

2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Memorandum from the General Secretariat of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean prepared for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

1. On the occasion of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the General Secretariat of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) presented a background document on the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), which was circulated as an official document of the Conference (NPT/CONF.1995/10).

2. Pursuant to the request of the Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the General Secretariat of OPANAL presents a description of the most relevant political developments that have taken place since the Review and Extension Conference of May 1995.

States acceding to the Treaty of Tlatelolco

3. The universality of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in the region has been strengthened with the accession of the following States:

- Saint Lucia on 2 June 1995;
- Saint Kitts and Nevis on 14 February 1997;
- Guyana on 14 May 1997.

4. To date, all 33 States in the Latin American and Caribbean region have signed the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Thirty-two States have ratified the Treaty and waived article 28 (article 29 of the amended Treaty) and are now full Parties to the Treaty. Cuba signed the Treaty in March 1995, but has not yet ratified it.

Amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco

5. First amendment (resolution 267(E-V)), which adds to the official title of the Treaty the words "and the Caribbean":

- Signed by Cuba;
- Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

6. Second amendment (resolution 268 (XII)), which replaces paragraph 2 of former article 25 of the Treaty:

- Signed by Cuba;
- Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

7. Third amendment (resolution 290 (E-VII)), which amends articles 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20 of the Treaty:

- Signed by Cuba;
- Ratified by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

8. A table of the status of signatures and ratifications of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and its amendments (annex I) is attached to this memorandum. The amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco are binding on the States Parties that have signed and ratified them.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) international nuclear safeguards

9. Article 13 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that "Each Contracting Party shall negotiate multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of its safeguards to its nuclear activities". In fulfilment of that mandate, the following States have concluded agreements with IAEA:

- Saint Lucia (June), Barbados (August) and Antigua and Barbuda (September) in 1996;
- The Bahamas (February), Belize (March), Dominica (March), Saint Kitts and Nevis (March) and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (March) in 1997;
- Confirmation by IAEA of the conclusion of the safeguards agreement with Guyana, which was signed in March 1997, is still pending;
- The safeguards agreement with Haiti is known to have been concluded in 1975, but the official notification from Haiti to IAEA that the State has fulfilled the constitutional requirements for the entry into force of the agreement is still pending;
- With regard to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, OPANAL has learnt from unofficial sources that the Government of France last February concluded its safeguards agreements with IAEA and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). Official notification from the French Government is still pending.

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL

10. In compliance with article 22 (article 23 of the amended Treaty) of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which prescribes the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of OPANAL and of the representatives of the Contracting Parties accredited to the Agency in the territories of its member States, the following States have signed or ratified the Convention:

- Chile deposited its instrument of ratification of the Convention on 17 June 1997;
- Paraguay deposited its instrument of ratification of the Convention on 18 August 1997;
- Guatemala signed the Convention on 29 September 1998.

Council of OPANAL

11. The XIV Regular General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Viña del Mar, Chile, in March 1995, elected Argentina, Belize and Chile to replace Bolivia, Ecuador and Uruguay as members of the Council for the 1995-1999 term.

12. The XV Regular General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Mexico, in July 1997, elected Panama and Peru to replace Colombia and Mexico as members of the Council for the 1997-2001 term.

13. The XVI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Lima, in December 1999, elected Brazil, Costa Rica and Mexico to replace Argentina, Belize and Chile as members of the Council for the 2000-2003 term.

Commission on Contributions, Administrative and Budgetary Matters

14. Since the Commission on Contributions, Administrative and Budgetary Matters of OPANAL (CCAAP) was established in 1977, its members have been Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela.

15. The XVI Regular General Conference of OPANAL elected for the 2000-2003 term a new CCAAP whose members are Chile, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. It also elected Brazil as a member of CCAAP for a term of one year, to begin on 1 January 2000.

Strengthening of OPANAL

16. In compliance with resolution CG/E/Res.339 (E-X) of the Tenth Special General Conference of OPANAL, held on 5 December 1995, the General Secretariat of OPANAL established an Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Strengthening of OPANAL, which was installed by the Council of OPANAL on 11 January 1996. The Working Group was comprised of representatives of the following States: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Venezuela. It held six meetings and issued a final report to the Council of OPANAL, which submitted the report to the XII Special General Conference, held in Mexico in November 1997.

