COUNCIL

RESOLUTION C/Res.41

CENTRAL ASIA NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE

The Council,

Noting with satisfaction that on 8 September 2006, presidents from the Central Asian Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan signed a treaty creating a nuclear-weapon-free zone after nearly 10 years of negotiations that began in 1997;

Declaring that nuclear-weapon-free zones play an important role in contributing to the promotion of international peace and security;

Whereas the preamble to the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that its essential purpose is to consolidate hemispheric peace and security, end the armaments race, especially in the field of nuclear weapons, and strengthen a world at peace, based on the sovereign equality of States, mutual respect and good neighborliness;

Recalling that in its Final Declaration, the Conference of the States Parties and Signatories to the Treaties Establishing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones held on 26 to 28 April 2005 in Mexico City expressed its firm conviction that "the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of agreements entered into freely among the States of the regions concerned strengthens world and regional peace and security, reinforces the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes to the achievement of nuclear disarmament. The establishment of such zones and the full compliance with those agreements or arrangements ensures that the zones are genuinely free from nuclear weapons, and respect for such zones by Nuclear-Weapon-States, constitute an important nuclear disarmament measure;"
Reaffirming that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia constitutes an important contribution by the countries of that region to nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the strengthening of global and regional security,

Resolves:

1. To welcome the establishment of the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

2. To instruct the Secretary General to congratulate on behalf of the Council the presidents of the Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan for assuming the commitment to create a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

3. To request the Secretary General to deliver the text of this Resolution to the Member States of OPANAL and the Secretary General of the United Nations.

(Adopted at the 223rd Regular Session, held on 11 September 2006).