
**COMMUNITY OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES (CELAC)
SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Community of Latin America and Caribbean States (CELAC), on the occasion of the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, or the Treaty of Tlatelolco, expresses its appreciation for the commemoration of this historic milestone, which allowed the region of Latin America and the Caribbean to be established as the first densely populated Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone worldwide and that, jointly with the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of Peace, ratifies the peaceful character of our region and its commitment to nuclear disarmament, as the highest priority in the field of disarmament, as well as to non-proliferation in all its aspects, both horizontal and vertical, and to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and the fulfillment of the principles of International Law.

Welcomes the XXV Session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), held on February 14th in Mexico City, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, in which ministers, vice ministers and senior officials from Latin America and the Caribbean participated.

Congratulates Mexico on its election as Presidency of the XXV Session of the General Conference of OPANAL, as well as Guatemala and Argentina on their election as Vice-presidents.

Reaffirms its commitment as a region to work in the promotion and strengthening of nuclear disarmament as the highest priority, as well as non-proliferation in all its aspects, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy at the global level, in order to advance towards a world free of nuclear weapons, indispensable to ensure peace, security and development of our peoples.

Reiterates its view that the existence of nuclear weapons poses the greatest threat to international peace and security and only their total elimination will prevent their possible use, by intent or accident.

Reaffirms its rejection and condemnation to all kinds of nuclear weapons tests. Likewise, expresses its firm commitment to actively participate in the negotiation efforts for the adoption in the shortest possible time of a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination.

February 15th, 2017