

## M – Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaties

### Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean [Treaty of Tlatelolco]

Opened for signature on 14 February 1967; entered into force for each government individually with the amendments adopted by the General Conference Articles 7, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 25

[Eds . . . ]

*Have agreed as follows:*

*Obligations*

Article 1

1. The Contracting Parties hereby undertake to use exclusively for peaceful purposes the nuclear material and facilities which are under their jurisdiction, and to prohibit and prevent in their respective territories:

1. The testing, use, manufacture, production or acquisition by any means whatsoever of any nuclear weapons, by the Parties themselves, directly or indirectly, on behalf of anyone else or in any other way, and
2. The receipt, storage, installation, deployment and any form of possession of any nuclear weapons, directly or indirectly, by the Parties themselves, by anyone on their behalf or in any other way.

2. The Contracting Parties also undertake to refrain from engaging in, encouraging or authorizing, directly or indirectly, or in any way participating in the testing, use, manufacture, production, possession or control of any nuclear weapon.

*Definition of the Contracting Parties*

Article 2

For the purposes of this Treaty, the Contracting Parties are those for whom the Treaty is in force.

*Definition of Territory*

Article 3

For the purposes of this Treaty, the term "territory" shall include the territorial sea, air space and any other space over which the State exercises sovereignty in accordance with its own legislation.

*Zone of Application*

Article 4

1. The Zone of application of this Treaty is the whole of the territories for which the Treaty is in force.

2. Upon fulfillment of the requirements of Article 29, paragraph 1, the Zone of Application of this Treaty shall also be that which is situated in the western hemisphere within the following limits (except the continental part of the territory of the United States of America and its territorial waters): starting at a point located at 35° north latitude, 75° west longitude; from this point directly southward to a point at 30° north latitude, 75° west longitude; from there, directly eastward to a point at 30° north latitude, 50° west longitude; from there, along a loxodromic line to a point at 5° north latitude, 20° west longitude; from there, directly southward to a point at 60° south latitude, 20° west longitude; from there, directly westward to a point at 60° south latitude, 115° west longitude; from there, directly northward to a point at 0° latitude, 115° west longitude; from there, along a loxodromic line to a point at 35° north latitude, 150° west longitude; from there, directly eastward to a point at 35° north latitude, 75° west longitude.

*Definition of Nuclear Weapons*

Article 5

For the purposes of this Treaty, a nuclear weapon is any device which is capable of releasing nuclear energy in an uncontrolled manner and which has a group of characteristics that are

appropriate for use for warlike purposes. An instrument that may be used for the transport or propulsion of the device is not included in this definition if it is separable from the device and not an indivisible part thereof.

*Meeting of Signatories*

Article 6

At the request of any of the Signatory States or if the Agency established by Article 7 should so decide, a meeting of all the Signatories may be convoked to consider in common questions which may affect the very essence of this instrument, including possible amendments to it. In either case, the meeting will be convoked by the Secretary General.

*Organization*

Article 7

1. In order to ensure compliance with the obligations of this Treaty, the Contracting Parties hereby establish an international organization to be known as the "Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean", hereinafter referred to as "the Agency". Only the Contracting Parties shall be affected by its decisions.

2. The Agency shall be responsible for the holding of periodic or extraordinary consultations among Member States on matters relating to the purposes, measures and procedures set forth in this Treaty and to the supervision of compliance with the obligations arising there from.

3. The Contracting Parties agree to extend to the Agency full and prompt co-operation in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty, of any agreements they may conclude with the Agency and of any agreements the Agency may conclude with any other international organization or body.

4. The headquarters of the Agency shall be in Mexico City.

*Organs*

Article 8

1. There are hereby established as principal organs of the Agency: a General Conference, a Council and a Secretariat.

2. Such subsidiary organs as are considered necessary by the General Conference may be established within the purview of this Treaty.

*The General Conference*

Article 9

2. The General Conference, the supreme organ of the Agency, shall be composed of all the Contracting Parties; it shall hold regular sessions every two years, and may also hold special sessions whenever this Treaty so provides or, in the opinion of the Council, the circumstances so require.

3. The General Conference:

1. May consider and decide on any matters or questions covered by this Treaty, within the limits thereof, including those referring to powers and functions of any organ provided for in this Treaty.

