

**AGENCY FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
IN LATIN AMERICA**



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SECRETARIAT

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. JAIRO ESCOBAR R.,  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION FOR THE  
SOUTH PACIFIC - CPPS, AT THE ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION  
OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AGENCY FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN  
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

On behalf of the Secretary General of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), Ambassador Joaquín Fonseca Truque, allow me to extend cordial greetings and gratitude for having been invited to participate in this Meeting as an observer.

The CPPS wishes this Meeting every success in finding the best responses and solutions to the items set down in the Agenda of the Eleventh Regular Session of the General Conference of OPANAL.

Mr. President:

The CPPS is present at this Meeting because, on the basis of the draft Mutual Cooperation Agreement with OPANAL and in its capacity as observer, it wishes to report on the existence of the Protocol against Radioactive Pollution in the South-East Pacific, approved at a meeting held in Cali, Colombia, from 29 to 31 March 1989; an activity which took place within the framework of the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific, which is being carried out by the Governments of Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Panama and Peru with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and is being coordinated by the CPPS.

Mr. President:

Some of the innovative parts of this new regional instrument are described below:

For the first time in Latin America, a 200-mile maritime zone was established in which the countries that comprise the System of the South Pacific and Panama exercise

their sovereignty and jurisdiction; it is a zone in which the dumping and interment of radioactive wastes and other substances in the sea and/or in the sea-bed or subsoil is prohibited.

The Contracting Parties also commit themselves to refrain from such dumping and interment in the zones situated outside the maritime areas where they exercise their sovereignty and jurisdiction.

At the same time the instrument was approved, approval was also given to a recommendation that, once it has entered into force, it obtain the adhesion of the remaining countries of Latin America and thereby establish a zone for protection and defense against the aforementioned dumping and interment.

The text of the above-mentioned Protocol appears as Annex I to the document prepared by the CPPS for this Meeting and has been delivered to the Secretariat of the Eleventh Regular Session of OPANAL for its information and for distribution among the participants.