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**COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION C/Res.51**

**PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT FOR THE  
2009 SESSION**

**The Council,**

**Recalling** the preamble of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in which the States Party declare themselves “desirous to contribute, so far as lies in their power, towards ending the arms race, especially in the field of nuclear weapons” and persuaded that “the proliferation of nuclear weapons, which seems inevitable unless States, in the exercise of their sovereign rights, impose restrictions on themselves in order to prevent it, would make any agreement on disarmament enormously difficult and would increase the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear conflagration”;

**Underlining** the conviction that the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones reinforce the nuclear non proliferation regime and contributes to the objective of nuclear disarmament;

**Convinced** that the mere existence of nuclear weapons and its possible use or threat of use constitutes a permanent danger to humanity and its utilization would have catastrophic consequences to life on earth;

**Considering** the desire of the States Party to the Treaty that OPANAL establishes relations with the international organizations working in the field of disarmament and non proliferation;

**Recalling** the Decision about the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

**Recalling likewise** the Final Document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) celebrated in 2000 that agree the

adoption of practical measures in order to advance in a systematic and progressive manner to implement Article VI of the Treaty;

**Convinced equally** of the importance to assure the use of outer space for exclusively peaceful purposes, based on the principles established in the Agreements and Principles of the United Nations in the field, and the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space in the benefit and interest of all States, taking into consideration the needs of the developing countries.

**Resolves:**

1. **To welcome with satisfaction** the approval of the Program of Work of the Conference on Disarmament for the 2009 session on May 29<sup>th</sup>, which allows the only multilateral negotiating forum for disarmament to begin its work on all subjects of its agenda.
2. **To underline** the importance of the establishment of a Working Group under the first item of its agenda, which shall negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
3. **To welcome** the decision to establish a Working Group to discuss item 4 of its agenda in a substantively manner, with the aim of concluding an agreement to assure non nuclear-weapons States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
4. **To recall** the need that all nuclear-weapons States respect and support the additional protocols to the agreements that establish nuclear weapons free zones and **to call on** those States that, having signed or ratified any of the additional protocols with a unilateral interpretation that affects the denuclearized statute of the zone, to withdraw or modify such interpretation.
5. **To express** the conviction that the objective of elimination and prohibition of nuclear weapons permanently requires a firm political will by all States, particularly of those possessing nuclear weapons.

6. **To maintain** this issue in the agenda of the Council of OPANAL for its periodical examination in light of the results obtained by the Working Groups of the Conference on Disarmament.
  
7. **To entrust** the Secretariat General to deliver the text of this Resolution to the Conference on Disarmament, to the States Party of OPANAL and to the Focal Points of the other Nuclear Weapons Free Zones.