2. Shall establish procedures for the Control System to ensure observance of this Treaty in accordance with its provisions.

3. Shall elect the Members of the Council and the Secretary General.

4. May remove the Secretary General from office if the proper functioning of the Agency so requires.

5. Shall receive and consider the biennial and special reports submitted by the Council and the Secretary General.

6. Shall initiate and consider studies designed to facilitate the optimum fulfillment of the aims of this Treaty, without prejudice to the power of the Secretary General independently to carry

out similar studies for submission to and consideration by the Conference.

7. Shall be the organ competent to authorize the conclusion of agreements with Governments and other international organizations and bodies.

4. The General Conference shall adopt the Agency's budget and fix the scale of financial contributions to be paid by Member States, taking into account the systems and criteria used for the same purpose by the United Nations.

5. The General Conference shall elect its officers for each session and may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

6. Each Member of the Agency shall have one vote. The decisions of the General Conference shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting in the case of matters relating to the Control System and measures referred to in Article 20, the admission of new Members, the election or removal of the Secretary General, adoption of the budget and matters related thereto. Decisions on other matters, as well as procedural questions and also determination of which questions must be decided by a two-thirds majority, shall be taken by a simple majority of the Members present and voting.

7. The General Conference shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

#### *The Council*

##### Article 10

1. The Council shall be composed of five Members of the Agency elected by the General Conference from among the Contracting Parties, due account being taken of equitable geographic distribution.

2. The Members of the Council shall be elected for a term of four years. However, in the first election three will be elected for two years. Outgoing Members may not be re-elected for the following period unless the limited number of States for which the Treaty is in force so requires.

3. Each Member of the Council shall have one representative.

4. The Council shall be so organized as to be able to function continuously.

5. In addition to the functions conferred upon it by this Treaty and to those which may be assigned to it by the General Conference, the Council shall, through the Secretary General, ensure the proper operation of the Control System in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty and with the decisions adopted by the General Conference.

6. The Council shall submit an annual report on its work to the General Conference as well as such special reports as it deems necessary or which the General Conference requests of it.

7. The Council shall elect its officers for each session.

8. The decisions of the Council shall be taken by a simple majority of its Members present and voting.

9. The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

#### *The Secretariat*

##### Article 11

1. The Secretariat shall consist of a Secretary General, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the Agency, and of such staff as the Agency may require. The term of office of the Secretary General shall be four years and he may be re-elected for a single additional term. The Secretary General may not be a national of the country in which the Agency has its headquarters. In case the office of Secretary General becomes vacant, a new election shall be held to fill the office for the remainder of the term.

2. The staff of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the Secretary General, in accordance with rules laid down by the General Conference.

3. In addition to the functions conferred upon him by this Treaty and to those which may be assigned to him by the General

Conference, the Secretary General shall ensure, as provided by Article 10, paragraph 5, the proper operation of the Control System established by this Treaty, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty and the decisions taken by the General Conference.

4. The Secretary General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the General Conference and of the Council and shall make an annual report to both bodies on the work of the Agency and any special reports requested by the General Conference or the Council or which the Secretary General may deem desirable.

5. The Secretary General shall establish the procedures for distributing to all Contracting Parties information received by the Agency from governmental sources and such information from non-governmental sources as may be of interest to the Agency.

6. In the performance of their duties the Secretary General and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any Government or from any other authority external to the Agency and shall refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as international officials responsible only to the Agency; subject to their responsibility to the Agency, they shall not disclose any industrial secrets or other confidential information coming to their knowledge by reason of their official duties in the Agency.

7. Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

#### *Control System*

##### Article 12

1. For the purpose of verifying compliance with the obligations entered into by the Contracting Parties in accordance with Article 1, a Control System shall be established which shall be put into effect in accordance with the provisions of Articles 13-18 of this Treaty.

2. The Control System shall be used in particular for the purpose of verifying:

- That devices, services and facilities intended for peaceful uses of nuclear energy are not used in the testing or manufacture of nuclear weapons,
- That none of the activities prohibited in Article I of this Treaty are carried out in the territory of the Contracting Parties with nuclear materials or weapons introduced from abroad, and
- That explosions for peaceful purposes are compatible with Article 18 of this Treaty.

