



AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN  
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Secretariat

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**Information Document on the  
Informal meeting of States Party and Signatories to treaties establishing  
Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia  
Geneva 27, April 2018**

1. In its capacity as coordinator of OPANAL in Geneva, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva extended an invitation on behalf of the Secretariat of OPANAL to an informal meeting of States Party and Signatories to treaties establishing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZ) and Mongolia. A non-paper was distributed before the meeting, which took place at the *Palais des Nations* (Room XI) on 27 April 2018 at 09:00 am.
2. OPANAL Secretary-General, Ambassador Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares, indicated that the purpose of the informal meeting was to exchange views among States members of NWFZs on the possibility of having a IV Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish NWFZs and Mongolia, possibly in 2020 in connection with the X Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).
3. Three NWFZ Conferences have taken place. The first was proposed by OPANAL and it was held in Mexico and was coordinated by Mexico. The second and third, in 2010 and 2015, took place in New York one day before the NPT Review Conference and were respectively coordinated by Chile and Indonesia.

4. As expressed by the UN General Assembly resolutions which convened the two last conferences: “the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among States parties and signatories, the treaty agencies and other interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation”<sup>1</sup>.
5. Among other subjects, the Secretary-General of OPANAL mentioned the demarches by OPANAL Member States to State Parties to the Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco on the interpretative declarations these States made upon signing and/or ratifying said instruments.
6. Member States of the five NWFZs and Mongolia were present.
7. Among the topics mentioned by the States present were:
  - Support for a NWFZ Conference in 2020 in the occasion of the X NPT Review Conference with representation on a high level.
  - Adoption of a Resolution in the First Committee of the 73<sup>rd</sup> UNGA convening the IV NWFZ Conference.
  - Support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) for the IV NWFZ Conference would be essential, including from other competent areas of the UN Secretariat on logistic aspects.
  - Maintaining the practice of having NWFZ Conferences along the NPT Review Conferences.
  - Promoting consultations within each NWFZ for the success of a IV Conference. It was proposed to define focal points for each NWFZ in order to facilitate consultations and meetings.
  - Identifying a State that could assume the coordination of the Conference. The principle of geographical rotation for the Coordination was supported.

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<sup>1</sup> A/RES/64/52 and A/RES/69/66.

- Take into account the present situation of the membership of the African NWFZ in order to avoid any difficulty such as the one raised in 2015 during the III Conference. In this sense, it was suggested that States could participate as “Members of NWFZs” and not as Members of the United Nations.
  - Recognition of the important role of NWFZ States in the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
  - Identification of a focal point in each NWFZ and having regular meetings of NWFZ focal points.
  - Support for a preparatory meeting of NWFZ on the margins of the next NPT PrepCom in 2019.
- 8.** The next steps to follow are:
- 1) Organize another NWFZ meeting in New York on the margins of the First Committee of the 73<sup>rd</sup> UNGA next October.
  - 2) In that occasion, seek to designate a State as Coordinator of the IV NWFZ Conference.
  - 3) Consider the preparation of a draft resolution to be adopted by the UNGA convening the IV Conference of States Party and Signatories to treaties establishing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in 2020, on the occasion of the X NPT Review Conference.
  - 4) Organize a further NWFZ meeting in New York alongside the III NPT PrepCom in 2019.