



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

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PRESS RELEASE

1st Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) Santiago, Chile, 27-28 January 2013

- **Heads of States acknowledge contribution of the Treaty of Tlatelolco to global peace and security**
- **The Leaders reaffirm the priority objective to reach a world free of nuclear weapons**

Santiago (Chile), 28 Jan 2012. Latin American and Caribbean Heads of State and Government acknowledged the contribution of the Treaty of Tlatelolco to global peace and security in the Santiago Declaration adopted today at the 1st CELAC Summit. They reaffirmed the need to move forward toward the priority objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, to reach a world free of nuclear weapons.

The Leaders emphasized the commitment to participate actively and share a common position at the High Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament, to be held in New York City, on 26 September 2013. To this end, CELAC will form a Working-Group in conjunction with the Secretariat-General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), to determine the joint positions of the 33 Latin American and Caribbean States for the aforementioned meeting. Ambassador Gioconda Ubeda, OPANAL Secretary-General, participated in the 1st CELAC Summit to initiate a rapprochement with CELAC.

In the Santiago Declaration, Latin American and Caribbean Heads of State call on nuclear powers to withdraw the Reservations or Interpretative Declarations made to Additional Protocols to the Treaty of Tlatelolco; and to respect the denuclearized status of the region.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco was signed in 1967, and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) was created in 1969 in order to safeguard the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone established by this Treaty. Since 2002, the 33 Members of CELAC are also OPANAL Member States and Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.