software, technical support and advancement of the OPANAL web project, and the Reserve Fund increased by USD\$ 101,664 to be equivalent to an annual budget (USD\$ 416,989.00).

10. Unspent Budget Items (Annex 3)

The "unspent budget items" represent the accounting result of the difference between the approved budget and the actual expenses incurred during the year. The annual approved budget (which corresponds to the total contributions according to the scale of contributions) is an authorization granted by the General Conference to the Secretary-General of OPANAL, setting the expenditure ceiling organized by titles, sections, and chapters.

However, not all Member States pay their contributions on time, and therefore the Secretary General executes the budget by going through the income in the form of contributions from the current year, from previous years or from future years.

Given the uncertainty generated by the lag in payments received by the Organization, an effort is made to "save". This "saving" is what is called "unspent items" and is an amount for accounting purposes only.

At the end of each financial year, the "savings or overspending" of "unspent items" is added to the accumulated amount from the previous year. The "overspending" recorded in the 2023 fiscal year was USD \$37,285, bringing the accumulated balance as of December 31, 2023, to USD \$441,813.

11. Other Products and Income

This category records the cancellation of expenses (bank fees and foreign exchange losses) and financial products (earned interest) for each financial year. It also includes income that differs from the contributions approved by the General Conference, provided that it is not designated for a specific purpose, in accordance with Article 8 of the Financial Regulations (e.g., unidentifiable contributions that, by decision of the Commission on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CCAAP), were recorded as "other income").

The balance as of December 31, 2023, and 2022 amounted to USD \$100,390 and USD \$121,295, respectively.

12. Agreements between the Government of Mexico and OPANAL – Extrabudgetary Income

Since 2015, the Government of Mexico and OPANAL have formalized agreements to co-sponsor the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation. The agreement consists of the Government of Mexico determining the amount - based on the remaining amount from the previous edition of the Summer Course and the amount to be used in the Summer Course of the corresponding year - and depositing it in the accounts of OPANAL, which undertakes to purchase the participants' air tickets, payment per day and payment for materials and some suppliers for the realization of said course. The Agreement describes that in the event that the expenses exceed the amount deposited, the Government of Mexico undertakes to reimburse the Organization and, otherwise, if there is a surplus, this would be reserved for future editions of the Summer Course.

In 2018, the remaining funds from the Summer School were USD\$ 1,264,000, which was reserved for the 2019 edition of the Summer School. The participation of the OPANAL Secretariat was carried out through an agreement with the Government of Mexico by exchange of notes: that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no. 2927 dated April 4, 2018 and OPANAL, S-253/2018 dated May 7, 2018.

On December 31, 2019, the Government of Mexico deposited to the organization (\$ 948,215) USD\$50,000 for the 2020 summer course.

On December 31, 2020, the Government of Mexico deposited \$802,248.00 (USD\$ 40,000) in the OPANAL account for the 2021 summer course.

The balance as of December 31, 2020 amounted to \$1,775,875 (USD\$ 91,264)

In December 2021, the Government of Mexico deposited \$804,000 (USD\$ 40,000) in the OPANAL account. 40,000) for the 2022 Summer Course, thus obtaining an accumulated amount of \$2,579,875.

The total expenses related to the 2023 Summer Course were MXN 1,282,363.77. An amount of MXN \$600,733.53 was used for the purchase of plane tickets for accredited participants; MXN 172,000.00 for per diem, luggage transportation and extra expenses for participants; MXN 237,710.00 for hotels; MXN 78,734.50 for food; MXN 28,750.00 for internal transportation; MXN 17,280.00 Furniture; MXN 97,482.50 Audio and interpretation and MXN 49,673.24 Materials and extra expenses.

Therefore, after making the payments detailed above, there is a surplus as of December 31, 2023 of MXN 559,909.38 deposited in a specific OPANAL account at HSBC bank, which contains the funds from the Government of Mexico for the organization of the Summer School. The receipts for the indicated expenses are on file at the OPANAL Secretariat.

Note: *These resources are reported as donations for a specific purpose that, in accordance with Article 8 of the Financial Regulations, are not part of the General Fund.*

13. Special Recovery Fund (Annex 3)

In 2008, the Agency experienced an economic crisis caused by low income and increased expenses, so the General Conference decided to create a Special Recovery Fund.

The purpose of the Special Recovery Fund was to group together in a single fund the Unspent Items, the Agency's contributions and the Working Capital Fund so that the presentation of the Financial Statements would reflect the reality of the Agency.

This accounting account includes the recovery of arrears of contributions from Member States prior to 1999, as well as the remaining balances from contributions from the Agency, mainly from the transferred funds that have already been defunct: the Pension and Retirement Fund for Individuals and the Working Capital Fund.

In 2017, the discount applied to the debt of Saint Lucia in the amount of USD\$ 11,494 was deducted from this accounting account. As of December 31, 2017, the balance in this accounting account was USD\$ 559,919. In order to show the real operation and the funds that OPANAL currently has, the Special Recovery Fund is added to the remainder of "unexercised items" (see note 9) from 2018, which as of December 31, 2019 is USD\$ 868,385, value only for accounting purposes.

14. Exchange loss (Annex 2)

The Agency's accounting is done in US dollars (USD). However, most of the expenses are made in Mexican pesos (MXN). Monthly, the Agency seeks to express the expenses in MXN in USD as accurately as possible, and for this purpose, the weighted exchange rate is used in the Agency's accounting.

The difference between the exchange rates used generates the need for a monthly exchange adjustment which makes up the exchange loss (see Annex 2).

15. Budget situation as of December 31, 2023

a) Income:

		2023	2022
Budgeted income from contributions for the year	USD\$	416,989	416,989
Application of balance in favor of contributions from previous years		-	-

Contributions collected for the year		(248,569)	(176,693)
Outstanding contributions to be collected from			
Member States for budgeted income	USD\$	168,420	240,296

As of December 31, 2023, USD \$168,420 had not been collected, which is equivalent to 40.39% of the budgeted contributions for the year 2023.

b) Expenditure:

		2023	2022
Expenditure budget for the year	USD\$	416,989	416,989
Budget executed		(454,274)	(413,731)
Budget to be excuted	USD\$	(37,285)	3,258

Annex 5 includes a summary of the budgeted items compared to the amounts spent as of December 31, 2023.

16. Report of Member States regarding payment of contributions:

The status of the Member States of the Organization regarding the payment of their contributions as of December 31, 2023 is as follows:

a) Up to date with the payment of contributions:

Barbados, Brasil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru y Uruguay.

With a balance in favor for the year 2024 and later:

Brasil, Costa Rica, Guyana y Peru.

b) Countries with overdue payments:

As of December 31, 2023, El Salvador has an accumulated debt of USD\$ 135,247.

Antigua and Barbuda has pending payment of its quotas from 2012 to 2023 with an accumulated debt as of December 31, 2023 of USD\$ 17,638.

Venezuela has pending payment of its quotas from 2015 to 2023, generating an accumulated debt as of December 31, 2023 of USD\$ 382,986.

Suriname has debts since 2016, totaling a debt of USD\$ 12,344 as of December 31, 2023.

Honduras owes its quotas since 2019, for USD\$ 7,747.

As of December 31, 2023, Dominica had outstanding dues from 2020, totaling USD\$6,172.

Chile and Grenada owe contributions for 2022 and 2023, with accumulated debts of USD \$41,698 and USD \$3,086, respectively.

Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago owe part or the entire contribution for 2023.

17. Authorization for the issuance of financial statements

The issuance of the attached financial statements was authorized on November 5, 2024, by Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, Secretary General. Consequently, they do not reflect events that occurred after that date and are subject to approval by the OPANAL General Conference.



Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini

Secretary-General



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 18

CG/E/10/2024Rev.2

Original: English/Spanish

Process for Submitting Candidacies for the Election of the Secretary-General for the 2026-2029 Term

The XXIX Session of the General Conference, to be held in 2025, shall elect a Secretary-General for the period 2026-2029. In this regard, this document accompanies draft resolution CG/E/L.21/2024Rev.2 to be considered at the XXVIII Special Session.

I. On the Regulations

- In accordance with the provisions of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), the General Conference, as the supreme body of OPANAL, is responsible for electing the Secretary-General, who is the highest administrative official of the Agency.¹
- The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference (Inf.25/2016) provide that the Secretary-General shall hold office for a term of four years, with the possibility of being re-elected for a single additional term, and that may not be a national of the country in which the Agency has its headquarters.²
- Chapter II of the Amended Rules Governing the Functioning of the Secretariat (CG/E/666) sets out, inter alia, the powers, rights and responsibilities of the Secretary-General.³
- Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini was elected Secretary-General for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021, by Resolution CG/Res.13/2019 adopted at the XXVI Session of the

¹ OPANAL. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), Article 9.

² OPANAL. Rules of Procedure of the General Conference (Report 25/2016), Article 60.

³ OPANAL. Rules Governing the Functioning of the Secretariat, as amended (Doc. CG/E/666). Mexico City: OPANAL.

General Conference, and re-elected by acclamation for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2025, by Resolution CG/Res.15/2021 adopted at the XXVII Session of the General Conference.

- The strengthening of the Secretariat has been a priority issue for the membership as reflected in resolution CG/Res.11/2023 adopted by the XXVIII Session of the General Conference on 3 November 2023 and draft resolution CG/E/L.11/2024Rev.3 submitted for consideration of the XXVIII Special Session.

II. Considerations for the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference

- The Secretariat is the administrative and permanent body of OPANAL. Among its functions, it acts as the secretariat of the General Conference, the Council and the other bodies of the Agency. Therefore, the election of the Secretary-General, who heads the Secretariat, is a crucial element to ensure its effective functioning.
- The establishment of a transparent and participatory process for submitting candidacies would allow Member States the necessary time to identify and prepare qualified candidates capable of assuming the position of Secretary-General, ensuring that the final election is based on a comprehensive and deliberate assessment.
- This process could consider, *inter alia*, the following issues:
 - Early nomination of candidates would be beneficial in order to allow sufficient time for the various bodies involved in the process to deliberate and, eventually, for the appointment by the General Conference to allow the new Secretary-General to carry out any necessary arrangements in good time before taking office.
 - The office of Secretary-General requires the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, as well as a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
 - In addition to excellent leadership and management skills, it would be desirable that candidacy submissions consider a broad multilateral experience, ideally in the field of disarmament and/or non-proliferation, arms control, as well as strong multilingual, diplomatic and communication skills.

- Setting dates for the start of the process and criteria, such as the submission of a work programme or a strategic plan describing the vision of the candidate for the position would provide important elements to the Member States for their decision and consequent election.
- The Process for Submitting Candidacies might also take into account equitable geographical representation. The list of former Secretaries General is presented as Annex I.
- Candidates are invited to submit, along with their application, a statement of no more than 2,000 words outlining their vision for OPANAL and the strategic direction they would pursue if appointed. The statement should also reflect the candidate's commitment to the values and objectives of OPANAL, including the principles of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the promotion of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Additionally, candidates should highlight their experience in international law, diplomacy, disarmament, and organizational leadership, as well as their understanding of and ability to work effectively within diverse cultural, social, and political contexts. Candidates are expected to commit to observing the highest ethical standards in line with OPANAL's mission and guiding principles. Finally, candidates should indicate their language proficiency, particularly in the official languages of OPANAL.

III. Proceedings in Other International Organizations

- Other international organizations have established formal processes for nominations to their highest leadership positions under a structured framework that seeks transparency, inclusiveness and fairness.
- The United Nations (UN), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) have established mechanisms that allow their Member States to actively participate in the nomination and evaluation of candidates. These processes include clear timelines, public selection criteria, interviews and transparent deliberations, which ensure a choice that reflects the interests of the entire membership.

- For example, in the case of the UN⁴, the selection process for the Secretary-General includes the formal nomination of candidates by Member States, followed by consultations and public hearings with Member States of the Security Council and the General Assembly. The IAEA, for its part, maintains a detailed timetable for the submission and review of candidates, while the ILO⁵ emphasises the importance of the evaluation of candidates' work plans.
- Taking into account the aforementioned elements, as well as international best practices of other bodies, it would be appropriate to establish a nomination process for the election of the Secretary General of OPANAL for the period 2026-2029. Furthermore, the establishment of such a process could serve as a model and good practice for subsequent periods.