17. The topic of the strengthening of OPANAL has been under continuous review by the Council and General Conference of OPANAL. Lastly, the XVI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Lima from 30 November to 1 December 1999, approved resolution CG/Res.388 on the strengthening of OPANAL, which clearly defines the future activities of OPANAL and of the General Secretariat (see annex II).

Lima Appeal

18. The XVI Regular General Conference of OPANAL, held in Lima, Peru, adopted by consensus resolution CG/Res.387, dated 30 November 1999, which approved the Lima Appeal, intended to raise international public awareness as a step towards the total prohibition of the use and manufacture of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. In the resolution, the Conference also issued an appeal to nuclear-weapon States to adopt political decisions for the destruction and prohibition of such weapons. The document, which is political in nature, also contains an appeal to the world community to follow the example of the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba for the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones (see annex III).

Treaty of Tlatelolco and Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

19. Chile acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons during the 1995 Review and Extension Conference. Brazil followed on 18 September 1998. To date, of the 33 States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, 32 are Parties to

the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Only Cuba, which has signed the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the amendments thereto, is not a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Nuclear testing and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

20. Article 18 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco permits under very strict conditions nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Nevertheless, the fact that the Latin American and Caribbean States have signed and ratified the Treaty of Tlatelolco and are therefore full parties to that Treaty, which definitively prohibits the parties thereto from developing or possessing nuclear weapons, may be interpreted as a prohibition against nuclear tests.

21. In addition, the following Latin American and Caribbean States have to date signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, El Salvador, Grenada, Mexico, Panama and Peru. Thus far, the following States of the region have signed it only: Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

22. The Council of OPANAL, as the political organ of the Agency, at the time expressed its deep regret at the series of nuclear tests carried out by China and France in 1995.

23. The Council of OPANAL also strongly condemned the nuclear tests conducted in May 1998 by India and Pakistan.

Seminars and activities with other international organizations

24. Pursuant to the mandate of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the General Secretariat of OPANAL convened and organized the following international events in its field of competence:

- The international seminar on IAEA safeguards, "Verifying compliance with non-proliferation commitments", was held on 25 and 26 April 1996, in Kingston, Jamaica, co-sponsored by IAEA and with the participation of the Director-General of that Agency, Dr. Hans Blix, and other

senior Agency officials as well as delegations from the 33 signatory States of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

- On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and under the co-sponsorship of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the Government of Mexico, the international seminar on the subject "Nuclear-weapon-free zones in the next century" was held on 13 and 14 February 1997, in Mexico, with the participation of renowned international speakers and representatives of all States signatories or observers to or bound by the Treaty of Tlatelolco;
- An international seminar on the topic "Disarmament and security: a new agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean for the next millennium" was held from 1 to 3 December 1999, in Lima, Peru, co-sponsored by the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Government of Peru, and with the presence and participation of the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, Jayantha Dhanapala and other renowned international experts in the field. Representatives of States Parties, observer States, and States bound by the Treaty of Tlatelolco also participated.

Nuclear-weapon-free zones

25. During the period since 1995, the General Secretariat of OPANAL has maintained regular contact with other nuclear-weapon-free zones, whose representatives also participated in the Mexico seminar on nuclear-weapon-free zones and in the Lima seminar on disarmament.

26. At the invitation of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the General Secretary of OPANAL participated in the ceremony marking the opening for signature of the Treaty of Pelindaba, in Cairo, Egypt, on 12 May 1996.

27. The General Secretary participated in the international conference on nuclear-weapon-free zones in Central Asia, which was held in Tashkent, on 15 September 1997.

28. The General Secretary also participated in a seminar on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Bangkok, in November 1997, and met with the Thai authorities concerned with the Treaty of Bangkok.

29. At the invitation of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs, the General Secretary participated in the Regional Conference on Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, on the theme of "Security concepts in a changing world", which was held in Ulaan Baatar, from 3 to 5 August 1999.

