Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour and the privilege at this Fifth General Conference of OPANAL held for the first time here in Caracas, to again reaffirm the support of my Government to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Our support of the Treaty was originally demonstrated when the United Kingdom in 1967 was the first State which signed and ratified Additional Protocols I and II.

My Government hopes that those Latin American countries which have not yet done so may soon ratify the Treaty or waive the requisites for its enforcement.

The Government of the United Kingdom therefore hopes that all the interested States in the region shall participate in this organization and help to make all of Latin America a denuclearized zone. The Treaty has proven that it is an effective example of arms control, and my Government considers, as the Secretary General mentioned in the Fourth Session, that it would be an extremely effective development and that it would strengthen the status of the Treaty if its Additional Protocol II should become the first measure relating to arms control in which all 5 nuclear powers participate. It is with this in mind
that I once again state the hope of my Government that in the near future the Soviet Union may sign Protocol II.

I wish to congratulate the Secretary General of the Agency and his people for their efforts in turning the Treaty into a reality. I confirm the continuing moral support of my Government to the Treaty and I promise to continue our cooperation with this organization.