#### *IAEA Safeguards*

##### Article 13

Each Contracting Party shall negotiate multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of its safeguards to its nuclear activities. Each Contracting Party shall initiate negotiations within a period of 180 days after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification of this Treaty. These agreements shall enter into force, for each Party, not later than eighteen months after the date of the initiation of such negotiations except in case of unforeseen circumstances or *force majeure*.

#### *Reports of the Contracting Parties*

##### Article 14

1. The Contracting Parties shall submit to the Agency and to the International Atomic Energy Agency, for their information, semi-annual reports stating that no activity prohibited under this Treaty has occurred in their respective territories.

2. The Contracting Parties to the Treaty shall simultaneously transmit to the Agency a copy of the reports submitted to the International Atomic Energy Agency which relate to matters subject of this Treaty that are relevant to the work of the Agency.

3. The information furnished by the Contracting Parties shall not be, totally or partially, disclosed or transmitted to third parties, by the addressees of the reports, except when the Contracting Parties give their express consent.

#### *Complementary or Supplementary Information*

## Article 15

1. At the request of any of the Contracting Parties and with the authorization of the Council, the Secretary General may request any of the Contracting Parties to provide the Agency with complementary or supplementary information regarding any extraordinary event or circumstance which affects the compliance with this Treaty, explaining his reasons. The Contracting Parties undertake to co-operate promptly and fully with the Secretary General.

2. The Secretary General shall inform the Council and the Contracting Parties forthwith of such requests and of the respective replies.

*Special Inspections*

## Article 16

1. The International Atomic Energy Agency has the power of carrying out special inspections in accordance with Article 12 and with the agreements referred to in Article 13 of this Treaty.

2. At the request of any of the Contracting Parties and in accordance with the procedures established in Article 15 of this Treaty, the Council may submit for the consideration of the International Atomic Energy Agency a request that the necessary mechanisms be put into operation to carry out a special inspection.

3. The Secretary General shall request the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to transmit to him in a timely manner the information forwarded to the Board of Governors of the IAEA relating to the conclusion of the special inspection. The Secretary General shall make this information available to the Council promptly.

4. The Council, through the Secretary General shall transmit this information to all the Contracting Parties.

*Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes*

## Article 17

Nothing in the provisions of this Treaty shall prejudice the rights of the Contracting Parties, in conformity with this Treaty, to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, in particular for their economic development and social progress.

*Explosions for Peaceful Purposes*

## Article 18

1. The Contracting Parties may carry out explosions of nuclear devices for peaceful purposes -including explosions which involve devices similar to those used in nuclear weapons- or collaborate with third parties for the same purpose, provided that they do so in accordance with the provisions of this Article and the other articles of the Treaty, particularly Articles 1 and 5.

2. Contracting Parties intending to carry out, or to co-operate in carrying out, such an explosion shall notify the Agency and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as far in advance as the circumstances require, of the date of the explosion and shall at the same time provide the following information:

- a. The nature of the nuclear device and the source from which it was obtained,
- b. The place and purpose of the planned explosion,
- c. The procedures which will be followed in order to comply with paragraph 3 of this Article,
- d. The expected force of the device, and
- e. The fullest possible information on any possible radioactive fall-out that may result from the explosion or explosions, and measures which will be taken to avoid danger to the population, flora, fauna and territories of any other Party or Parties.

The Secretary General and the technical personnel designated by the Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency may observe all the preparations, including the explosion of the device, and shall have unrestricted access to any area in the vicinity of the site of the explosion in order to ascertain whether the device and the procedures followed during the explosion are in conformity with

the information supplied under paragraph 2 of this Article and the other provisions of this Treaty.

3. The Contracting Parties may accept the collaboration of third parties for the purpose set forth in paragraph 1 of the present Article, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 thereof.

*Relations with the International Atomic Energy Agency*

## Article 19

The Agency may conclude such agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency as are authorized by the General Conference and as it considers likely to facilitate the efficient operation of the Control System established by this Treaty.

*Relations with other International Organizations*

## Article 20

1. The Agency may also enter into relations with any international organization or body, especially any which may be established in the future to supervise disarmament or measures for the control of armaments in any part of the world.