30. The XVI General Conference of OPANAL, which was held in Lima, in December 1999, requested the General Secretary to elaborate a proposal with the specific objectives of convening an international conference of the parties to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, and to formulate a programme to increase the exchange of information and experiences with other nuclear-weapon-free zones, in particular on the prohibition of nuclear tests, non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and the establishment of cooperation programmes with these or new nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Annex I

Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

Opened for signature: 14 February 1967

Entry into force: 25 April 1969

Depositary: Mexico

Country	Treaty of Tlatelolco			Res. 267 (E-V)		Res. 268 (XII)		Res.290 (E-VII)	
	Signature	Ratification	Art. 28	Amendment Art. 7		Amendment Art. 25		Arts. 14, 15, 16, 19, 20	
				Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Antigua and Barbuda	11 Oct. 83	11 Oct. 83	11 Oct. 83						
Argentina	27 Sept. 67	18 Jan. 94	18 Jan. 94	10 Dec. 90	18 Jan. 94	14 Oct. 91	18 Jan. 94	26 Aug. 92	18 Jan. 94
Bahamas	29 Nov. 76	26 Apr. 77	26 Apr. 77	18 Mar. 92					
Barbados	18 Oct. 68	25 Apr. 69	25 Apr. 69	14 Feb. 97	14 Feb. 97	14 Feb. 97	14 Feb. 97	14 Feb. 97	14 Feb. 97
Belize	14 Feb. 92	09 Nov. 94	09 Nov. 94	23 Nov. 95	23 Nov. 95			23 Nov. 95	23 Nov. 95
Bolivia	14 Feb. 67	18 Feb. 69	18 Feb. 69	10 Dec. 90		10 Sep. 91		31 Aug. 92	
Brazil	09 May 67	29 Jan. 68	30 May 94	05 Dec. 90	30 May 94	23 Jan. 92	30 May 94	26 Aug. 92	30 May 94
Chile	14 Feb. 67	09 Oct. 74	18 Jan. 94	16 Jan. 91	18 Jan. 94	03 Sep. 91	18 Jan. 94	26 Aug. 92	18 Jan. 94
Colombia	14 Feb. 67	04 Aug. 72	06 Sep. 72	05 Dec. 90	18 Jan. 99	10 Sep. 91	18 Jan. 99	14 Dec. 92	18 Jan. 99
Costa Rica	14 Feb. 67	25 Aug. 69	25 Aug. 69	10 Dec. 90	20 Jan. 99	03 Sep. 91	20 Jan. 99	26 Aug. 92	20 Jan. 99
Cuba*	25 Mar. 95			05 Dec. 95		05 Dec. 95		05 Dec. 95	
Dominica	02 May 89	04 June 93	25 Aug. 93						
Dominican Republic	28 July 67	14 June 68	14 June 68	16 Jan. 91		10 Sep. 91		26 Aug. 92	27 Mar. 98
Ecuador	14 Feb. 67	11 Feb. 69	11 Feb. 69	05 Dec. 90	18 Oct. 95	13 Sep. 91		26 Aug. 92	
El Salvador	14 Feb. 67	22 Apr. 68	22 Apr. 68	21 Feb. 91	22 May 92	10 Sep. 91		08 Sep. 92	
Grenada	29 Apr. 75	20 June 75	20 June 75	17 Sep. 91	17 Sep. 91	17 Sep. 91			
Guatemala	14 Feb. 67	06 Feb. 70	06 Feb. 70	10 Dec. 90	21 Aug. 98	23 Oct. 97		26 Aug. 92	
Guyana	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95	14 May 97	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95	16 Jan. 95
Haiti	14 Feb. 67	23 May 69	23 May 69	16 Jan. 91		21 Jan. 92		22 Oct. 92	
Honduras	14 Feb. 67	23 Sep. 68	23 Sep. 68	16 Jan. 91		04 May 92		26 Aug. 92	
Jamaica	26 Oct. 67	26 June 69	26 June 69	21 Feb. 91	13 Mar. 92	17 Sep. 91	17 May 95	08 June 93	17 May 95
Mexico	14 Feb. 67	20 Sep. 67	20 Sep. 67	05 Nov. 90	24 Oct. 91	02 Sep. 91	10 Apr. 92	26 Aug. 92	01 Sep. 93
Nicaragua	15 Feb. 67	24 Oct. 68	24 Oct. 68	10 Dec. 90		28 Jan. 92		26 Aug. 92	08 Nov. 99
Panama	14 Feb. 67	11 June 71	11 June 71						

