



Secretariat

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Contribution of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Resolution 77/52 “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”

The present contribution outlines the activities carried out by OPANAL in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education since its previous submission to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 77/52, entitled “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”, dated 3 April 2024.

OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The OPANAL Course on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is one of the Agency’s flagship educational initiatives aimed at strengthening regional capacities in these fields. Taught by the OPANAL Secretariat and open to all Member States, five editions of the course have been hosted by four OPANAL Member States in both in-person and virtual formats since the previous report.

Following the ninth edition held in Colombia in May 2024, the tenth edition took place from 12 to 14 August 2024 at the “Antonio José de Irisarri” Diplomatic Academy of Guatemala. The eleventh edition was held virtually from 16 to 28 January 2025, co-organized with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico through the Matías Romero Institute (IMR). The twelfth edition was hosted by Uruguay from 7 to 9 April 2025 at the Instituto Artigas del Servicio Exterior (IASE) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The thirteenth edition took place virtually from 12 to 22 January 2026, again in cooperation with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and the Matías Romero Institute. These editions contributed to expanding regional expertise and strengthening networks among diplomats and practitioners working on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Through successive resolutions, including CG/E/Res.05/2024 and CG/Res.07/2025, the General Conference encouraged Member States to host future editions of the Course and contribute to the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution entitled “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”.

Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean

The Summer School is an educational initiative developed through the cooperation between OPANAL, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Matías Romero Institute, and the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS). Its objective is to strengthen the knowledge and expertise of diplomats from the region on issues related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

The tenth edition of the Summer School was held in person in Mexico City from 1 to 5 July 2024 with participation from 25 OPANAL Member States. The eleventh edition took place from 14 to 18 July 2025, also in person in Mexico City, with participation from 26 OPANAL Member States.

The General Conference has consistently reaffirmed its support for the Summer School through resolutions CG/E/Res.06/2024 and CG/Res.08/2025. The latter underscored the importance of continuing to contribute to the training of specialized professionals in the region and highlighted the relevance of the “United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”. It also acknowledged that the continuation of the Summer School has been made possible through the voluntary financial contribution of the Government of Mexico.

Internship Programs at the OPANAL Secretariat

Internship Program open to all nationalities

Between April 2024 and May 2026, the Secretariat welcomed seventeen interns from Argentina, Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, and the United States, increasing the geographic diversity of participants.

In accordance with resolution CG/Res.03/2021, reaffirmed through resolution CG/Res.09/2025, interns have continued receiving a monthly stipend of MXN 1,000 as recognition for their work during the internship period.

An important development during the reporting period was the adoption of resolution CG/E/Res.08/2024, through which the General Conference welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and OPANAL regarding internship opportunities for Korean students. Signed in Mexico City on 12 December 2024, the Memorandum established a joint Korea–OPANAL Internship Programme aimed at providing

Korean students with professional experience related to international affairs, disarmament, and Latin American and Caribbean issues.

Internship Program earmarked for Member States of OPANAL which are also members of the Caribbean Community – CARICOM

Under this modality, three interns from the Bahamas, Barbados, and Guyana have been welcomed since the previous report.

Thanks to the support of the Japanese organization Soka Gakkai, the programme provides interns with a monthly stipend of USD 1,200 and covers round-trip travel expenses to Mexico City.

Through resolution CG/Res.09/2025, the General Conference expressed appreciation for the financial support provided by Soka Gakkai during the second semester of 2025 and throughout 2026, while encouraging Member States to continue supporting the Internship Programmes.

Dissemination and Raising Awareness

Cooperation with academia

OPANAL continued engaging with academic institutions and students throughout the reporting period through lectures, presentations, and discussions aimed at raising awareness on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues, which contributed to expanding outreach efforts among university students and young professionals in the region.

International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness Campaign

OPANAL continued participating in activities related to the International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness, established by General Assembly resolution A/RES/77/51.

For the third edition of the International Day, on 5 March 2025, OPANAL participated in a panel discussion organized by the Colegio de Ciencias y Humanidades Plantel Sur of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). For the fourth edition, commemorated in 2026, OPANAL carried out a social media awareness campaign centered on a video produced by interns of the Secretariat. The campaign highlighted the significance of living in a nuclear-weapon-free zone, emphasized the achievements of Latin America and the Caribbean in this regard, and underscored the continued relevance of disarmament and non-proliferation education.

Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Established through resolution CG/Res.10/2023, the Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade Award on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation seeks to promote scholarly contributions by Latin American and Caribbean authors in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with particular emphasis on the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones. The award pays tribute to the intellectual legacy of Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, former judge of the International Court of Justice and prominent advocate for a world free of nuclear weapons.

Two editions of the Award have been held so far, with the first edition recognizing a contribution from Mexico and the second a contribution from Brazil. Both editions included academic events and discussions aimed at promoting research and dialogue on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in the region.

The General Conference has continued supporting the initiative through resolutions CG/E/Res.09/2024 and CG/Res.11/2025, reaffirming the importance of encouraging academic research and public debate on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Declarations and Communiqués of the OPANAL Member States

OPANAL Member States continued promoting disarmament and non-proliferation education through joint declarations and communiqués adopted twice a year: on 14 February, commemorating the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, and on 26 September, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/32. During the reporting period, Member States adopted the communiqués Inf.01/2025.Rev.2 and Inf.02/2026.Rev.5 on the occasion of 14 February, as well as the declarations Inf.47/2024.Rev.2 and Inf.52/2025.Rev.2 on the occasion of 26 September, where they emphasized the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education as a contribution to international peace and security, while highlighting the continued relevance of the “United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education”.