⁴ See the site dedicated to the selection and appointment process of the Secretary-General (Antonio Guterres) <https://www.un.org/sg/es/content/selection-and-appointment-of-ant%C3%B3nio-guterres>

⁵ Rules Governing the Appointment of the Director-General of the ILO <https://www.ilo.org/resource/rules-governing-appointment-director-general-ilo>

Annex

**Chronological List of Secretaries General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear
Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Secretary-General	Member State	Terms
Ambassador Leopoldo Benites Vinueza	Ecuador	• 1971
Ambassador Héctor Gros Espiell	Uruguay	• 1973 - 1975 • 1975 - 1979 • 1979 - 1981
Dr. José Ricardo Martínez Cobo	Ecuador	• 1981 - 1985
Dr. Antonio Stempel Paris	Venezuela	• 1986 - 1989 • 1990 - 1993
Ambassador Enrique Román-Morey	Peru	• 1994 - 1997 • 1998 - 2000
Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño	Chile	• 2001 - 2005 • 2006 - 2007
Ambassador Gioconda Ubeda Rivera	Costa Rica	• 2010 - 2013
Ambassador Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares	Brazil	• 2014 - 2017 • 2018 - 2019
Ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini	Brazil	• 2019 - 2021 • 2022 - 2025

Deputy or Acting Secretary-General	Member State	Terms
Ambassador Carlos Peón del Valle	Mexico	• 1969 - 1970
Ambassador Antonio González de León	Mexico	• 1971 - 1976
Ambassador Perla Carvalho	Mexico	• 2008 - 2009



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 19.1

CG/E/18/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL¹

I. Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco adopted by the OPANAL General Conference

The OPANAL General Conference adopted the following resolutions regarding amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco:

- Resolution 267 (E-V) of 3 July 1990² which resolved to add to the legal title of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America the words "and the Caribbean", and, thus, to similarly amend the legal title of the organisation as set out in Article 7 of the Treaty;
- Resolution 268 (XII) of 10 May 1991³ which replaces paragraph 2 of Article 25 of the Treaty with the following wording: "The status of State Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco shall be restricted to those Independent States within the area of application of the Treaty in accordance with Article 4 and with paragraph 1 of this Article, which, as of 10 December 1985, were Members of the United Nations and to those Non-Self-Governing Territories mentioned in documents OAS/CER.P, AG/doc. 1939-85 of 5 November 1985, upon their independence";
- Resolution 290 (E-VII) of 26 August 1992⁴ resolving to amend Articles 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

¹ See annex for the status of signatures and ratifications of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, its approved reforms, and the OPANAL Convention on Privileges and Immunities.

² <https://www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CGE05res267i.pdf>

³ www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CG12res268i.pdf

⁴ www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CGE07res290i.pdf

Ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco by all Member States is crucial to strengthening the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime in Latin America and the Caribbean. The completion of the ratification process will consolidate the shared commitment to disarmament and ensure a uniform legal framework throughout the region. It is, therefore, important that all OPANAL Member States which have not yet completed this process move towards signing and/or ratifying the amendments.

II. OPANAL Convention on Privileges and Immunities⁵

The OPANAL Convention on the Privileges and Immunities is a fundamental international agreement serving to compliment the Treaty of Tlatelolco and establishes the privileges and immunities necessary for the OPANAL to effectively execute its functions and meet its objectives of keeping the region free of nuclear weapons.

Adopted on 8 September 1969 via Resolution 9 of the First General Conference and registered by the United Nations on 7 December 1981 (certificate of registration № 23504⁶), this Convention is vital for the full operation of the Agency. The obligation for States to sign on to this Convention is derived from Article 23 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, non-compliance with which is addressed in Article 21(1) of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

The fulfilment of this obligation would further strengthen Member States' commitment to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which represents one of the greatest contributions of Latin America and the Caribbean to international peace and disarmament.

It should be noted that, since 1989, the Agency has repeatedly appealed to the Governments of Member States which are not yet full Parties to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Agency to sign and/or ratify the said instrument as soon as possible, by means of the following resolutions: 245 (XI) of 27 April 1989, 274 (XII) of 10 May 1991, 294 (XIII) of 27 May 1993, 327 (XIV) of 29 March 1995, 354 (XV) of 10 July 1997, 354 (XV) of 10 July 1997, 383 (XVI) of 30 November 1999 and 411 (XVII) of 29 November 2001, 440 (XVIII) of 5 November 2003.

⁵ <https://opanal.org/en/convencion-prerrogativas-inmunidades/>

⁶ https://www.opanal.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/S_Inf_0249_1982.pdf

The most recent countries to accede to the OPANAL Convention on Privileges and Immunities were Grenada (2015), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2015), Saint Lucia (2015) and Argentina (2016).

III. Recommendations

In accordance with the above, the following is recommended:

1. **To urge** Member States that have not completed the processes of signing and/or ratifying the amendments approved by Resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII), and 290 (E-VII), to do so as soon as possible in order to contribute to efforts aimed at achieving the full effectiveness of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
2. **To urge** Member States to continue working jointly with the OPANAL Secretariat and the Depositary State to ensure the full implementation of the aforementioned amendments, thereby strengthening the legal framework of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
3. **To call upon** Member States that have not yet done so to complete the processes of signing and/or ratifying the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL with a view to achieving the full legal status of the Organization and ensuring the recognition of the facilities that it should enjoy in each of the Member States for the proper performance of its functions, based on Article 7 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
4. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to renew efforts with the Governments of those countries that have not yet signed and/or ratified the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and/or the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL, to provide support and follow-up to Member States in completing the pending signing and ratification processes, with the goal of achieving full validity of these international instruments, and to present a report on these efforts to the XXIX Session of the General Conference.

Status of signatures and ratifications of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, its approved amendments ¹ , and of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL.											
Treaty of Tlatelolco				Resolution 267 (E-V) - Amendment to Art. 7		Resolution 268 (XII) - Reform to the art. 26, para. 2)		Resolution 290 (E-VII) - Amendments to Arts. 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20		Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL	
State	Signature	Deposit of the instrument of ratification	Entry into force (Article 29) ²	Signature	Ratification / Accession	Signature	Ratification/ Accession	Signature	Ratification/ Accession	Signature	Ratification/ Accession
Antigua & Barbuda	11-Oct-1983	11-Oct-1983	11-Oct-1983 (w/D)		13-Jun-2013 A ³		13-Jun-2013 AD		13-Jun-2013 A		
Argentina	27-Sep-1967 (w/D) ⁴	18-Jan-1994 (w/D)	18-Jan-1994 (w/D)	10-Dec-1990	18-Jan-1994	14-Oct-1991	18-Jan-1994	26-Aug-1992 (w/D)	18-Jan-1994	22-Aug-2013	24-Jun-2016 RA
Bahamas	29-Nov-1976	26-Apr-1977	26-Apr-1977 (w/D)	18-Mar-1992							
Barbados	18-Oct-1968	25-Apr-1969	25-Apr-1969 (w/D)	14-Feb-1997	14-Feb-1997	14-Feb-1997	14-Feb-1997	14-Feb-1997	14-Feb-1997		
Belize	14-Feb-1992	9-Nov-1994	9-Nov-1994 (w/D)	23-Nov-1995	23-Nov-1995		20-Jun-2024 A	23-Nov-1995	23-Nov-1995		
Bolivia	14-Feb-1967	18-Feb-1969	18-Feb-1969 (w/D)	10-Dec-1990	13-sept-2019	10-Sep-1991	13-sept-2019	31-Aug-1992	13-sept-2019	7-Feb-1980	
Brazil	9-May-1967 (w/D)	29-Jan-1968 (w/D)	30-May-1994 (w/D)	5-Dec-1990	30-May-1994	23-Jan-1992	30-May-1994	26-Aug-1992	30-May-1994	4-Feb-2004	
Chile	14-Feb-1967	9-Oct-1974	18-Jan-1994 (w/D)	16-Jan-1991	18-Jan-1994	3-Sep-1991	18-Jan-1994	26-Aug-1992	18-Jan-1994	30-Sep-1994	17-Jun-1997 RA
Colombia	14-Feb-1967	4-Aug-1972	6-Sep-1972 (w/D)	5-Dec-1990	18-Jan-1999	10-Sep-1991	18-Jan-1999	14-Dec-1992	18-Jan-1999	18-Apr-1986	28-Mar-2001 RA
Costa Rica	14-Feb-1967	25-Aug-1969	25-Aug-1969 (w/D)	10-Dec-1990	20-Jan-1999	3-Sep-1991	20-Jan-1999	26-Aug-1992	20-Jan-1999	27-Jan-1970	20-Aug-1979 RA
Cuba	25-Mar-1995 (w/D)	23-Oct-2002 (w/D)	23-Oct-2002	5-Dec-1995		5-Dec-1995		5-Dec-1995			10-Dec-2009 A
Dominica	2-May-1989	4-Jun-1993	25-Aug-1993 (w/D)								
Ecuador	14-Feb-1967	11-Feb-1969	11-Feb-1969 (w/D)	5-Dec-1990	18-Oct-1995	13-Sep-1991	30-Aug-2000	26-Aug-1992	30-Aug-2000	4-Oct-1973	19-Mar-1974 RA

¹ In accordance with the information provided by the Legal Consultancy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States, in its capacity as the Depositary State of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

² Pursuant to resolution 290 (E-VII), adopted by the General Conference of OPANAL on 26 August 1992, Article 28 of the original text of the Treaty of Tlatelolco was renumbered as Article 29.

³ A: Accession.

⁴ w/D: with declaration.

Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL -
CG/E/18/2024

El Salvador	14-Feb-1967	22-Apr-1968	22-Apr-1968 (w/D)	21-Feb-1991	22-May-1992	10-Sep-1991	14-Jan-2002	8-Sep-1992	19-Jun-2006		28-Jul-2004 A
Grenada	29-Apr-1975	20-Jun-1975	20-Jun-1975 (w/D)	17-Sep-1991	17-Sep-1991	17-Sep-1991	3-Mar-2015		3-Mar-2015 A	28-Jan-2015	4-Mar-2015 RA
Guatemala	14-Feb-1967	6-Feb-1970	6-Feb-1970 (w/D)	10-Dec-1990	21-Aug-1998	23-Oct-1997	26-Nov-2003	26-Aug-1992	26-Nov-2003	29-Sep-1998	22-Oct-2001 RA
Guyana	16-Jan-1995	16-Jan-1995	14-May-1997 (w/D)	16-Jan-1995		16-Jan-1995		16-Jan-1995			
Haiti	14-Feb-1967	23-May-1969	23-May-1969 (w/D)	16-Jan-1991		21-Jan-1992		22-Oct-1992		30-Jul-1973	7-Mar-1977 RA
Honduras	14-Feb-1967	23-Sep-1968	23-Sep-1968 (w/D)	16-Jan-1991	6-Apr-2017	4-Mar-1992	6-Apr-2017	26-Aug-1992	6-Apr-2017	23-Nov-1973	20-Mar-2007 RA
Jamaica	26-Oct-1967	26-Jun-1969	26-Jun-1969 (w/D)	21-Feb-1991	13-Mar-1992	17-Sep-1991	17-May-1995	8-Jun-1993	17-May-1995	19-Mar-1970	19-Mar-1970 RA
Mexico	14-Feb-1967	20-Sep-1967	20-Sep-1967 (w/D)	5-Nov-1990	24-Oct-1991	2-Sep-1991	10-Apr-1992	26-Aug-1992	1-Sep-1993	12-Jan-1970	28-Nov-1970 RA
Nicaragua	15-Feb-1967 (w/D)	24-Oct-1968	24-Oct-1968 (w/D)	10-Dec-1990	22-Jan-2021	28-Jan-1992	22-Jan-2021	26-Aug-1992	8-Nov-1999	28-Feb-1975	24-Jun-1975 RA
Panama	14-Feb-1967	11-Jun-1971	11-Jun-1971 (w/D)		8-Aug-2000 AD		8-Aug-2000 A		8-Aug-2000 AD	9-Jul-1973	5-Mar-1975 RA
Paraguay	26-Apr-1967	19-Mar-1969	19-Mar-1969 (w/D)	19-Feb-1991	22-Oct-1996	21-Jan-1992	22-Oct-1996	26-Aug-1992	22-Oct-1996	30-Mar-1979	18-Aug-1997 RA
Peru	14-Feb-1967	4-Mar-1969	4-Mar-1969 (w/D)	5-Dec-1990	14-Jul-1995	21-Jan-1992	14-Jul-1995	9-Feb-1993	14-Jul-1995	18-Aug-1970	12-Jul-1977 RA
Dominican Republic	28-Jul-1967	14-Jun-1968	14-Jun-1968 (w/D)	16-Jan-1991		10-Sep-1991		26-Aug-1992	27-Mar-1998	23-Mar-1970	20-May-1977 RA
Saint Kitts & Nevis	18-Feb-1994	18-Apr-1995	14-Feb-1997 (w/D)	18-Feb-1994	16-Nov-2012	18-Feb-1994	16-Nov-2012	18-Feb-1994	16-Nov-2012		
Saint Lucia	25-Aug-1992	2-Jun-1995	2-Jun-1995 (w/D)		10-Apr-2014 A		10-Apr-2014 A		10-Apr-2014 A	27-Jan-2015	
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	14-Feb-1992	14-Feb-1992	11-May-1992 (w/D)		28-Nov-1997		28-Nov-1997 A		28-Nov-1997 A	27-Jan-2015	
Suriname	13-Feb-1976	10-Jun-1977	10-Jun-1977 (w/D)		13-Jun-1994 A		13-Jun-1994 A		13-Jun-1994 AD	2-Feb-1979	30-Sep-1980 RA
Trinidad & Tobago	27-Jun-1967	3-Dec-1970	27-Jun-1975 (w/D)		30-Nov-2012 A		30-Nov-2012 A		30-Nov-2012 A		
Uruguay	14-Feb-1967	20-Aug-1968	20-Aug-1968 (w/D)	16-Nov-1990	30-Aug-1994	17-Sep-1991	30-Aug-1994	26-Aug-1992	20-Feb-1995	5-Dec-1972	30-Aug-1978 RA
Venezuela	14-Feb-1967	23-Mar-1970	23-Mar-1970 (w/D)	16-Jan-1991	14-Feb-1997	10-Sep-1991	14-Feb-1997	26-Aug-1992	14-Feb-1997	31-Mar-1977	22-Dec-1977 RA



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 19.2

CG/E/04/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Establishment of the "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"

I. Background

During its 341st meeting held on 7 December 2022, the Council took note of the proposal presented to the Secretary-General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) by Dr. Salvador Percastre-Mendizábal, Director General of the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE), to establish a "Cooperation Mechanism for International Organisations based in Mexico City (OI-MEX Mechanism)."