2. The Contracting Parties may, if they see fit, request the advice of the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission on all technical matters connected with the application of this Treaty with which the Commission is competent to deal under its Statute.

*Measures in the Event of Violation of the Treaty*

## Article 21

1. The General Conference shall take note of all cases in which, in its opinion, any Contracting Party is not complying fully with its obligations under this Treaty and shall draw the matter to the attention of the Party concerned, making such recommendations as it deems appropriate.

2. If, in its opinion, such non-compliance constitutes a violation of this Treaty which might endanger peace and security, the General Conference shall report thereon simultaneously to the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly through the Secretary General of the United Nations, and to the Council of the Organization of American States. The General Conference shall likewise report to the International Atomic Energy Agency for such purposes as are relevant in accordance with its Statute.

*United Nations and Organization of American States*

## Article 22

None of the provisions of this Treaty shall be construed as impairing the rights and obligations of the Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or, in the case of State Members of the Organization of American States, under existing regional treaties.

*Privileges and Immunities*

## Article 23

1. The Agency shall enjoy in the territory of each of the Contracting Parties such legal capacity and such privileges and immunities as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfillment of its purposes.

2. Representatives of the Contracting Parties accredited to the Agency and officials of the Agency shall similarly enjoy such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the performance of their functions.

3. The Agency may conclude agreements with the Contracting Parties with a view to determining the details of the application of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

*Notification of other Agreements*

## Article 24

Once this Treaty has entered into force, the Secretariat shall be notified immediately of any international agreement concluded by any of the Contracting Parties on matters with which this Treaty is concerned; the Secretariat shall register it and notify the other Contracting Parties.

*Settlement of Disputes*

## Article 25

Unless the Parties concerned agree on another mode of peaceful settlement, any question or dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty which is not settled shall be referred to the International Court of Justice with the prior consent of the Parties to the controversy.

#### Signature

#### Article 26

1. This Treaty shall be open indefinitely for signature by:
  - a. All the Latin American Republics, and the Caribbean.
  - b. All other sovereign States in the western hemisphere situated in their entirety south of parallel 35° north latitude; and, except as provided in paragraph 2 of this Article, all such States when they have been admitted by the General Conference.
2. The condition of State Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco shall be restricted to Independent States which are situated within the Zone of application of the Treaty in accordance with Article 4 of same, and with paragraph 1 of the present Article, and which were Members of the United Nations as of December 10, 1985 as well as to the non-autonomous territories mentioned in document OEA/CER.P, AG/doc. 1939/ 85 of November 5, 1985, once they attain their independence.

#### Ratification and Deposit

#### Article 27

1. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by Signatory States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.
2. This Treaty and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the Mexican United States, which is hereby designated the Depositary Government.
3. The Depositary Government shall send certified copies of this Treaty to the Governments of Signatory States and shall notify them of the deposit of each instrument of ratification.

#### Reservations

#### Article 28

This Treaty shall not be subject to reservations.

#### Entry into Force

#### Article 29

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article, this Treaty shall enter into force among the States that have ratified it as soon as the following requirements have been met:
  - a. Deposit of the instruments of ratification of this Treaty with the Depositary Government by the Governments of the States mentioned in Article 26 which are in existence on the date when this Treaty is opened for signature and which are not affected by the provisions of Article 26, paragraph 2;
  - b. Signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I annexed to this Treaty by all extra-continental or continental States having de jure or de facto international responsibility for territories situated in the Zone of Application of the Treaty;
  - c. Signature and ratification of the Additional Protocol II annexed to this Treaty by all powers possessing nuclear weapons;
  - d. Conclusion of bilateral or multilateral agreements on the application of the Safeguards System of the International Atomic Energy Agency in accordance with Article 13 of this Treaty.
2. All Signatory States shall have the imprescriptible right to waive, wholly or in part, the requirements laid down in the preceding paragraph. They may do so by means of a declaration which shall be annexed to their respective instrument of ratification and which may be formulated at the time of deposit of the instrument or subsequently. For those States which exercise this right, this Treaty shall enter into force upon deposit of the declaration, or as soon as those requirements have been met which have not been expressly waived.

3. As soon as this Treaty has entered into force in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 for eleven States, the Depositary Government shall convene a preliminary meeting of those States in order that the Agency may be set up and commence its work.