<i>Country</i>	<i>Treaty of Tlatelolco</i>			<i>Amendment Art. 7</i>		<i>Amendment Art. 25</i>		<i>Arts. 14, 15, 16, 19, 20</i>	
	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Art. 28</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>
Paraguay	26 Apr. 67	19 Mar. 69	19 Mar. 69	19 Feb. 91	22 Oct. 96	21 Jan. 92	22 Oct. 96	26 Aug. 92	22 Oct. 96
Peru	14 Feb. 67	04 Mar. 69	04 Mar. 69	05 Dec. 90	14 July 95	21 Jan. 92	14 July 95	09 Feb. 93	14 July 95
Saint Kitts and Nevis	18 Feb. 94	18 Apr. 95	14 Feb. 97	18 Feb. 94		18 Feb. 94		18 Feb. 94	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	14 Feb. 92	14 Feb. 92	11 May 92						
Saint Lucia	25 Aug. 92	02 June 95	02 June 95						
Suriname	13 Feb. 76	10 June 77	10 June 77		13 June 94AC		13 June 94AC		13 June 94AC
Trinidad and Tobago	27 June 67	03 Dec. 70	27 June 75						
Uruguay	14 Feb. 67	20 Aug. 68	20 Aug. 68	16 Nov. 90	30 Aug. 94	17 Sep. 91	30 Aug. 94	26 Aug. 92	20 Feb. 95
Venezuela	14 Feb. 67	23 Mar. 70	23 Mar. 70	16 Jan. 91	14 Feb. 97	10 Sep. 91	14 Feb. 97	26 Aug. 92	14 Feb. 97

Additional Protocol I

<i>Country</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>
France	02 Mar. 79	24 Aug. 92
Netherlands	15 Mar. 68	26 July 71
United Kingdom	20 Dec. 67	11 Dec. 69
United States	26 May 77	23 Nov. 81

Additional Protocol II

<i>Country</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification</i>
People's Republic of China	21 Aug. 73	02 June 74
France	18 July 73	22 Mar. 74
Russian Federation	18 May 78	08 Jan. 79
United Kingdom	20 Dec. 67	11 Dec. 69
United States	01 Apr. 68	12 May 71

* Not a full member.

Res. 267 (E-V) Addition of the words "and the Caribbean"
 Res. 268 (XII) Replacement of paragraph 2 of art. 25
 Res. 290 (E-VII) Amendments to articles 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20

The amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco are binding on States Parties that have signed and ratified it

AC - Accession

31 March 2000

Annex II

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

XVI Regular Session of the General Conference

Agenda item 14

Lima, Peru, 30 November and 1 December 1999

RESOLUTION CG/Res.388

THE STRENGTHENING OF THE AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (OPANAL)

The General Conference,

Taking into account resolutions 339 (E-X), 358 (XV) and 368 (E-XII), relative to the mandate received by the Council and the Secretariat General of the Agency to continue the study in order to promote measures and actions destined to strengthen OPANAL;

Recalling the recommendations contained in the Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the Strengthening of OPANAL, on which consensus exists for their application and which do not require amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

Considering the advances in the deliberations regarding this issue in the Agency's Council and the strategic necessity to take action on those items, upon which consensus exists, during the years 2000 and 2001;

Having examined the Report of the Secretary General on the Strengthening of OPANAL, presented to the General Conference,

Resolves:

1. **To request** that the Secretary General of the Agency, with the approval of the Council, prepare a proposal containing the specific objectives for holding an international conference of the parties of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs); and establish contacts with the authorities of other NWFZs in order to express interest in holding said conference and ascertain their opinion; as well as the presentation to the Council of a report on the development of the contacts made regarding the issue.

To request that the Council, based on the report presented by the Secretary General regarding the contacts mentioned in the previous paragraph, follow up on the development of this initiative with a view to requesting that the UN Millennium Assembly distribute it.

2. **To instruct** the Secretary General that he draft a program that shall continue and increase the exchange of information and experience with other NWFZs, in which areas of common interest are identified, in particular regarding the prohibition of nuclear testing, non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament, and if appropriate, the establishment of cooperation programs within the areas of competence that the Treaty of Tlatelolco assigns to OPANAL.

3. **To exhort** the Secretary General that he identify and submit for the consideration of the Council proposals for the promotion of common steps that could be presented to the authorities of other NWFZs.

4. **To request** that the Secretary General draft, as soon as possible, a program for the strengthening of OPANAL as an institution that includes the support of a small professional group in order to increase the analytical capacity of the Agency in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and optimize the quality of the documentation.