During its 353rd sitting on 4 October 2024, the Secretary-General apprise the Council of a revamped proposal to establish the "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)." The Council requested that the necessary steps be taken to submit the matter for the consideration during the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.

II. Secretariat's Observations

Despite having more limited resources compared to other international organisations, OPANAL, which unites the 33 countries of the region as Member States, is recognised for its visibility and dynamism at both the regional and international levels. Other international organisations based in Mexico City—namely, the Regional Centre for Adult Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CREFAL); the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS); the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE); and the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (IPGH)—have consistently supported OPANAL by providing access to facilities, technical capacities, and even adopting its best practices in their own activities. The representatives of these organisations are prepared to sign a cooperation agreement, which holds the potential to strengthen both OPANAL's activities and those of the other organisations.

Annex

ACUERDO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERINSTITUCIONAL, QUE CELEBRAN EL CENTRO DE COOPERACIÓN REGIONAL PARA LA EDUCACIÓN DE ADULTOS EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, EN LO SUCESIVO “CREFAL”, REPRESENTADO POR JAIME DEL RÍO SALCEDO, EN SU CARÁCTER DE DIRECTOR GENERAL; LA CONFERENCIA INTERAMERICANA DE SEGURIDAD SOCIAL, EN LO SUCESIVO “CISS”, REPRESENTADA POR EL MTRO. ALVARO VELARCA HERNÁNDEZ, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL; EL INSTITUTO LATINOAMERICANO DE LA COMUNICACIÓN EDUCATIVA, EN ADELANTE “ILCE”, REPRESENTADO POR EL DR. SALVADOR PERCASTRE MENDIZÁBAL, EN SU CARÁCTER DE DIRECTOR GENERAL; EL INSTITUTO PANAMERICANO DE GEOGRAFÍA E HISTORIA, EN LO SUCESIVO “IPGH”, REPRESENTADO POR EL MTRO. ANTONIO CAMPUZANO ROSALES, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL, Y EL ORGANISMO PARA LA PROSCRIPCIÓN DE LAS ARMAS NUCLEARES EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, EN ADELANTE “OPANAL”, REPRESENTADO POR EL SR. EMB. FLÁVIO ROBERTO BONZANINI, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL, QUIENES ACTUANDO DE MANERA CONJUNTA SE LES DENOMINARÁ COMO “LAS PARTES”, CONFORME A LAS DECLARACIONES Y CLÁUSULAS SIGUIENTES:

DECLARACIONES

I. DECLARA EL “CREFAL” POR CONDUCTO DE SU REPRESENTANTE LEGAL:

I.1. Que es un Organismo Internacional Autónomo, con personalidad jurídica y patrimonio propio, al servicio de los países de América Latina y el Caribe, que se rige por el Convenio de Cooperación Regional para la Creación y Funcionamiento del Centro de Cooperación Regional para la Educación de Adultos en América Latina y el Caribe, celebrado en la Ciudad de México, Distrito Federal, el diecinueve de octubre de mil novecientos noventa entre la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO), la Secretaría General de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) y los países de América Latina y el Caribe; el Acuerdo entre los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y el Centro de Cooperación Regional para la Educación de Adultos en América Latina y el Caribe, relativo a la Sede y Operación del Centro en México, firmado en la Ciudad de México, el ocho de noviembre de dos mil seis, así como el Estatuto Orgánico del dos de septiembre de dos mil veinticuatro.

I.2. Que su Director General, Jaime del Río Salcedo, cuenta con facultades suficientes para suscribir el presente Acuerdo de Cooperación, según lo acredita con la designación de Director General del CREFAL, para el periodo 2023-2027, con las atribuciones y facultades que le otorgan las disposiciones normativas aplicables a dicho Centro, realizada el 24 de noviembre de 2023, por la Presidenta del Consejo de Administración del CREFAL, la maestra Leticia Ramírez Amaya,

secretaría de Educación Pública del Gobierno de México, ratificado en la Sesión Extraordinaria del Consejo de Administración realizada el 28 de noviembre de 2023.

I.3. Que tiene como objetivos, entre otros: la cooperación regional en educación de personas jóvenes y adultas, mediante la formación de personal especializado, investigación documental y básica, sistematización, análisis e intercambio de experiencias innovadoras e información especializada y producción e intercambio de documentos y materiales resultado de las investigaciones realizadas internamente con la colaboración de especialistas de los organismos e instituciones de la región.

I.4. Que, para todos los efectos del presente Acuerdo, señala como su domicilio el ubicado en Avenida Lázaro Cárdenas número 525, Colonia Revolución, Código Postal 61609, en la Ciudad de Pátzcuaro, Michoacán, México.

II. DECLARA LA "CISS" POR CONDUCTO DE SU REPRESENTANTE LEGAL:

II.1. Que es un Organismo Internacional legalmente constituido, como consta en el Acuerdo celebrado entre el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y la Conferencia Interamericana de Seguridad Social, relativo al establecimiento de la Sede de la Conferencia en México, firmado el día 10 de febrero de 1993 y actualizado el 13 de octubre de 2004.

II.2. Que por Escritura Pública número 12,692, de fecha 22 de noviembre de 2000, otorgada ante la fe de la Lic. María Cristina Cerrillo Álvarez, Notaria Pública número 158 del Distrito Federal (ahora Ciudad de México), se protocolizó, entre otros documentos, los Estatutos Sociales del Organismo Internacional denominado Conferencia Interamericana de Seguridad Social, aprobados en su Primera Asamblea General Extraordinaria de fecha 11 de agosto de 1988.

II.3. Que su secretario general, el Mtro. Alvaro Velarca Hernández, acredita su personalidad con la Escritura Pública número 94,582 de fecha 04 de mayo de 2021, otorgada ante la fe del Lic. Benito Iván Guerra Silla, Notario Público número 7 de la Ciudad de México, que contiene poder general para pleitos y cobranzas y actos de administración sin limitación alguna, en los términos de los dos primeros párrafos del artículo 2554 del Código Civil para el Distrito Federal (ahora Ciudad México) y sus correlativos en el Estado donde se ejercite, facultándolo para sustituir dichos poderes, manifestando bajo protesta de decir verdad, que las facultades ahí contenidas no le han sido revocadas, ni modificadas en forma alguna.

II.4. Que tiene como finalidades: a) Contribuir y cooperar con el desarrollo de la seguridad social en América; b) Formular declaraciones y recomendaciones en materia de seguridad social, y promover su difusión; c) Impulsar la cooperación e intercambio de experiencias entre las instituciones de seguridad social y con organizaciones afines; d) Fomentar y orientar la capacitación y formación

profesional de los recursos humanos al servicio de la seguridad social; e) Investigar, recopilar y difundir los avances y estudios de los sistemas de seguridad social, y f) Cumplir con toda la actividad relacionada con sus finalidades que le sea asignada por la Asamblea General.

II.5. Que, para todos los efectos del presente Acuerdo, señala como domicilio el ubicado en calle San Ramón sin número, Colonia San Jerónimo Lídice, Alcaldía Magdalena Contreras, Código Postal 10100, en la Ciudad de México.

III. DECLARA EL "ILCE" POR CONDUCTO DE SU REPRESENTANTE LEGAL:

III.1. Que es un Organismo Internacional Intergubernamental con personalidad jurídica y patrimonio propio que se rige por las disposiciones contenidas en el *Convenio de Cooperación que celebran los países de América Latina y el Caribe, que en lo sucesivo se denominarán "Estados Miembros", para reestructurar el Instituto Latinoamericano de la Comunicación Educativa, al que se denominará "ILCE"*, firmado en la Ciudad de México, el 31 de mayo de 1978, en adelante "el Convenio", modificado por resolución del Consejo Directivo el 21 de abril de 1994; así como por el *Acuerdo suscrito entre el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y el Instituto Latinoamericano de la Comunicación Educativa (ILCE) relativo a la sede del Instituto y a las Misiones Permanentes que se acrediten ante dicho Instituto*, firmado en la Ciudad de México, el 10 de julio de 1981, en adelante el "Acuerdo de Sede", mismo que remite a la aplicabilidad de la Convención de Viena sobre Relaciones Diplomáticas del 18 de abril de 1961.

III.2. Que su director general, el Dr. Salvador Percastre Mendizábal, cuenta con facultades suficientes para suscribir el presente Acuerdo, según lo establecido por el artículo Décimo Octavo del Convenio de Cooperación a que se refiere la declaración III.1 del presente apartado, lo anterior de conformidad con el Acta de Sesión Extraordinaria del Consejo Directivo de fecha 30 de agosto de 2022, misma que consta en la Escritura Pública número 37,712 de fecha 04 de noviembre de 2022, otorgada ante la fe del Lic. Guadalupe Guerrero Guerrero, Notario Público número 160 de la Ciudad de México.

III.3. Que tiene como objetivo la cooperación regional en la investigación, experimentación, producción, distribución y difusión de materiales audiovisuales, la formación y capacitación de recursos humanos en el área de tecnología educativa, la recopilación de materiales y documentación de audiovisuales y los demás que convengan a los Estados Miembros, por lo cual tiene encomendada una amplia gama de funciones para el cumplimiento de su objetivo, entre los cuales se encuentra cooperar con autoridades e instituciones de los Estados Miembros.

III.4. Que, para los efectos del presente Acuerdo, señala como domicilio el ubicado en calle Puente número 45, Colonia Ejidos de Huipulco, Alcaldía Tlalpan, Código Postal 14380, en la Ciudad de México.

IV. DECLARA EL "IPGH" POR CONDUCTO DE SU REPRESENTANTE LEGAL:

IV.1. Que de acuerdo con el artículo primero del Estatuto Orgánico del Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia es un Organismo Interamericano especializado de carácter científico-técnico de la Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA), establecido de acuerdo con la "Carta de la Organización de los Estados Americanos" y goza de autonomía técnica y financiera en el ejercicio de sus funciones.

IV.2. Que el Mtro. Antonio Campuzano Rosales, en su carácter de secretario general, cuenta con facultades para suscribir Acuerdos, Convenios con gobiernos, Organismos Internacionales o Instituciones privadas, de conformidad con el artículo 9, fracción 14 del Reglamento de la Secretaría General.

IV.3. Que tiene como misión, entre otros: fomentar, coordinar y difundir los estudios pertenecientes a sus áreas de interés, las cuales son Cartografía, Geografía, Historia, Geofísica y las ciencias afines en beneficio de América; apoyar la iniciativa, innovación y generación de conocimiento en sus áreas de interés, a través de estudios, capacitaciones y trabajo de sus Comisiones, y promover la cooperación interdisciplinaria entre los institutos de América y organizaciones internacionales afines.

IV.4. Que, para los efectos de este Acuerdo, señala como domicilio el ubicado en calle Ex Arzobispado número 29, Colonia Observatorio, Alcaldía Miguel Hidalgo, Código Postal 11860, en la Ciudad de México.

V. DECLARA EL "OPANAL" POR CONDUCTO DE SU REPRESENTANTE LEGAL:

V.1. Que es un Organismo Intergubernamental creado por el Tratado de Tlatelolco, suscrito en la Ciudad de México el 14 de febrero de 1967, con entrada en vigor a partir del 29 de abril de 1969 del que son Parte: Antigua y Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belice, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Granada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, México, Nicaragua, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, República Dominicana, San Kitts y Nevis, San Vicente y las Granadinas, Santa Lucía, Surinam, Trinidad y Tobago, Uruguay y Venezuela.

V.2. Que su secretario general, el Sr. Emb. Flávio Roberto Bonzanini, cuenta con facultades suficientes para suscribir el presente Acuerdo de Cooperación, según lo acredita con la resolución XX adoptada por la XXVIII sesión extraordinaria de la Conferencia General del Organismo para la Proscripción de las Armas Nucleares en la América Latina y el Caribe (OPANAL).

V.3. Que tiene como objetivo final: El desarme general y completo bajo el control internacional eficaz; mientras este objetivo fundamental no se logre, el "OPANAL" tiene como principal función: Velar por que el material y las instalaciones nucleares sometidos a la jurisdicción de los Estados Partes del Tratado de Tlatelolco sean usados exclusivamente con fines pacíficos y en ese sentido le corresponde controlar que en la Zona de aplicación del Tratado se cumpla la prohibición del ensayo, uso, fabricación, producción o adquisición, por cualquier medio, de toda arma nuclear.

V.4. Que, para los efectos de este Acuerdo, señala como domicilio el ubicado en calle Milton número 61, Colonia Anzures, Alcaldía Miguel Hidalgo, Código Postal 11590, en la Ciudad de México.