4. After the entry into force of this Treaty for all the countries of the Zone, the rise of a new power possessing nuclear weapons shall have the effect of suspending the execution of this Treaty for those countries which have ratified it without waiving requirements of paragraph 1, subparagraph c) of this Article, and which request such suspension; the Treaty shall remain suspended until the new power, on its own initiative or upon request by the General Conference, ratifies the annexed Additional Protocol II.

#### Amendments

#### Article 30

1. Any Contracting Party may propose amendments to this Treaty and shall submit its proposals to the Council through the Secretary General, who shall transmit them to all the other Contracting Parties and, in addition, to all other Signatories in accordance with Article 6. The Council through the Secretary General, shall immediately following the meeting of Signatories convene a Special Session of the General Conference to examine the proposals made, for the adoption of which a two-thirds majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting shall be required.
2. Amendments adopted shall enter into force as soon as the requirements set forth in Article 29 of this Treaty have been complied with.

#### Duration and Denunciation

#### Article 31

1. This Treaty shall be of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, but any Party may denounce it by notifying the Secretary General of the Agency if, in the opinion of the denouncing State, there have arisen or may arise circumstances connected with the content of this Treaty or of the annexed Additional Protocols I and II which affect its supreme interests or the peace and security of one or more Contracting Parties.
2. The denunciation shall take effect three months after the delivery to the Secretary General of the Agency of the notification by the Government of the Signatory State concerned. The Secretary General shall immediately communicate such notification to the other Contracting Parties and to the Secretary General of the United Nations for the information of the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly. He shall also communicate it to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

#### Authentic Texts and Registration

#### Article 32

This Treaty, of which the Spanish, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese and Russian texts are equally authentic, shall be registered by the Depositary Government in accordance with Article 102 of the United Nations Charter. The Depositary Government shall notify the Secretary General of the United Nations of the signatures, ratifications and amendments relating to this Treaty and shall communicate them to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States for its information.

#### Transitional Article

Denunciation of the declaration referred to in Article 29, paragraph 2, shall be subject to the same procedures as the denunciation of this Treaty, except that it will take effect on the date of delivery of the respective notification.

*In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having deposited their full powers, found in good and due form, sign this Treaty on behalf of their respective Governments.*

*Done at Mexico, Distrito Federal, on the fourteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven.*

#### Additional Protocol I

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries, furnished with full powers by their respective Governments,

*Convinced* that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

in Latin America and the Caribbean, negotiated and signed in accordance with the recommendations of the General Assembly of the United Nations in Resolution 1911 (XVII I) of 27 November 1963, represents an important step towards ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

*Aware* that the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is not an end in itself but, rather, a means of achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage, and

*Desiring* to contribute, so far as lies in their power, towards ending the armaments race, especially in the field of nuclear weapons, and towards strengthening a world at peace, based on mutual respect and sovereign equality of States,

*Have agreed as follows:*

**Article 1.** To undertake to apply the statute of denuclearization in respect of warlike purposes as defined in Articles 1, 3, 5 and 13 of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in territories for which, *de jure or de facto*, they are internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical Zone established in that Treaty.

**Article 2.** The duration of this Protocol shall be the same as that of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean of which this Protocol is an annex, and the provisions regarding ratification and denunciation contained in the Treaty shall be applicable to it.

**Article 3.** This Protocol shall enter into force, for the States which have ratified it, on the date of the deposit of their respective instruments of ratification.

In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having deposited their full powers, found in good and due form, sign this Protocol on behalf of their respective Governments.

#### Additional Protocol II

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries, furnished with full powers by their respective Governments,

*Convinced* that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean negotiated and signed in accordance with the recommendations of the General Assembly of the United Nations in Resolution 1911 (XVII I) of 27 November 1963, represents an important step towards ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

*Aware* that the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is not an end in itself but, rather, a means of achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage, and

*Desiring* to contribute, so far as lies in their power, towards ending the armaments race, especially in the field of nuclear weapons, and towards promoting and strengthening a world at peace, based on mutual respect and sovereign equality of States,

*Have agreed as follows:*

**Article 1.** The statute of denuclearization of Latin America and the Caribbean in respect of warlike purposes, as defined, delimited and set forth in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean of which this instrument is an annex, shall be fully respected by the Parties to this Protocol in all its express aims and provisions.

