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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA
OF THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA

Letter dated 11 July 1967 addressed to the Secretary-General from the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela

In accordance with the provisions of resolution 22 (IV) of the Preparatory Commission for the Denuclearization of Latin America, adopted by our respective Governments on 13 February 1967, we request you to include in the agenda of the twenty-second session of the General Assembly the following item:

"Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America".

In accordance with the provisions of rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, this communication is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum.

(Signed)	F. ORTIZ SANZ	(Bolivia)
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	P.P. BERRO	(Uruguay)
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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. On 27 November 1963, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 1911 (XVIII), entitled "Denuclearization of Latin America", in which, after recalling that the Heads of State of five Latin American Republics had issued, on 29 April 1963, a declaration in which, in the name of their peoples and Governments, they announced that they were prepared "to sign a multilateral Latin American agreement whereby their countries would undertake not to manufacture, receive, store or test nuclear weapons", and after recognizing "the need to preserve, in Latin America, conditions which will prevent the countries of the region from becoming involved in a dangerous and ruinous nuclear arms race", the General Assembly:

(1) Noted with satisfaction the initiative taken in that declaration;

(2) Expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would initiate studies concerning the measures that should be agreed upon with a view to achieving the aims of the declaration;

(3) Expressed its confidence that after a satisfactory agreement had been reached, all States, particularly the nuclear Powers, would lend their full co-operation for the effective realization of the peaceful aims inspring the resolution; and

(4) Requested the Secretary-General to extend to the States of Latin America, at their request, such technical facilities as they might require in order to achieve the aims set forth in the resolution.

2. As soon as resolution 1911 (XVIII) had been adopted, the Latin American Republics began consultations among themselves, which led to the holding at Mexico City, from 23 to 27 November 1964, of a Preliminary Meeting on the Denuclearization of Latin America (A/5824), which was entrusted with the task of preparing a draft treaty and undertaking all the preparatory studies and measures it considered appropriate.

3. The Preparatory Commission, whose headquarters, pursuant to the provisions of the resolution establishing it, were in Mexico, held four sessions between 15 March 1965, when it began its work, and 14 February 1967, when that work was completed. The Final Acts of these sessions have all been reproduced as General Assembly documents (A/5912, A/5985, A/6328 and A/6663).

4. The Preparatory Commission brought its work to a successful conclusion by unanimously adopting the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (also known as the "Treaty of Tlatelolco" from the historical name of the district of Mexico City in which it was adopted). The complete text of the Treaty and its two additional protocols is annexed to resolution 21 (IV) of the Preparatory Commission (A/6663, pp. 10-33). The Treaty was opened for signature on 14 February 1967 and pursuant to article 26 the Government of the United States of Mexico was designated the Depositary Government.
5. The day after the adoption of the Treaty, 13 February 1967, the Preparatory Commission adopted resolution 22 (IV), entitled "Twenty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly", pursuant to which a request has been submitted for the inclusion in the agenda of that session of the item "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America".
6. The complete text of that resolution, which is self-explanatory, is as follows:

"The Preparatory Commission for the Denuclearization of Latin America,

"Having regard to the spirit and intention in which United Nations General Assembly resolution 1911 (XVIII) was adopted,

"Convinced that it has spared no effort to arrive at the conclusion of a multilateral agreement to establish in Latin America a zone permanently free of nuclear weapons,

"Conscious that the opening and signature of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America are important to the world effort to halt the armaments race and, in particular, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and accordingly make a significant contribution towards reducing international tension for the benefit of peace,

"Decides:

"To recommend to the Governments of the member States that they should jointly promote the inclusion in the agenda for the United Nations General Assembly's twenty-second session of the item: "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America", in order that the representatives of the signatory States may explain, in the forum of the world Organization, the significance and scope of the provisions of the Treaty."