VI. DECLARAN "LAS PARTES":

VI.1. Que en este acto se reconocen mutuamente la personalidad jurídica con que se ostentan y la capacidad legal para celebrar y suscribir el presente Acuerdo de Cooperación Interinstitucional.

VI.2. Que es su deseo formar una alianza de colaboración y cooperación articulada por los cinco Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales con Sede en México.

Con base en lo anterior, "**LAS PARTES**", manifiestan que es su libre y entera voluntad celebrar el presente instrumento, por lo que se sujetan a las acciones orientadas a cumplir con el objeto del presente Acuerdo de conformidad con las siguientes:

CLÁUSULAS

PRIMERA. OBJETIVO.

El presente Acuerdo de Cooperación tiene por objeto constituir entre "**LAS PARTES**" un *Comité de Cooperación de Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales con sede en México*, en lo sucesivo el "**Comité OI-MEX**", que promoverá los intereses y actividades de colaboración, divulgación y enlace entre los cinco (5) Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales con sede en México de carácter regional americano, a fin de contribuir a la consecución de los objetivos misionales y maximizar los alcances que tienen encomendadas "**LAS PARTES**", fortaleciendo su presencia en México, y en beneficio de los países que los conforman.

SEGUNDA. ÁREAS DE COOPERACIÓN.

Para la consecución del objetivo acordado en la Cláusula Primera del presente instrumento, **"LAS PARTES"** se comprometen a colaborar en las siguientes acciones:

1. Establecer y desarrollar canales de comunicación para la elaboración y formalización de bases para la coordinación, integración, organización y vinculación del **"Comité OI-MEX"** a través de la creación de los Grupos de Trabajo, que promuevan la cooperación y acciones conjuntas para el intercambio de conocimientos, experiencias y buenas prácticas implementadas por los cinco (5) Organismos miembros del **"Comité OI-MEX"**.
2. Estructurar y coordinar acciones conjuntas en beneficio de los países que forman parte de los Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales miembros del **"Comité OI-MEX"** en los ámbitos que sean de su interés, de manera enunciativa más no limitativa, pueden ser:
 - Educación y cultura;
 - Comunicación y tecnología;
 - Educación de personas jóvenes y adultas (EPJA);
 - Salud y Seguridad social;
 - Geografía e Historia;
 - Cultura de la paz y del desarme;
 - Investigación y transferencia de conocimiento, y
 - Cooperación Internacional.
3. Celebrar reuniones periódicas para conocer el seguimiento y avance de las acciones de cooperación concertadas por el **"Comité OI-MEX"**.
4. Impulsar y fortalecer la comunicación y vinculación entre los Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales miembros del **"Comité OI-MEX"** con el país Sede, así como con otros Organismos Internacionales y Estados.
5. La promoción de proyectos conjuntos que contribuyan al fortalecimiento de las acciones que desarrolla cada Organismo Internacional miembro del **"Comité OIMEX"** y del trabajo colaborativo que sirva para ofrecer respuestas a las tareas que cada uno lleva a cabo.
6. La formación transversal a través de la creación y participación en seminarios, cursos y capacitaciones con temáticas que sean de interés y beneficio mutuo.
7. La elaboración de recomendaciones sobre rutas prácticas y necesarias en las diferentes áreas que conformen los Grupos de Trabajo, a fin de generar una agenda común y promover su desarrollo.

8. Colaborar para el desarrollo de un sitio web y redes sociales del **"Comité OI-MEX"**, con el fin de difundir y promover sus actividades.
9. Realizar cualquier otra acción necesaria para el adecuado cumplimiento del objeto del presente Acuerdo, dentro de las atribuciones de cada Organismo Internacional.

TERCERA. REPRESENTACIÓN DEL COMITÉ.

La Presidencia del **"Comité OI-MEX"** será ocupada por uno de los cinco (5) Organismos Internacionales Intergubernamentales miembros, anualmente y de manera rotativa; para tal efecto **"LAS PARTES"** acuerdan nombrar como representante del **"Comité OIMEX"**, a la persona titular del Organismo Internacional que resulte electo, quien a fin de facilitar la coordinación y seguimiento de las acciones de cooperación materia del presente instrumento contará, entre otras, con las funciones siguientes:

- La representación pública e institucional del **"Comité OI-MEX"**;
- La coordinación general de la ejecución de las actividades de cooperación;
- La comunicación de los avances y resultados de las acciones de cooperación, y
- Las demás que se acuerden de manera conjunta y que permitan el mejor desarrollo de las funciones anteriores.

CUARTA. PROTECCIÓN DE DATOS.

"LAS PARTES" acuerdan que darán la protección y el tratamiento a los datos personales que obtengan, en virtud del objetivo del presente Acuerdo, en términos de lo dispuesto en la normatividad aplicable en materia de protección de datos personales de cada una.

Ninguna de **"LAS PARTES"** comunicará dichos datos a terceros, salvo por obligación legal, previa notificación a la otra parte dentro de un término de 48 horas.

QUINTA. CONFIDENCIALIDAD.

"LAS PARTES" se obligan a guardar absoluta confidencialidad sobre la información, material y/o documentación que las partes se faciliten mutuamente o tengan acceso durante la vigencia del presente Acuerdo, así como a usarla de manera adecuada, con el único fin de cumplir el objetivo del presente instrumento. **"LAS PARTES"** se obligan a no revelar, ni utilizar directa o indirectamente la información y conocimientos adquiridos, derivados del presente Acuerdo, salvo en aquello que consideren, sirva para su objeto, difusión de logros alcanzados en cualquiera de las áreas de cooperación, y/o difusión de la colaboración, esto previo Acuerdo por las partes.

SEXTA. DIFUSIÓN.

"LAS PARTES" podrán difundir en sus propias páginas web, redes sociales, publicaciones impresas, radio, televisión y/o en sitios virtuales de terceros, información y datos sobre el desarrollo, los logros y el avance de los proyectos que deriven de este Acuerdo.

Queda entendido y aceptado por **"LAS PARTES"** que, en toda difusión o divulgación de información referente a esta cláusula, se hará constar la participación con el adecuado tratamiento de imagen, visibilidad y relevancia conforme a la reproducción gráfica de cada marca, logo y nombre oficial de cada una de **"LAS PARTES"**.

SÉPTIMA. RESPONSABILIDAD FISCAL.

Cada una de **"LAS PARTES"** es responsable de las obligaciones de carácter fiscal que les derivan por la celebración y ejecución del presente Acuerdo.

OCTAVA. GASTOS DERIVADOS DEL ACUERDO.

El Acuerdo no generará gastos para **"LAS PARTES"**, toda vez que no existe aporte de recursos económicos.

NOVENA. CUANTÍA.

El presente Acuerdo no genera obligaciones o compromisos presupuestarios para ninguna de **"LAS PARTES"**. En caso de acordarse acciones que impliquen algún gasto, **"LAS PARTES"** podrán suscribir Acuerdos Específicos, previa disponibilidad de fondos para los casos que sean requeridos.

DÉCIMA. NATURALEZA.

El presente Acuerdo tiene el carácter de marco y de naturaleza general, a partir del cual se podrán desarrollar Acuerdos Específicos que serán suscritos por **"LAS PARTES"** para cada caso.

DÉCIMA PRIMERA. MODIFICACIONES.

Los términos de este Acuerdo podrán ser modificados, ampliados o reformados por mutuo acuerdo durante su vigencia, siempre que dichos cambios no alteren su objeto, ni desnaturalicen su contenido, para lo cual **"LAS PARTES"** suscribirán los instrumentos que sean necesarios.

DÉCIMA SEGUNDA. TERMINACIÓN.

El presente Acuerdo podrá darse por terminado por cualquiera de las siguientes causales:

- a) Por mutuo Acuerdo de **"LAS PARTES"**
- b) Por circunstancias que no hicieren posible ejecutar total o parcialmente el Acuerdo.

DÉCIMA TERCERA. RELACIÓN LABORAL.

El personal comisionado o designado por cada una de **"LAS PARTES"** para la instrumentación, ejecución y operación del presente Acuerdo y/o de los instrumentos que de él se deriven, continuará bajo la dirección y dependencia del Organismo Internacional al que pertenezca, por lo que en ningún caso y bajo ningún motivo existirá la figura de patrón sustituto o solidario, quedando el resto de los firmantes liberados de cualquier responsabilidad laboral, administrativa, fiscal y judicial que llegara a suscitarse.

DÉCIMA CUARTA. AVISOS Y COMUNICACIONES.

“LAS PARTES” convienen que todos los avisos, comunicaciones y notificaciones que se realicen con motivo de la ejecución de ese instrumento, se llevarán por escrito. Cualquier cambio de domicilio deberá ser notificado por escrito al resto de los Organismos, con al menos diez (10) días naturales de anticipación a la fecha en que se pretenda surta efectos ese cambio. Sin este aviso, todas las comunicaciones se entenderán válidamente hechas en los domicilios señalados por “LAS PARTES”.

DÉCIMA QUINTA. CASO FORTUITO O FUERZA MAYOR.

Ninguna de “LAS PARTES” será responsable de cualquier retraso o incumplimiento en la realización del presente Acuerdo, que resulte directa o indirectamente de caso fortuito o fuerza mayor. En caso de que desaparezcan las causas que dieron origen al retraso o incumplimiento se restaurará la ejecución de este instrumento.

DÉCIMA SEXTA. CESIÓN DE DERECHOS.

Ninguna de “LAS PARTES” podrá ceder los derechos u obligaciones a su cargo derivadas de este Acuerdo de colaboración, o delegar cualquier deber u obligación, sin el previo consentimiento por escrito.

DÉCIMA SÉPTIMA. SOLUCIÓN DE CONTROVERSIAS.

El presente instrumento es producto de la buena fe, por lo que “LAS PARTES” acuerdan que cualquier controversia que surja respecto a la interpretación o cumplimiento del presente Acuerdo, deberá resolverse mediante negociación directa y por escrito entre las mismas.

DÉCIMA OCTAVA. DURACIÓN Y MODIFICACIÓN DEL CONVENIO.

“LAS PARTES” acuerdan que el presente instrumento entrará en vigor a partir de la fecha de su firma y tendrá una vigencia indefinida. Podrá darse por terminado en todo momento por cualquiera de “LAS PARTES” previa notificación por escrito a las otras, con una antelación no menor a 3 (tres) meses. En ese caso, las actividades que se encuentren en curso de realización o comprometidas con terceros vincularán a “LAS PARTES” hasta su culminación.

Este instrumento podrá ser revisado, modificado o adicionado en cualquier momento, por consentimiento mutuo y por escrito de “LAS PARTES”.

Leído el presente Acuerdo de Cooperación Interinstitucional y, enteradas “LAS PARTES” del contenido y alcance legal de todas y cada una de sus Declaraciones y Cláusulas, lo firman de conformidad y por quintuplicado, a los ____ (__) días del mes ____ de 2024 (dos mil veinticuatro).

**CENTRO DE COOPERACIÓN
REGIONAL PARA LA EDUCACIÓN DE
ADULTOS EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL
CARIBE**

**CONFERENCIA INTERAMERICANA DE
SEGURIDAD SOCIAL**

JAIME DEL RÍO SALCEDO

DIRECTOR GENERAL

MTRO. ALVARO VELARCA

HERNÁNDEZ
SECRETARIO GENERAL

**INSTITUTO LATINOAMERICANO DE LA
COMUNICACIÓN EDUCATIVA**

**INSTITUTO PANAMERICANO DE
GEOGRAFÍA E HISTORIA**

DR. SALVADOR PERCASTRE

MENDIZÁBAL

DIRECTOR GENERAL

MTRO. ANTONIO CAMPUZANO

ROSALES

SECRETARIO GENERAL

**ORGANISMO PARA LA PROSCRIPCIÓN DE LAS ARMAS NUCLEARES EN
AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE**

EMB. FLÁVIO ROBERTO BONZANINI
SECRETARIO GENERAL

LAS FIRMAS Y RÚBRICAS QUE APARECEN EN LA PRESENTE FOJA CORRESPONDEN AL ACUERDO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERINSTITUCIONAL, QUE CELEBRAN EL CENTRO DE COOPERACIÓN REGIONAL PARA LA EDUCACIÓN DE ADULTOS EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, "CREFAL", REPRESENTADO POR JAIME DEL RÍO SALCEDO, EN SU CARÁCTER DE DIRECTOR GENERAL; LA CONFERENCIA INTERAMERICANA DE SEGURIDAD SOCIAL, "CISS", REPRESENTADA POR EL MTRO. ALVARO VELARCA HERNÁNDEZ, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL; EL INSTITUTO LATINOAMERICANO DE LA COMUNICACIÓN EDUCATIVA, "ILCE", REPRESENTADO POR EL DR. SALVADOR PERCASTRE MENDIZÁBAL, EN SU CARÁCTER DE DIRECTOR GENERAL; EL INSTITUTO PANAMERICANO DE GEOGRAFÍA E HISTORIA, "IPGH", REPRESENTADO POR EL MTRO. ANTONIO CAMPUZANO ROSALES, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL, Y EL ORGANISMO PARA LA PROSCRIPCIÓN DE LAS ARMAS NUCLEARES EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, "OPANAL", REPRESENTADO POR EL SR. EMB. FLÁVIO ROBERTO BONZANINI, EN SU CARÁCTER DE SECRETARIO GENERAL, DOCUMENTO QUE CONSTA DE NUEVE (9) FOJAS ÚTILES, CON TEXTO ÚNICAMENTE EN EL ANVERSO, DE FECHA ____ () DE ____ DE DOS MIL VEINTICUATRO, POR LO QUE SE FIRMA EN CINCO (5) TANTOS ORIGINALES PARA LOS EFECTOS LEGALES A QUE HAYA LUGAR. -----