**Article 2.** The Governments represented by the undersigned Plenipotentiaries undertake, therefore, not to contribute in any way to the performance of acts involving a violation of the obligations of Article 1 of the Treaty in the territories to which the Treaty applies in accordance with Article 4 thereof.

**Article 3.** The Governments represented by the undersigned Plenipotentiaries also undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against the Contracting Parties of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Article 4.** The duration of this Protocol shall be the same as that of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean of which this Protocol is an annex, and the definitions of territory and nuclear weapons set forth in Articles 3 and 5 of the Treaty shall be applicable to this Protocol, as well as the provisions regarding ratification, reservations, denunciation,

authentic texts and registration contained in Articles 27, 28, 31 and 32 of the Treaty.

**Article 5.** This Protocol shall enter into force, for the States which have ratified it, on the date of the deposit of their respective instruments of ratification. In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having deposited their full powers found to be in good and due form, hereby sign this Additional Protocol on behalf of their respective Governments.

### Status of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and its Additional Protocols I and II and its Amendments [Treaty of Tlatelolco]

Status on 12 March 2026

**Signed in** Mexico City, Mexico, on 14 February 1967

**Entered into force on** 25 April 1969

**Depository:** Government of Mexico

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mexico, in the capacity of Depository of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, sent the following information to the Secretariat General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Country	Signature	Ratification	Waiver (Art.28)
Antigua and Barbuda	11 Oct 1983	11 Oct 1983	11 Oct 1983
Argentina	27 Sep 1967	18 Jan 1994	18 Jan 1994
Bahamas	29 Nov 1976	26 Apr 1977	26 Apr 1977
Barbados	18 Oct 1968	25 Apr 1969	25 Apr 1969
Belize	14 Feb 1992	9 Nov 1994	9 Nov 1994
Bolivia	14 Feb 1967	18 Feb 1969	18 Feb 1969
Brazil	9 May 1967	29 Jan 1968	30 May 1994
Chile	14 Feb 1967	9 Oct 1974	18 Jan 1994
Colombia	14 Feb 1967	4 Aug 1972	6 Sep 1972
Costa Rica	14 Feb 1967	25 Aug 1969	25 Aug 1969
Cuba	25 Mar 1995	23 Oct 2002	23 Oct 2002
Dominica	2 May 1989	4 Jun 1993	25 Aug 1993
Dominican Republic	28 Jul 1967	14 Jun 1968	14 Jun 1968
Ecuador	14 Feb 1967	11 Feb 1969	11 Feb 1969
El Salvador	14 Feb 1967	22 Apr 1968	22 Apr 1968
Granada	29 Apr 1975	20 Jun 1975	20 June 1975
Guatemala	14 Feb 1967	6 Feb 1970	6 Feb 1970
Guyana	16 Jan 1995	16 Jan 1995	14 May 1997
Haiti	14 Feb 1967	23 May 1969	23 May 1969
Honduras	14 Feb 1967	23 Sep 1968	23 Sep 1968
Jamaica	26 Oct 1967	26 Jun 1969	26 Jun 1969
Mexico	14 Feb 1967	20 Sep 1967	20 Sep 1967
Nicaragua	15 Feb 1967	24 Oct 1968	24 Oct 1968
Panama	14 Feb 1967	11 Jun 1971	11 Jun 1971
Paraguay	26 Apr 1967	19 Mar 1969	19 Mar 1969
Peru	14 Feb 1967	4 Mar 1969	4 Mar 1969
Saint Kitts and Nevis	18 Feb 1994	18 Apr 1995	14 Feb 1997
Saint Lucia	25 Aug 1992	2 Jun 1995	2 Jun 1995
Saint Vincent and the Gren.	14 Feb 1992	14 Feb 1992	11 May 1992
Suriname	13 Feb 1976	10 Jun 1997	10 Jun 1977
Trinidad and Tobago	27 Jun 1967	3 Dec 1970	27 Jun 1975
Uruguay	14 Feb 1967	20 Aug 1968	20 Aug 1968
Venezuela	14 Feb 1967	23 Mar 1970	23 Mar 1970

