

Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN -OPANAL

Born 15th August 1941 in Rio de Janeiro, he entered the diplomatic career in 1963 after graduation at the Rio Branco Institute, the diplomatic academy that forms Brazilian diplomats since 1945.

His professional experience developed in the following main areas:

I – Hemispheric Relations

From 1963 to 1969, at the Ministry of External Relations of Brazil, he worked in interamerican relations. Mr. Macedo Soares was successively designated to the desks of all countries of the Hemisphere and, in 1968, he headed the Division of the Organization of American States. Later, from 1972 to 1974, he served at the Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay.

After almost 20 years working in other areas, he returned to hemispheric affairs in 1992, when he was designated Director General for the Americas, function he occupied until 1995. During that period, he was National Coordinator in charge of the *Pro Tempore Secretariat* of the Rio Group and, in that capacity, took part in the first Summit of the Americas in Miami, USA, in 1994. Also in the period of 1992-1995 he was National Coordinator for the Ibero-American Summit, and participated in the meetings in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, (1993) and Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (1994).

In 2003 he was appointed Undersecretary General for South America in the Ministry of External Relations and National Coordinator of the Common Market Group the executive body of the Common Market of the South – MERCOSUL. Also in 2003, he was designated Chief Negotiator at the Trade Negotiations Committee of the Free Trade Area of the Americas FTAA; in that capacity, he was the head of the Brazilian delegation the meetings in El Salvador, Trinidad-and-Tobago - Port-of-Spain and Mexico – Puebla. in 2003-2004. He participated as well in the Miami - USA Ministerial Meeting of the FTAA (November 2003).

In 2005 he presided the working group that prepared the I Meeting of Presidents of the South American Community of Nations.

II – Marine Affairs, Law of the Sea, Antarctica, Outer Space, Scientific and Technological Cooperation

For 20 years, between 1969 and 1989, he participated in many meetings in the framework of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission - IOC.

After taking part in the last phase of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1980-1982), he headed the Brazilian delegation to the Preparatory Commission for the Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (1983-1985). His dissertation in the High Studies Course at the Brazilian Chancery, 1982, was on the legal, economic and political aspects of the sea-bed.

Mr. Macedo Soares participated in the Brazilian Antarctic Program since its inception in 1982 and joined the first national expedition to that continent (austral summer 1982-83). Until 1986 he headed the Brazilian delegations to all meetings in the framework of the Antarctic Treaty System (Meetings of the Consultative Parties, negotiation of the Convention on Antarctic Mineral Resources, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research – SCAR) In 1985 he returned to the Antarctic continent for a seminar at the Beardmore Plateau and visited the Amundsen-Scott Station at the South Pole.

In 1984, he negotiated the first agreement between Brazil and China on outer space cooperation.

In 1985, on his proposal, it was established a Division for Marine, Antarctic and Outer Space Affairs in the Brazilian Chancery, which was headed by him until 1987.

He was a member (1995-1998) Of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans – IWCO, chaired by the former President of Portugal, Mario Soares.

He served in the Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO in three instances: from 1969 to 1972, from 1987 to 1989 as Deputy Permanent Representative and from 2005 to 2008 as Permanent Representative and Member of the Executive Board.

III - Environment

In 1972, Ambassador Macedo Soares attended the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment as a member of the Brazilian Delegation.

In 1990, he was designated to direct the environment sector in the Brazilian Chancery and to co-ordinate the national preparations for the UN Conference on Environment and Development - UNCED, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Among many other activities in this field, he headed the delegations to the Preparatory Commission of UNCED and to the negotiations of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (1991-1992) and of the Convention on Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes (Basel, 1989).

IV – Disarmament and related matters

In 1979, Ambassador Macedo Soares took part in the negotiations for the Convention on Prohibition and Restriction on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) being until 1980 in charge of the disarmament desk in the Brazilian Chancery.

From 1998 to 2000, he was a member of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms and Light Weapons convened by the UN Secretary General and Representative of Brazil to the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference that took place in 2001.

From 2008 to 2011, he was Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament. He presided the Conference in 2010.

In 2010, he headed the Delegation of Brazil to the VIII Review Conference of the Treaty on Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

In November 2013 he was elected Secretary General of OPANAL for a term of office from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2017.

In 14 February 2017 he was reelected Secretary General of OPANAL for an additional term of office from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2021.

Other Functions

- Secretary at the Brazilian Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay (1972-1974)
 - Secretary at the Brazilian Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark (1974-1977)
 - Member of the Board of Administration of Itaipu Binational, the world's biggest hydroelectric plant jointly owned by Brazil and Paraguay (1993-1995)
 - Ambassador to India (1995-1998), and concurrently Ambassador to the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal (1996-1998)
 - Ambassador to Norway (1998-2000) and concurrently Ambassador to Iceland (1999-2000)
 - Ambassador to Mexico (2000-2003) and concurrently Ambassador to Belize
 - Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO:
 - Second Secretary (1969 to 1972)
 - Deputy Permanent Representative (1987 to 1989)
 - Permanent Representative and Member of the Executive Board (2005 to 2008)
- Lieutenant (Reserve) of the Marine Corps of the Brazilian Navy

Ambassador Macedo Soares is married, has five children and seven grandchildren.

Decorations

Mr. Macedo Soares was honoured with decorations from the following countries: Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Denmark and Norway.