Resolutions



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 7

CG/E/Res.01/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Interpretative declarations made by States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco

Recalling with satisfaction that all the States to which Additional Protocols I and II are addressed have signed and ratified them¹;

Highlighting that the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco have legally committed themselves “*not to contribute in any way to the performance of acts involving a violation of the obligations of Article 1 of the Treaty in the territories to which the Treaty applies in accordance with Article 4 thereof*”, and likewise “*not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against the Contracting Parties of the Treaty*”;

Recalling that, upon signing and ratifying Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, four States Parties to the Additional Protocols issued Interpretative Declarations, which contain specific points that constitute reservations;

Recalling the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, particularly the provisions of Article 2, paragraph d) and Article 19, paragraph c);

Recalling the "Guide to Practice on Reservations to Treaties", prepared by the United Nations International Law Commission, in particular points 1.1.3 and 1.1.4;

Bearing in mind that Article 4 of Additional Protocol II establishes that “*the provisions regarding ratification, reservations, and denunciation*” of the Treaty are applicable and, therefore, may not be subject to reservations in accordance with its Article 28;

¹ China, France, the Netherlands, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Recalling that the interpretative declarations are unilateral acts and therefore may be as well unilaterally revised or withdrawn;

Reaffirming the Special Declarations of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) on nuclear disarmament², in which the Member States of OPANAL have requested, *inter alia*, that the militarily denuclearized character of Latin America and the Caribbean be respected, and that nuclear-weapon States withdraw their Interpretative Declarations to Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco that are incompatible with the objective and purpose thereof;

Considering its resolutions CG/E/Res.430 of 26 November 2002; CG/Res.447 of 6 November 2003; CG/E/Res.461 of 23 November 2004; CG/Res.477 of 8 November 2005; CG/Res.515 of 26 November 2009; CG/Res.536 of 17 November 2011; CG/Res.554 of 22 August 2013; CG/E/Res.568 of 19 November 2014; CG/Res.03/2015 of 26 November 2015; CG/E/Res.03/2016 of 10 November 2016, CG/E/Res.02/2017 of 28 September 2017; CG/E/Res.01/2018 of 15 November 2018; CG/Res.12/2019 of 7 November 2019; CG/Res.01/2021 of 30 September 2021; CG/E/Res.03/2022 of 17 November 2022; and CG/Res.01/2023 of 3 November 2023 which instructed the Council and Secretary-General to study and review, together with States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the interpretative declarations made by them that constitute reservations;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General contained in document CG/E/19/2024 on the current status of the démarches carried out by the Member States of the Council with the States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and highlighting the fact that, since the previous session of the General Conference, specific channels of dialogue have been opened with the four respective States Parties;

Resolves:

1. **To request** the Council to take the necessary steps to deepen the constructive dialogue with the States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, initiated in 2023, and continued during 2024, as well as to coordinate the dialogue strategies within the ad hoc Working Group.

² Adopted on August 20, 2013, in Buenos Aires; on January 29, 2014, in Havana; on January 29, 2015, in Belen; on January 27, 2016, in Quito; on January 25, 2017, in Punta Cana; and on January 24, 2023, in Buenos Aires

2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to continue supporting the démarches carried out by the Council before the States Parties to the Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, at the bilateral and multilateral levels, so that they revise or withdraw the segments of their Interpretative Declarations and/or contrary to international law that were made regarding such instruments.
3. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to keep the Member States informed on the execution of the present resolution, for permanent consideration of the Council.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 8

CG/E/Res.02/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The General Conference,

Considering that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) is a legal instrument of which all 33 States in the region are Parties;

Recalling that the States Parties have legally committed to fully comply without exception with all the provisions of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Bearing in mind that the integrity of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean cannot be guaranteed unless all the States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco are up to date with the fulfillment of their obligations;

Reaffirming the importance of the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco established in Article 12 "for the purpose of verifying the compliance of the obligations undertaken by the Contracting Parties in accordance with the provisions of Article 1";

Also recalling that Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco establishes that States Parties have the obligation to submit to the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) "semiannual reports declaring that no activity prohibited by the provisions of this Treaty has taken place in their respective territories";

Recognizing that the semiannual frequency of compliance with the provisions of Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco by all States Parties is essential to the objectives and purposes of the Treaty;

Highlighting that Article 24 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco is related to the Control System by stating that "any international agreement made by any of the Contracting Parties concerning the

matters referred to shall be immediately notified to the Secretariat so that it may be registered and notified to the other Contracting Parties";

Recalling the validity of its resolutions 32 (II) of September 9, 1971; 52 (III) of 23 August 1973; 82 (IV) of 18 April 1975; 100 (V) of 21 April 1977; 117 (VI) of 25 April 1979; 141 (VII) of 24 April 1981; 168 (VIII) of 18 May 1983; 191 (IX) of 8 May 1985; 218 (X) of 29 April 1987; 247 (XI) of 27 April 1989; 276 (XII) of 10 May 1991; 296 (XIII) of 27 May 1993; 328 (XIV) of 29 March 1995; 355 (XV) of 10 July 1997; 384 (XVI) of 30 November 1999; 412 (XVII) of 29 November 2001; CG/Res.441 of 5 November 2003; CG/Res.473 of 8 November 2005; CG/Res.04/2015 of 26 November 2015; CG/E/Res.04/2016 of 10 November 2016; CG/E/Res.03/2017 of 28 September 2017; CG/E/Res.02/2018 of November 15, 2018; CG/Res.01/2019 of 7 November 2019; CG/Res.06/2021 of 30 September 2021; CG/E/Res.12/2022 of 17 November 2022; and CG/Res.02/2023 of 3 November 2023;

Having received the Report of the Secretary General on the Control System of the Treaty of Tlatelolco (CG/E/05/2024Rev.3);

Resolves:

1. **To acknowledge** the Member States—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Uruguay that are up to date in the submission of their Report in accordance with Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to transmit to all Member States the optional format for the semiannual reports under Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco proposed by the Secretary General in his Report on the Control System annexed to document CG/E/05/2018, the use of which must be voluntary.
3. **To urge** all Member States to promptly comply with the provisions of Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
4. **To encourage** all Member States to regularly and without exception comply with the report required by Article 14 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

5. **To further urge** the Member States to immediately notify the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 24 of the Treaty, of any bilateral or multilateral agreements, treaties, or arrangements concerning the matters related to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
6. **To request** the Council and the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures within their respective competencies to ensure that all Member States comply with the provisions of Articles 14 and 24.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 9

CG/E/Res.03/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Working methods of OPANAL

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind its role and authority as the supreme organ of OPANAL and stressing that the revitalization of the Agency's work is essential for the promotion of the values of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Bearing in mind the importance of continuing to strengthen the inclusiveness, efficiency, interactivity, and transparency of the deliberations of OPANAL bodies;

Taking into consideration that, to date, twelve Member States of OPANAL do not have diplomatic representation resident at the Agency's headquarters¹, and that their participation in the meetings of OPANAL bodies have been made possible thanks to the possibility of remote connection;

Recognizing that multilingualism is fundamental to the promotion of dialogue and diversity, which are indispensable elements of multilateralism;

Having received the report of the Secretary-General on "Working methods of OPANAL" (CG/E/03/2024);

Bearing in mind also resolutions CG/E/Res.10/2022 of 17 November 2022 and CG/Res.03/2023 of 3 November 2023;

Bearing in mind also the resolution CG/Res/11/2023 of 3 November 2024, on "Strengthening the Secretariat";

¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Ecuador, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Stressing that the preparation and timely circulation of documentation by the Secretariat is an essential condition for the proper functioning of governance bodies;

Appreciating the initiatives of the Council and the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP) in favour of the revitalization of the work of OPANAL, including those aimed at overcoming challenges associated with the information and communication technologies used by the Secretariat;

Resolves:

1. **To take note of and thank** document CG/E/03/2024 presented by the Secretary-General on working methods, as well as the important progress made in the implementation of the recommendations annexed to Resolution CG/E/Res.10/2022 and CG/Res.03/2023;
2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to implement the following measures to continue the process of revitalizing the work of OPANAL:

Regarding the support of the Secretariat to intergovernmental bodies

- a. **To ensure** that the provisional agendas and notices for convening meetings of the Council, the CCAAP and the Working Groups, are circulated to the membership at least two weeks in advance, unless otherwise decided by the organ in question, an indispensable measure to favor the presence of the Member States.
- b. **To give continuity** to the practice of convening, after prior consultation with the presidencies and coordinations in question, the meetings of the Working Groups consecutively to the meetings of the CCAAP, **with the aim to encourage** participation in an in-person modality and have a better use of time.
- c. **To continue** the practice of including in the agenda of all Council meetings an agenda item entitled "general interventions".
- d. **To ensure** that the documentation to be considered at the meetings of the Council, the CCAAP, and the Working Groups are circulated or made available to the membership on the Member States only section of the Agency's website at least seven days in advance, unless the competent body decides otherwise, in order to

promote inclusiveness, transparency, effectiveness and interaction during deliberations.

- e. In relation to the previous point, **to give** priority to the documents that will be subject to negotiation by the membership.
- f. **To ensure** that the annotated agendas, in addition to including a description of the item to be discussed, specify the action expected as a result of the deliberations (e.g., exchange of perspectives or document approval).
- g. **To ensure** that draft minutes of Council and CCAAP meetings are sent to their respective presidencies for review and approval no later than two business days after the meeting. The minutes should be written in a summarized manner, for the benefit of conciseness.
- h. **To consider** that, if it is not possible to have spaces provided by the host State for the holding of the meetings of the Council on the dates foreseen in its work plans, these should then be held at the Provisional Headquarters of OPANAL.
- i. **To give continuity** to the service of simultaneous interpretation Spanish-English and English-Spanish in the meetings of the Council, the CCAAP and the Working Groups, using a specialized interpretation service provider and consider the quality/price ratio when deciding on its contracting.
- j. **To give continuity** to the practice of convening all meetings of OPANAL bodies in an in-person format, with the possibility of remote connection.

Regarding the declarations and communiqués negotiated in OPANAL

- k. **To give continuity** to the practice of prioritizing the preparation of concise texts, which are easily communicable and
- l. **To consider** that, in circumstances in which a communiqué or declaration is expected to be read at another intergovernmental meeting, such as special sessions held at the United Nations General Assembly on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, there is often a time limit for such intervention.

Regarding the working methods of the Secretariat

- m. **To organize** the activities of the professional body of the Secretariat in such a way as to ensure support for the day-to-day work of the intergovernmental bodies of the Agency, especially through the preparation and timely circulation of documentation.
 - n. **To promote and ensure** that the best use is being made of all the possibilities offered by the information and communications technologies that have been provided to the Secretariat to increase its productivity, including the objective of reducing the use of paper.
 - o. As soon as the Agency's new website becomes operational, **to discontinue** printing documents for meetings of OPANAL bodies, including the book of the General Conference.
 - p. **To privilege**, where possible, the use of electronic communication instead of physical mail.
 - q. **To adopt** administrative procedures relating to all expenses associated with the participation of the Secretariat in international conferences and events, in order to provide timely scheduling of such expenses and seek possible savings. Such procedures should be submitted to the CCAAP for consideration at its first meeting in 2024.
 - r. **To take advantage** of the spaces of other forums and events in which it participates by invitation so that, if appropriate, make contacts with the representatives of States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, Additional Protocols I and II, other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, the Secretariats of other relevant international organizations and with civil society organizations and academia with activities in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- 3. **To instruct** the five Member States that will make up the Council in 2025, with the support of the Secretariat, to submit to the last meeting of the Council in 2024 a calendar containing the dates planned for the meetings of the body for the year.
 - 4. **To request** the President of the CCAAP to be elected at the first meeting of the Commission in 2024, with the support of the Secretariat, to prepare a calendar containing the dates of the

meetings of the body for the year, bearing in mind the advisability of holding them two weeks in advance in relation to the meetings of the Council.