To instruct the Secretary General that he present the Council with proposed agreements of cooperation with the Secretariat General of the United Nations for the assigning of analysts from the Department of Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for the purposes of the studies that the Council requests.

To authorize the Secretary General to invite the States parties to support, to the extent that their means allow, the Agency by designating national specialists in the field.

To urge the Secretary General to continue maintaining the exchange of information with non-governmental organizations on issues of interest to OPANAL that, with the approval of the Council, he considers pertinent for presentation to the Member States of the Agency, in accordance with article 11 (5) of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

5. **To strengthen** even more relations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and request that the Secretary-General meet with the authorities of that Agency, regarding the functioning of the Control System established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco in light of its most recent amendments and present to the Council a report on the possibility and appropriateness of updating the Cooperation Agreement signed by both parties in October 1972.

To instruct that the Secretary General establish contact with the authorities of the Regional Cooperative Agreement for the Promotion of Nuclear Science and Technology in Latin America (ARCAL) in order to exchange information about the cooperation projects within the competencies of OPANAL.

6. **To instruct** that the Secretary General draft a program of work to reinforce cooperation with other regional organizations as well as those in the region, like the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control (ABACC), based on objectives in harmony with the purposes of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and that take the financial consequences for the Agency's budget into account.

7. **To request** that the Secretary General draft a program of work to develop and strengthen OPANAL's relations with the new international agencies created to supervise disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control measures anywhere in

the world, in accordance with article 20 of the Treaty. The program should be based on clear objectives that are in harmony with the purposes of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

8. **To exhort** the Secretary General to present to the Council a detailed program with the objectives and purposes of his participation in international fora and organizations, as well as the reports and results of said activities. His participation should be based on objectives in harmony with the purposes of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and take the financial consequences for the Agency's budget into account.

9. **To encourage** the Secretary General to continue undertaking activities and programs in harmony with the purposes of the Treaty of Tlatelolco that are not specifically mentioned in the budget, based on funding from new sources, with the prior approval of the Council, without implying a decrease in the Agency's autonomy.

10. **To instruct** the Council and the Secretary General to keep Resolution 368, operative paragraph 1, subparagraph (b) under constant study.

Adopted at the 90th session
30 November 1999

Annex III

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

XVI Regular Session of the General Conference

Lima, Peru, 30 November and 1 December 1999

RESOLUTION CG/Res.387

THE LIMA APPEAL

The General Conference,

The “Lima Appeal” having been approved by the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and the Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, during its XVI Regular Session of the General Conference held in Lima, Peru, on 30 November-1 December 1999,

Resolves:

To request that the Secretary General of OPANAL execute the corresponding actions in order for the “Lima Appeal” to be distributed as an official document for the Session of the Millennium General Assembly of the United Nations.

Adopted at the 90th session
30 November 1999

THE LIMA APPEAL

The Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), during the XVI Ordinary Session of the General Conference held in Lima, Peru from 30 November to 1 December 1999:

Aware:

That Latin America and the Caribbean is the first densely populated region in the world that has consolidated its political will to prohibit nuclear weapons, through the full compliance of the Treaty of Tlatelolco;

That Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zones represent an important means to reach further, general and complete disarmament under reliable international control;

Convinced:

That the current context offers us the appropriate opportunity to prohibit and eradicate forever the nuclear weapons, the international community must begin the third millennium with the commitment to move towards such an objective, following a legitimate aspiration of humankind;

That no effort towards a complete and immediate prohibition of the use or manufacture of nuclear weapons or towards preventing its proliferation, will have the result sought by the international community if it is not manifested in the general will from the countries who possess nuclear weapons and those who do not;

Make an appeal to International Community:

With the purpose of creating an international public awareness in order to advance in every field of action towards a complete prohibition of the use and manufacture of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction; and particularly to the nuclear powers for the adoption of the political will that constitutes their firm commitment to the total destruction and prohibition of such weapons, in accordance with the text and the spirit of Resolution 808 (IX) unanimously approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and following the concern expressed by the International Community that is reflected in Resolution 53/77 "Y" "Towards a nuclear weapons free world: the need for a new agenda" dated 4 December 1998.

We also appeal to the world community to follow the example of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, Pelindaba, Bangkok and Rarotonga, to join their decisions and political will towards the creation of new Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in other inhabited regions of the planet.