5. **To encourage** the Presidencies of the Council and CCAAP to implement the following measures to continue the process of revitalizing the work of OPANAL:
 - a. **To perform its best efforts** to respect the dates foreseen in the calendars that will be produced in accordance with operative paragraphs 3 and 4.
 - b. **To ensure** that, upon receipt of draft documents prepared by the Secretariat, they do not take more than two business days to be reviewed and approved so as to not compromise timely submission to the membership.
 - c. **To bear in mind** that, Article 10 of the Rules Governing the Council, establishes, when the President, is unable to exercise his functions, it shall be occupied by the Member State whose name is next in alphabetical order in the Spanish language, with the prior acceptance of said Member State.
6. **To encourage** Member States that have diplomatic representation resident at the Agency's headquarters to prioritize in-person participation in meetings of OPANAL bodies.
7. **To instruct** the Council to include the item "working methods of OPANAL" in its periodic agenda and **to instruct** the Secretary-General to also report to the General Conference, at its next session, on the implementation of this resolution.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 9

CG/E/Res.04/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Modernization of OPANAL's information and communication technologies

The General Conference,

Conscious of the importance of information and communication technologies for the proper functioning of intergovernmental bodies and the Secretariat of OPANAL, as well as for the educational and public communication activities of the Agency;

Bearing in mind that twelve Member States do not have resident diplomatic representations at the Headquarters of the Agency, so their effective participation in the deliberations of intergovernmental bodies may depend on the stability, quality, and reliability of information and communication technologies;

Emphasizing that the timely and effective circulation of working documents to OPANAL members is a fundamental requirement for the proper functioning of governance bodies;

Also emphasizing that the publication of OPANAL's official documents on its website is part of its mandate for the dissemination of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and disarmament education;

Bearing in mind that the Secretariat's comprehensive information repository is securely backed up in the "cloud";

Emphasizing that OPANAL's new website has been operational since June 30, 2024;

Resolves:

1. **To reiterate** to the Secretariat that the stability, quality, and reliability of the information and communication technologies used by the organization, both hardware and software, are essential elements for the proper functioning of OPANAL;

2. **To thank** the Secretariat for the actions already taken to implement the instructions on the subject provided by the CCAAP;
3. **To reiterate** that, to prevent them from becoming obsolete, the Secretariat's computer equipment should ideally have a lifespan of less than four years and must have the necessary software licenses;
4. **To entrust** the Secretariat to continue making ongoing improvements to the OPANAL website project.
5. **To entrust** CCAAP to maintain in its work program for 2025 the topic 'Modernization of the information and communication technologies of the Secretariat', with the purpose, among others, of carrying out an annual evaluation of the services of IT professionals hired by OPANAL in 2023.
6. **To determine** that the reserved amount titled "Asset Replacement" be funded from the Reserve Fund whenever it exceeds the amount equivalent to one year's budget of the Agency, in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 5 of the Financial Regulations¹, and considering that the reserved amount "Asset Replacement" is part of the General Fund.

¹ Article 12, paragraph 5 of the Financial Regulations establishes that: "In the event that the Reserve Fund exceed substantially the total Member States' annual Financial Contributions, the Secretary General may propose to the Council to transfer resources from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund."



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.1

CG/E/Res.05/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

The General Conference,

Highlighting the urgent need to promote coordinated activities in support of disarmament and non-proliferation, with the aim of strengthening international security and advancing toward a world free of nuclear weapons;

Emphasizing the imperative need to continue contributing to the training of specialized professionals in the region in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Emphasizing the importance of the "United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education"¹, which contains recommendations on educational activities to contribute to peace education, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Recalling its resolutions CG/Res.01/2015 of 26 November 2015; CG/E/Res.04/2017 of 28 September 2017; CG/E/Res.04/2018 of 15 November 2018; CG/Res.11/2019 of 7 November 2019; CG/Res.04/2021 of 30 September 2021; CG/E/Res.01/2022 of 17 November 2022; CG/Res.07/2023 of 8 November de 2023;

Taking note with pleasure of the holding of the seventh edition of the OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, hosted by Ecuador from 5 to 7 December 2023, the eighth edition co-organized with Mexico from 15 to 25 January 2024, the ninth edition hosted by Colombia from 27 to 29 May 2024, the tenth edition hosted by Guatemala from 12 to 14 August 2024;

¹ A/57/124

Also noting the interest of Mexico, Uruguay, and Peru in benefiting from the OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in 2025;

Bearing in mind the Declaration of the Member States of OPANAL on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, of September 26, 2024², in which the Member States of the Agency *"commit themselves to continue working on the implementation of education programs on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with the conviction that it is an effective contribution to the consolidation of international peace and security"*;

Resolves:

1. **To urge** Member States to consider inviting OPANAL to offer the Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, either in person or virtually, to enhance understanding of the Agency's work and contribute to the training of specialized personnel in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
2. **To instruct** the Secretary General to carry out actions that guarantee the availability of the necessary resources to allow the continuity of OPANAL's educational and dissemination activities, seeking gender parity among the people who teach them.
3. **To urge** Member States benefiting from the OPANAL Course on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation to ensure gender parity among participants.
4. **To encourage** Member States and the Secretariat to submit written contributions on the national implementation of the biennial United Nations General Assembly resolution entitled *"United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education"*.

² Inf.47/2024Rev.2



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.2

CG/E/Res.06/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Conference,

Stressing the imperative need to continue contributing to the training of specialized cadres in the region in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Emphasizing the importance of the "United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education"¹, which contains recommendations on educational activities to contribute to education for peace, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Recalling its resolutions CG/Res.01/2015 of 26 November 2015; CG/E/Res.04/2017 of 28 September 2017; CG/E/Res.04/2018 of 15 November 2018; CG/Res.11/2019 of 7 November 2019; CG/Res.04/2021 of 30 September 2021; CG/E/Res.01/2022 of 17 November 2022; CG/Res.08/2023 of 8 November 2023;

Recognizing that the Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean is the educational space resulting from the close collaboration among the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Matías Romero Institute, the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies, and OPANAL, which objective is to train diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean on issues related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Noting with appreciation that since the establishment of the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean in 2014, 328 diplomats, 176 women and 152 men, have been trained;

¹ A/57/124

Resolves:

1. **To continue** providing support to the Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean organized annually by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Matías Romero Institute, the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies, and OPANAL.
2. **To invite** Member States to present their candidates to participate in the eleventh edition of the Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 10.3

CG/E/Res.10/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Internship Programmes at the OPANAL Secretariat

The General Conference,

Underlining the imperative need to continue contributing to the training of specialized cadres in the region, in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as to the work and functioning of international organizations;

Recognizing the high academic qualifications and professional experience of candidates applying to the Internship Programme;

Highlighting the aspiration to maintain gender equality in the OPANAL Secretariat;

Highlighting the important work of young professionals who support the work of the Agency, and the need for these activities to continue to be remunerated;

Recalling with appreciation the unanimous adoption of Resolution CG/Res.03/2021, through which, for the first time, it was decided to “*support the interns with monthly amount of MXN 1000 as incentive and recognition of their constant work during their period at OPANAL*”;

Taking into account that, since 2023, the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM has seen a reduction in its scope and impact due to the interruption in the receipt of extra-budgetary funds for its implementation;

Noting with appreciation Soka Gakkai International’s willingness to sponsor, in 2025, the OPANAL Internship Program for Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM.

Resolves:

1. **To urge** Member States to promote and support the Internship Program by sharing calls for applications among their higher education institutions.

2. **To continue** supporting interns with a monthly stipend of MXN 1000 as an incentive and acknowledgment of their ongoing work, during their internship period at OPANAL.
3. **To thank** Soka Gakkai International for its decision to sponsor in 2025 the Internship Program for OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM.
4. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to continue and ensure the permanence of the Internship Programme for OPANAL Member States which are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM, as well as to keep Member States informed about the implementation of this resolution.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.3.1

CG/E/Res.07/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Memorandum of Understanding on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education with the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies (CNS) of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies

The General Conference,

Emphasising the importance of strengthening regional capacities in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and the fundamental role of education in these areas;

Recognising the existing cooperative ties between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and CNS, particularly within the framework of the Summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for Latin American and Caribbean Diplomats, co-organised annually by the Mexican Foreign Ministry, the Matías Romero Institute, CNS, and OPANAL;

Highlighting the opportunity to further strengthen collaboration between both parties to promote specialised education and training in the Latin American and Caribbean region on issues of international security, nuclear disarmament, and non-proliferation;

Recognising the importance of academic exchange, joint research, and the training of professionals specialised in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Taking note of the approval by the OPANAL Council, at its 353rd meeting, of the text of the Memorandum of Understanding between OPANAL and CNS, aimed at promoting joint activities in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education and training;

Resolves:

1. **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign a memorandum of understanding with CNS.

2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to coordinate with CNS the implementation of activities envisaged in the memorandum of understanding, including the development of educational programmes, seminars, workshops, and internship opportunities.
3. **To request** the Secretary-General to inform Member States on the progress of the activities implemented under the memorandum of understanding with CNS.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.3.2

CG/E/Res.08/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea on the Participation of Korean Nationals in the Internship Programme at the OPANAL Secretariat

The General Conference,

Emphasising the importance of strengthening cooperative ties between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and other regions of the world in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Recognising the need to promote the participation of talented youth in OPANAL's activities in order to develop professionals specialising in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Taking note of the interest expressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea in collaborating with OPANAL by nominating Korean nationals to participate in the Internship Programme at the OPANAL Secretariat;

Recalling the success of the OPANAL Internship Programme and its positive impact on the development of young professionals as well as its support for the work of the Secretariat;

Highlighting the need for formal agreements to facilitate the participation of international interns, thereby promoting the exchange of experiences and knowledge between regions;

Taking note of the approval by the OPANAL Council, at its 353rd meeting, of the text of the Memorandum of Understanding between OPANAL and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea;

Resolves:

1. **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea on the participation of Korean nationals in the Internship Programme at the Agency's Secretariat.

2. **To urge** the Secretary-General to ensure that the nominated Korean interns meet the requirements established by OPANAL for participation in the Internship Programme, ensuring that their training and contributions are beneficial to the objectives of the Agency.
3. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to periodically inform Member States of the progress and implementation of the memorandum of understanding, as well as to explore other possible areas and/or mechanisms of cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and OPANAL.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 10.4

CG/E/Res.09/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Award

The General Conference,

Inspired by United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/33 E, and recalling the pressing need to counter the negative impacts of cultural trends characterized by violence and complacency through the implementation of comprehensive and long-term educational and training programs;

Recognizing the importance of promoting academic contributions to the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by Latin American and Caribbean authors;

Paying tribute to the intellectual legacy of Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, a distinguished professor and judge of the International Court of Justice, particularly, for his advocacy of the inherent right to live in a world free of nuclear weapons;

Recalling its Resolution CG/Res.10/2023 of 3 November 2023;

Resolves:

1. **To request** the Secretariat to adopt the necessary measures to facilitate the implementation of the Antonio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation. This award will be granted annually by OPANAL in recognition of an outstanding academic work (book, thesis, or article) in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with a preferred emphasis on the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones. Eligibility for the award is extended to nationals of Latin American and Caribbean countries, and works in any of the official languages of the Council (Spanish, French, English, or Portuguese) will be considered.

2. **To instruct** the Council, taking into account the experience of the first edition of the Award, to consider the revision of the regulations governing the Award, on the basis of document Inf.14/2024Rev.4, which should be included in its 2025 work plan.
3. **To instruct** that the second edition of the award be granted no later than 30 June 2025.
4. **To instruct** the Secretariat to approach the United Nations, including its Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), as well as universities and other relevant institutions, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean, to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the call for proposals.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 11

CG/E/Res.11/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Strengthening of the Secretariat

The General Conference,

Considering that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) in its Article 7 establishes the “Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean” in order to ensure compliance with its obligations;

Bearing in mind that the Secretariat is one of the main organs of the Agency as established in Article 8 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Also considering that the Secretariat is composed of a Secretary-General, the highest administrative officer of the Agency, and the personnel required by him/her, who are appointed by the Secretary-General in accordance with the directives issued by the General Conference as stated in Article 11 of the same Treaty;

Bearing in mind that the primary function of the Secretariat is to support the work of the intergovernmental bodies and to manage the functioning of the Agency, as well as contributing to disarmament and non-proliferation education;

Considering the aspiration to maintain gender parity in the composition of the professional staff of the Secretariat;

Taking into account the document Doc. CG/E/666 “Rules Governing the Functioning of the Amended Secretariat”;

Resolves:

1. **To take note** that the professional staff currently forming the Secretariat consists of personnel, to date, with gender parity and specialized profiles in line with the subjects covered by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

2. **To recall** that the primary function of the Secretariat's staff is to support the functioning of the intergovernmental bodies of the Agency, including the preparation and timely circulation of documentation.
3. **To welcome** the continued professionalization of the Secretariat's staff, as well as their participation in outreach and academic activities in favour of disarmament education, as well as for the dissemination and promotion of the values of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; as long as it does not detract from the functions referred to in the previous paragraph.
4. **To urge** the Secretary General to maintain the level achieved by recognizing the high level of academic training and professional experience of the Secretariat's staff, as well as of the participants in the Internship Program, while reaffirming the importance of implementing policies that favor gender equality in their selection.
5. **To request** the Secretary General to continue informing the Member States of the professionalization and outreach activities in which the professional staff of the Secretariat participates, which should be aligned with the objectives of the Agency.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 12

CG/E/Res.12/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

OPANAL Coordinations for 2025: New York, Geneva, Vienna, and CARICOM

The General Conference,

Reaffirming the importance of the Agency's representation tasks to disseminate and publicize its work through OPANAL's coordination offices at the various United Nations headquarters and in the Caribbean;

Reaffirming also the importance of OPANAL's coordinating offices at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, New York and Vienna to support the Agency's participation in meetings and events to which it is invited, as well as to serve as a point of contact between OPANAL and different bodies at those headquarters;

Recognizing that the Member States, together with the Secretariat, have promoted the inclusion and participation of Member States that do not have permanent diplomatic representation in Mexico City, through the use of communication technologies that allow for remote participation;

Noting the report of the Secretary General, "Coordination of OPANAL's Work" (CG/E/06/2024);

Resolves:

1. **To thank** the Governments of Brazil, Ecuador, and Mexico for their coordination efforts in 2024 at the New York, Geneva, and Vienna offices, respectively.
2. **To welcome** the offer from Brazil to maintain the coordination of OPANAL in New York.
3. **To welcome** the offer from Ecuador to maintain the coordination of OPANAL in Geneva.
4. **To welcome** the offer from Mexico to maintain the coordination of OPANAL in Vienna.

5. **To welcome** the offer from Guatemala to assume the coordination of OPANAL for the Caribbean as a coordination mechanism to promote inclusivity and participation of Caribbean Member States that do not have representation in Mexico City.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 13.1

CG/E/Res.13/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone

The General Conference,

Recalling the preamble of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which states that *"militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage"*;

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening relationships between the various nuclear-weapon-free zones, with the shared objective of advancing towards a world free of nuclear weapons;

Recognising the importance of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia as a pillar of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime in the region;

Highlighting ongoing efforts to foster cooperation between OPANAL and the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, with the aim of sharing experiences and best practices in the implementation of their respective treaties;

Recognising the work carried out by the Technical Group to negotiate the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone;

Taking note of the approval by the OPANAL Council, at its 353rd meeting, of the text of the Memorandum of Understanding between OPANAL and the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone;

Resolves:

1. **To thank** the Technical Group for its work in negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General of OPANAL to sign, on behalf of the Agency, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

3. **To urge** Member States to continue with the promotion of strengthening of cooperation between nuclear-weapon-free zones through the conclusion of agreements and memoranda of understanding that foster dialogue and the exchange of best practices.
4. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to keep Member States informed on the progress in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.



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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 14

CG/E/Res.14/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL

The General Conference,

Considering that all international organizations require an appropriate physical space as their headquarters;

Considering that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – Treaty of Tlatelolco, in its Article 7, establishes that "the headquarters of the Organization shall be the city of Mexico";

Recalling that the Treaty of Tlatelolco came into force on April 29, 1969, and that on September 2 of the same year, the I Ordinary Session of the General Conference of OPANAL was held in Mexico City;

Emphasizing that the Treaty of Tlatelolco, a source of pride for Latin America and the Caribbean, commemorated its 57th anniversary on February 14, 2024, and that OPANAL celebrated 55 years of operation in 2024, without yet having a permanent headquarters;

Being aware of the “Agreement between the United Mexican States and the Organization for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the establishment of its Headquarters in Mexico,” signed on February 6, 2003; whose Article 2 recognizes the international legal personality of OPANAL;

Taking into account that other regional mechanisms and organizations based in Mexico are installed in their own properties;

Recalling that the Government of Mexico expressed, during the VI Extraordinary Session of the General Conference held on September 10, 1991, its willingness to “secure, at no cost to the Organization, an appropriate property for OPANAL to establish its headquarters,” an offer that the

General Conference appreciated in its resolution CG/E/Res.289 and subsequently in its resolution CG/E/Res.319 during the VIII Extraordinary Session held on January 18, 1994;

Also taking into account that the Government of Mexico has reiterated on several occasions, including in subsequent sessions of the General Conference and meetings of the OPANAL Council, its intention and commitment, together with the Organization, to identify a property in Mexico City that can serve as its permanent and own headquarters;

Recognizing that, since July 2020, the rent of the current provisional headquarters has been fully covered by support from the Government of Mexico through voluntary contributions, and that due to some physical limitations of the current provisional headquarters, the Government of Mexico provides spaces from the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs for the meetings of OPANAL's intergovernmental bodies, at no additional cost to the Organization or to the States Parties to the Treaty;

Resolves:

1. **To recognize and express** gratitude for the continuous efforts of the Government of Mexico to finalize the granting of a property for the headquarters of OPANAL, as well as to promote spaces for the Organization's work at the Mexican Foreign Ministry.
2. **To request** the participation and support of all Member States so that OPANAL has its own permanent headquarters in Mexico City;
3. **To recommend** that the Secretary-General include the need for a permanent headquarters for OPANAL in his meetings with high-level authorities of the Member States, particularly the host country, considering the change of authorities of the new Federal Administration.
4. **To endorse** the considerations and recommendations contained in document CG/17/2023Corr. regarding the characteristics that the headquarters should have.
5. **To conduct**, in case there is communication from the host country indicating the availability of a property that could be donated or provided for permanent use, a joint visit by the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Affairs and the Secretariat, with the purpose of presenting a report to the Council on the conditions and possible adaptation of the property for the Organization, which should address both the physical space and the potential budgetary impacts associated with maintenance costs



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 15.1

CG/E/Res.15/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Financial Obligations of Member States. Status of Collection of Contributions

The General Conference,

Considering that the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – OPANAL is an integral part of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, established by Article 7;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 9, paragraph 3, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which establishes that “*the General Conference shall adopt the Agency’s budget and fix the scale of financial contributions to be paid by the Member States*”;

Considering, as indicated in the table attached, that twenty-two Member States – Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, y Uruguay– are currently up to date with their financial obligations to the Agency for 2023;

Considering that eleven Member States have not yet paid their financial contributions for 2023, which amount to USD 154,684.00 (37.10% of the budget);

Bearing in mind that one Member State has not paid its contributions since ratifying the Treaty of Tlatelolco, adding up to a debt of USD 136,914.50.

Resolves:

1. **To acknowledge** and thank the efforts made by the Member States that are currently up to date with their financial obligations to the Agency.
2. **To renew** its call to the Member States, in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 3, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, to cover in a timely manner the contributions approved by the plenary of the General Conference.

3. **To reiterate** that the existence of the Agency and the performance of its functions and therefore the integrity and permanence of the Treaty of Tlatelolco depend on OPANAL having the financial resources provided for in decisions of the General Conference.
4. **To request** the Council to continue considering the matter in order to avoid an insolvency situation for the Agency, giving where appropriate the pertinent instructions to the Secretary-General.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 15.2

CG/E/Res.16/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Measures to support compliance with the financial obligations established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco

The General Conference,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – Treaty of Tlatelolco, in Article 9, paragraph 3, states that: *"The General Conference shall adopt the Agency's budget and fix the scale of financial contributions to be paid by the Member States, taking into account the systems and criteria used for the same purpose by the United Nations"*;

Noting that Article 29 of the Financial Regulations¹ provides that: *"In the event that a Member State be in arrears for more than two years, the Secretary-General shall present a proposed payment plan to the CCAAP and the Council for their sanction. Said payment plan will be subject to the approval of the General Conference"*;

Bearing in mind that El Salvador is carrying out the necessary actions to improve its financial situation before the Agency;

Taking into account that Antigua and Barbuda has a debt since 2013, Venezuela since 2015, Suriname since 2016, and Honduras since 2019;

Recognizing the efforts of the Secretariat to maintain the full functioning of OPANAL with a constant Budget from 2015 to 2024.

Resolves:

1. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to continue making the necessary contacts and efforts to ensure that El Salvador, Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Suriname and Venezuela

¹ Inf.01/2019

overcome the breach of the financial obligation contained in Article 9.3 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in which they find themselves and that their full incorporation into the activities of the Agency be achieved.

2. **To approve** the programme of discounted payments proposed by the Secretary-General, to regularize the situation of the five Member States - El Salvador, Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Surinam and Venezuela - that have a debt of more than two years, consisting of the following provisions:
 - f) payment of their contributions due until 2023 with a 50% discount for El Salvador;
 - g) payment of their contributions due until 2023 with a 20% discount for Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Surinam and Venezuela;
 - h) each of the aforementioned Member States shall state in writing, no later than 31 March 2025, their acceptance of the proposed payment plan to regularize their situation;
 - i) the payment plan is detailed in accordance with the following annexed table;
 - j) Taking into account its status as a historical debtor, the Government of El Salvador may make payments on its debt in 4 (four) installments: 1) USD 16,905.81 on 01/04/2025; 2) USD 16,905.81 on 01/05/2025; 3) USD 16,905.81 on 01/06/2025; 4) USD 16,905.81 on 01/07/2025.
3. **To instruct** the Secretary General to carry out additional procedures with the States members who have been presented with payment plan options, before March 31, 2025, and report to the Council on the efforts made.

Annex

Member State	Debt to 31/12/2023 (USD)	Discount according to the payment plan	Total amount to be deducted (USD)	Total amount to be paid (USD)
El Salvador	135,246.50	50%	67,623.25	67,623.25
Antigua and Barbuda	17,637.65	20%	3,527.53	14,110.12
Honduras	6,204.00	20%	1,240.20	4,963.20
Suriname	12,344.00	20%	2,468.80	9,875.20
Venezuela	382,985.99	20%	76,597.20	306,388.79



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 16

CG/E/Res.17/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025

The General Conference,

Pursuant to Article 9, paragraph 3, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which establishes that “*The General Conference shall adopt the Agency’s budget and fix the scale of financial contributions to be paid by Member States, taking into account the systems and criteria used for the same purpose by the United Nations.*”;

Considering that, the provisions of Chapter IV of the Financial Regulations¹;

Having examined the Draft Budget and Scale of Contributions for the Financial Year 2025²;

Bearing in mind that, at its 354 Meeting on November 15th, 2024, the Council agreed to submit the Budget Project and Scale of Contributions for the Economic Year 2025 for approval at the XXVIII Session of the Extraordinary General Conference;

Recognizing that the suggested correction of the 4% increase in the total Budget represents a necessary relief for the functioning of the Agency in the next financial year.

Acknowledging that the Budget and Scale of Contributions have not been altered since 2015 and that, from that year until September 2024, the accumulated inflation in the host country has exceeded 50%;

¹ Inf.01/2019

² CCAAP/10/2024Rev2.Alternativa

Resolves:

1. **To adopt** the Budget for the Economic Year 2025, with a maximum amount of USD \$433,668.56 (four hundred thirty-three thousand six hundred sixty-eight 56/100 US dollars).
2. **To set** the Scale of Contributions for Member States corresponding to the year 2025, submitted together with the Budget Project in document CCAAP/10/2024Rev.Alternative.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 17

CG/E/Res.18/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Financial Statements and Opinion of the External Auditor's Report as of 31st December 2023

The General Conference,

In compliance with Article 55 of the Financial Regulations, which states that: *“The report shall be submitted for adoption at the corresponding session of the General Conference”*;

Taking into account the external audit provisions contained in the Financial Regulations;

Bearing in mind Resolution CG/E/Res.04/2022, by which the Office Vieyra Mota y Asociados, S.C. was appointed as External Auditor to conduct the external audit of the Agency's financial records for the financial year 2023;

Recognizing that the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP) has reviewed the accounts of OPANAL for the fiscal year 2023 and given its approval to the document “Financial Situation of the Agency and Budget Implementation as at 31st December 2023”;

Having received the opinion of the External Auditor as of 31st December 2023, on the 5th of November.

Resolves:

1. **To accept** the Statements of Account and the Opinion of the External Auditor corresponding to the Financial Year 2023 as they appear in document CCAAP/25/2024.
2. **To thank** the Office Vieyra Mota y Asociados, S.C. for the services rendered.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 17.2

CG/E/Res.19/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Appointment of the External Auditor

The General Conference,

Considering that the General Conference, in accordance with Article 65 of its Rules of Procedure, shall appoint an External Auditor;

Considering Article 52 of the Financial Regulations of OPANAL¹, which establishes the procedure for the statements of account of the Agency to be certified annually by an External Auditor;

Taking into account the provisions of resolution CG/Res.18/2023, by which the Office Vieyra Mota y Asociados S.C. has been appointed as external auditor for the period of 2024, renewable;

Considering the guidelines set forth in Article 46 of the Financial Regulations, regarding the appointment of the External Auditor.

Resolves:

1. **To appoint** the Office Vieyra Mota y Asociados, S.C., as External Auditor for a period of one year from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, which shall submit to the General Conference in 2025, in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Financial Regulations, the report about the Certification of the Financial Statements of OPANAL corresponding to the previous financial year.
2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General, for the purposes of the aforementioned provision, the conclusion of a contract of service provision, within the limits established in the Budget for

¹ Inf.01/2019

the financial year 2025, with the Office Vieyra Mota y Asociados, S.C., for a period of one year, annually renewable.

3. **Considering** that for the next fiscal year, the Secretary General will invite the membership to present options for audit offices, with the purpose of evaluating and determining the convenience of maintaining or changing the current office.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 18

CG/E/Res.20/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Process for submitting candidacies for the position of head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2029

The General Conference,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) establishes the General Conference, a Council and a Secretariat as the main organs of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL);¹

Bearing in mind that the Treaty of Tlatelolco stipulates that the General Conference will elect the members of the Council and the head of the Secretariat;²

Emphasizing that the Treaty of Tlatelolco also establishes that the head of the Secretariat will be the highest administrative official of the Agency and that, among other duties, shall ensure the proper functioning of the control system established by the Treaty, in accordance with its provisions and with the decisions adopted by the General Conference;³

Considering that the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference establish that the term of office of the head of the Secretariat shall be four years and may be reelected for a single additional term, and may not be a national of the country in which the Agency has its headquarters;

Recalling that ambassador Flávio Roberto Bonzanini was elected as Secretary-General for the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021, by Resolution CG/Res.13/2019 adopted at the XXVI Session of the General Conference and re-elected by acclamation for the period from 1 January

¹ Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), Article 8.

² *Ibid*, Article 9.

³ *Ibid*, Article 11.

2022 to 31 December 2025 by Resolution CG/Res.15/2021 adopted at the XXVII Session of the General Conference;

Bearing in mind that the XXIX Session of the General Conference, to be held in the second semester of 2025 on a date to be determined by the Council in the first two months of the same year, shall elect the incumbent of the General Secretariat for the period 2026-2029.

Having analysed the document "Process for Submitting Candidacies for the Election of the head of the Secretariat for the Period 2026-2030" (CG/E/10/2024);

Resolves:

1. **To establish** that candidacies must be formally presented up to three months before the date scheduled for the XXIX Session of the General Conference, and that the presentation of candidacies must be accompanied by a vision statement through which the candidate will present the priorities for OPANAL. The candidacies will be circulated by the Secretariat to the entire membership as soon as possible, with the purpose of examining the profiles in due time.
2. **To instruct** the Council to indicate to all candidates for the position of Secretary General their availability, on equal terms, for an informal exchange with the membership of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, to be held in the three months preceding the XXIX Session of the General Conference.
3. **To entrust** the Council, with the support of the Secretariat, with the responsibility of following up on the process for the presentation of candidacies for the election of the head of the Secretariat for the period 2026-2029, and inform the Member States in a timely manner, so that the Council may examine the profiles in due time and inform the member states in a timely manner.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 19.1

CG/E/Res.21/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL

The General Conference,

Recalling the importance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco for the denuclearisation of Latin America and the Caribbean, and its contribution to strengthening the international nuclear non-proliferation regime;

Bearing in mind Resolution 267 (E-V) of 3 July 1990, which resolved to add the terms "and the Caribbean" to the legal name of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, and, consequently, make this amendment to the legal name established in Article 7 of the Treaty;

Also bearing in mind Resolution 268 (XII) of 10 May 1991, which replaces paragraph 2 of Article 25 of the Treaty with the following text: "The condition of State Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco shall be restricted to independent States which are situated within the zone of application of the Treaty in accordance with article 4 of the same, and with paragraph 1 of the present article, and which were Members of the United Nations as of December 10, 1985 as well as the non-autonomous territories mentioned in document OAS/CER.P, AG/doc . 1939/85 of November 5, 1985, once they attained their independence";

Further bearing in mind Resolution 290 (E-VII) of 26 August 1992, which resolved to amend the Treaty of Tlatelolco in its Articles 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20;

Recognizing the need for all Member States of OPANAL to complete the processes of signing and ratifying the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco in order to consolidate the universalization and full effectiveness of this instrument in the region;

Emphasizing the relevance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL for ensuring the proper functioning of the Organization and the protection of its staff in the performance of their duties;

Bearing in mind Resolutions 245 (XI) of 27 April 1989, 274 (XII) of 10 May 1991, 294 (XIII) of 27 May 1993, 327 (XIV) of 29 March 1995, 354 (XV) of 10 July 1997, 383 (XVI) of 30 November 1999, 411 (XVII) of 29 November 2001, and 440 (XVIII) of 5 November 2003, in which repeated calls were made to the Governments of Member States that have not yet become full Parties to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL, urging them to proceed to sign and/or ratify the instrument as soon as possible;

Recognizing that the signing of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL is an obligation under Article 23 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Reaffirming its commitment to the legal and institutional strengthening of OPANAL and to promoting regional and international cooperation on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Having carefully examined the status of signatures and ratifications of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL, as presented in document CG/E/18/2024;

Resolves:

1. **To urge** Member States that have not completed the processes of signing and/or ratifying the amendments approved by Resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII), and 290 (E-VII), to do so as soon as possible in order to contribute to efforts aimed at achieving the full effectiveness of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
2. **To urge** Member States to continue working jointly with the OPANAL Secretariat and the Depositary State to ensure the full implementation of the aforementioned amendments, thereby strengthening the legal framework of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
3. **To call upon** Member States that have not yet done so to complete the processes of signing and/or ratifying the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL with a view to achieving the full legal status of the Organization and ensuring the recognition of the facilities that it should enjoy in each of the Member States for the proper performance of its functions, based on Article 7 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

4. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to renew efforts with the Governments of those countries that have not yet signed and/or ratified the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and/or the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL, to provide support and follow-up to Member States in completing the pending signing and ratification processes, with the goal of achieving full validity of these international instruments, as well as to present a report on these efforts to the XXIX Session of the General Conference.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session

28 November 2024

Agenda item 19.2

CG/E/Res.22/2024

Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)

The General Conference,

Considering that the Council took note of the proposal for establishing a "Cooperation Mechanism of International Organizations based in Mexico City (OI-MEX Mechanism)" during its 341st Meeting held on 7 December 2022;

Taking into account that the Council also noted the updated presentation of the executive proposal for the "Committee for Cooperation of Intergovernmental International Organizations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)" and the "Proposed Agreement for Inter-institutional Cooperation for the establishment of the Committee" during its 353rd meeting on 4 October 2024;

Having received the document titled "Establishment of the Committee for Cooperation of Intergovernmental International Organizations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)" (CG/E/04/2024);

Bearing in mind Article 9, subsection b, of the Amended "Standards Governing the Operations of the Secretariat" (Doc. CG/E/666), which states that it is the responsibility of the Secretary General, with the authorization of the General Conference, to conclude agreements that define the relationships between OPANAL and other international organizations;

Resolves:

1. **To entrust** the Council, with the support of the Secretariat, with the responsibility of analyzing the "Proposed Agreement for Inter-institutional Cooperation for the establishment of the Committee" and presenting its recommendations to the membership during its first meeting in 2025.

2. **To instruct** the Secretary-General to circulate any communication received regarding the proposal for the awareness of Member States.
3. **To recommend** that the Council, following its analysis, and if deemed appropriate, authorize the Secretary-General to sign the "Cooperation Committee of Intergovernmental International Organisations based in Mexico (OI-MEX Committee)"
4. **To urge** the Secretary-General to inform the Council of any activities they intend to carry out under the terms of the Agreement.
5. **To request** that the Council provide follow-up and support as needed by the Secretary-General for the implementation of the Agreement.



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024
Agenda item 19.3

CG/E/Res.23/2024
Original: English/Spanish

Resolution

Vote of Thanks to the Government of Mexico

The General Conference,

Mindful of the valuable support provided by the Government of the United Mexican States, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in organising the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL);

Noting the successful completion of work carried out during the said XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference;

Resolves:

1. **To express** its deep gratitude to the Government of the United Mexican States, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for its invaluable support to the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and its Member States, in providing suitable facilities for holding the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.
2. **To convey** its appreciation to the Presidency of the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference for their leadership of proceedings. Additionally, extend thanks to the Vice-Presidencies, represented by the delegations of Brazil and Guatemala, for their valuable collaboration throughout the XXVIII Special Session of the General Conference.

List of Participants



OPANAL

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

General Conference

XXVIII Special Session
28 November 2024

CG/E/20/2024
Original: Spanish/English

List of Participants

Member States

1	Argentina	H. E. Amb. María Gabriela Quinteros Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Argentina to Mexico María Victoria Urbistondo Alternate Representative to OPANAL First Secretary of the Embassy
2	Bahamas	Skyler Devaux Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Bahamas to the United Nations
3	Belize	H.E. Amb. Oscar Lorenzo Arnold Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Belize to Mexico Maximiliano Ruiz Minister Counselor of the Embassy
4	Bolivia	H. E. Amb. José Crespo Fernández Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bolivia to Mexico Ricardo Aguirre Olmos First Secretary of the Embassy Eugenia Condori Mamani Second Secretary, International Policies and Human Rights Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fabiana Andrea Paz Arnez Civil Attaché of the Embassy
5	Brazil	H. E. Amb Nedilson Ricardo Jorge Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to Mexico Patrick Luna First Secretary of the Embassy

		Vinícius Fox Drummond Cançado Trindade Second Secretary of the Embassy
6	Chile	H. E. Amb. Beatriz Sánchez Muñoz Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Chile to Mexico Jorge Vidal Rodríguez Counselor of the Embassy
7	Colombia	Pilar Vargas Álvarez Minister Plenipotentiary of the Embassy of Colombia in Mexico Mr. Juan Nicolás Riveros Garavito Second Secretary of the Embassy
8	Cuba	H. E. Amb. Marcos Rodríguez Costa Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Cuba to Mexico Onesis Bolaños Minister Counselor of the Embassy Lisette Sardina Martorell Second Secretary of the Embassy José Ernesto Díaz Pérez First Secretary, Directorate General of Multilateral Affairs and International Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
9	Ecuador	Marco Ramiro Benitez Flores Counselor, United Nations System Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador
10	El Salvador	H. E. Amb. Rosa Delmy Cañas Orellana Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of El Salvador to Mexico José David Martínez Serrano Minister Counselor of the Embassy Zeidy Rosimar Morales Director of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Roxana Aracely Prieto Head of the Department of International Organizations, Forums, and Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

		Jonathan Eduardo Cañas Analyst, Department of International Organizations, Forums, and Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
11	Guatemala	Esmaylin Thomas Gómez Escobedo Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Guatemala in Mexico Angel Raúl Chan López Counselor of the Embassy María del Rosario Estrada Girón Director of Multilateral Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ana Gabriela Barrera Molina First Secretary, Sub-directorate of Multilateral Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
12	Guyana	H.E. Amb. George Talbot Director of the Department of Multilateral and Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Guyana Karmelita Deonarine Foreign Service Officer, Department of Multilateral and Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
13	Haiti	Darline Florestal Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Embassy of Haiti in Mexico Paul Tialy Nazaire Minister Counselor of the Embassy
14	Honduras	H. E. Amb. Sonia Cruz de Aspra Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Honduras to Mexico Darwing Arias First Secretary of the Embassy Coronel Edwin Jovel Galeas Defense Attaché of the Embassy
15	Jamaica	H. E. Amb. Julia Hyatt Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Jamaica to Mexico Cleopatra Parkins Counselor of the Embassy

16	Mexico	H. E. Amb. Enrique Javier Ochoa Martinez Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico Eduardo Jaramillo Navarrete Director General for the United Nations Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs María Antonieta Jáquez Huacuja Coordinator for Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Arms Control, Directorate General for the United Nations Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Manuel Flores Troche Director of Nuclear Disarmament, Directorate General for the United Nations Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dorian Fernández Elwes Director of Contributions to International Organizations, Directorate General for the United Nations Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sandra Beatriz Sánchez Aguillón Deputy Director for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, Directorate General for the United Nations Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
17	Nicaragua	H. E. Amb. Juan Carlos Gutiérrez Madrigal Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Nicaragua to Mexico
18	Panama	H. E. Amb. Abraham Martínez Montilla Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Panama to Mexico Erick Cajar Grimas Minister Counselor of the Embassy
19	Paraguay	Víctor Amarilla First Secretary of the Embassy of Paraguay in Mexico
20	Peru	Yesica Fonseca Martínez Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Peru in Mexico Álvaro de los Ríos Diez Counselor of the Embassy
21	Dominican Republic	Mercedes González Decena Minister Counselor of the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Mexico

		Colonel Rafael Eduardo Mercedes Catedral Defense Attaché of the Embassy
22	Uruguay	H. E. Amb. Santiago Wins Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Uruguay to Mexico Noelia Martinez Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Uruguay in Mexico
23	Venezuela	Andrés Eloy Ruiz Adrián Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Venezuela in Mexico
Observers		
1	China	Chen Xiang Second Secretary, Head of the Political Section of the Embassy of China in Mexico Liu Weijia Attaché, Political Section, Embassy
2	Russia	Vasiliy Khlebushkin Counselor, Directorate General of Non-Proliferation and Arms Control, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia Aleksandr Batadeev Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Russia in Mexico Sergei Tikhonov Counselor of the Embassy
3	CTBTO	Xyoli Pérez Campos Director of the International Monitoring System Division, Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Organization
4	Soka Gakkai	Nereo Ordaz Anzurez Director-General of Soka Gakkai México Iván Rayas Coordinator of Public Affairs, Soka Gakkai Mexico Roberto Toledo Public Affairs Officer, Soka Gakkai Mexico
5	ICAN	María Eugenia Villareal

		Representative for Central America of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
6	Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone	Eziz Nazarov Head of the Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Mr. Yerlan Kubashev Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Mexico
7	Africa Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone	Gaspard Liyoko Mboyo President of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy Collins Omondi Director of Civil Applications of Nuclear Energy, African Commission on Nuclear Energy
8	Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone	H.E. Amb Lilybeth R. Deapera Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Mexico Ralf G. Roldan First Secretary and Consul of the Embassy

OPANAL Secretariat

H. E. Amb. Flávio Roberto Bonzanini	Secretary-General
Natalia Chreties Ceriani	Administration Officer
Martha Mariana Mendoza Basulto	International Relations Officer
Alain Ponce Blancas	Research and Communication Officer
Natalia Zhurina	Research and Education Officer
David Ramírez	Driver and Office Assistant
Camila Alderete Alvarez	Intern
Kim Mijeong	Intern
Leslie Leslie St Albord II	Intern
Carla Regina Núñez Guerrero	Intern