#### Additional Protocol I

Country	Signature	Ratification
France	2 Mar 1979	24 Aug 1992
Netherlands	15 Mar 1968	26 Jul 1971
United Kingdom	20 Dec 1967	11 Dec 1969
Unites States	26 May 1977	23 Nov 1981

#### Additional Protocol II

Country	Signature	Ratification
---------	-----------	--------------

France	18 Jul 1973	22 Mar 1974
China	21 Aug 1973	12 Jun 1974
United Kingdom	20 Dec 1967	11 Dec 1969
United States	1 Apr 1968	12 May 1971
Russia Federation	18 May 1978	8 Jan 1979

**Amendments of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)**

Regarding the signature and ratification of the first amendment of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) pursuant to [Resolution 267 \(E-V\)](#), of the General Conference of OPANAL approved in Mexico City on 30 July 30 1990, which resolved to add to the legal name of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America the words "and the Caribbean," and consequently amend Article 7 of the Treaty, the countries that have signed and ratified the first amendment until now are:

Country	Signature	Ratification
Antigua and Barbuda		13 Jun 2013
Argentina	10 Dec 1990	18 Jan 1994
Bahamas	18 Mar 1992	
Barbados	14 Feb 1997	14 Feb 1997
Belize	23 Nov 1995	23 Nov 1995
Bolivia	10 Dec 1990	
Brazil	5 Dec 1990	30 May 1994
Chile	16 Jan 1991	18 Jan 1994
Colombia	5 Dec 1990	18 Jan 1999
Costa Rica	10 Dec 1990	20 Jan 1999
Cuba	5 Dec 1995	
Dominica		
Dominican Republic	16 Jan 1991	
Ecuador	5 Dec 1990	18 Oct 1995
El Salvador	21 Feb 1991	22 May 1992
Granada	17 Sep 1991	17 Sep 1991
Guatemala	10 Dec 1990	21 Aug 1998
Guyana	16 Jan 1995	
Haiti	16 Jan 1991	
Honduras	16 Jan 1991	6 Apr 2017
Jamaica	21 Feb 1991	13 Mar 1992
Mexico	5 Nov 1990	24 Oct 1991
Nicaragua	10 Dec 1990	22 Jan 2021
Panama		8 Aug 2000
Paraguay	19 Feb 1991	22 Oct 1996
Peru	5 Dec 1990	14 Jul 1995
Saint Kitts and Nevis	18 Feb 1994	16 Nov 2012
Saint Vincent and Gren.		
Saint Lucia		10 Apr 2014
Suriname		13 Jan 1994 (AC)
Trinidad and Tobago		30 Nov 2012
Uruguay	16 Nov 1990	30 Aug 1994
Venezuela	16 Jan 1991	14 Feb 1997

**South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty  
[Treaty of Rarotonga]**

Opened for signature on 6 August 1985; entered into force on 11 December 1986

The Parties to this Treaty,

United in their commitment to a world at peace,

Gravely concerned that the continuing nuclear arms race presents the risk of nuclear war which would have devastating consequences for all people,

Convinced that all countries have an obligation to make every effort to achieve the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons, the terror which they hold for humankind and the threat which they pose to life on earth,

Believing that regional arms control measures can contribute to global efforts to reverse the nuclear arms race and promote the national security of each country in the region and the common security of all,

Determined to ensure, so far as lies within their power, that the bounty and beauty of the land and sea in their region shall remain the heritage of their peoples and their descendants in perpetuity to be enjoyed by all in peace,

Reaffirming the importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and in contributing to world security,

Noting, in particular, that Article VII of the NPT recognises the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to assure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Noting that the prohibitions of emplantation and emplacement of nuclear weapons on the sea-bed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof contained in the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof apply in the South Pacific,

Noting also that the prohibition of testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere or under water, including territorial waters or high seas, contained in the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water applies in the South Pacific,

Determined to keep the region free of environmental pollution by radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter,

Guided by the decision of the Fifteenth South Pacific Forum at Tuvalu that a nuclear free zone should be established in the region at the earliest possible opportunity in accordance with the principles set out in the communique of that meeting,

Agreed as follows:

*Article 1. Usage of terms*

For the purposes of this Treaty and its Protocols:

(a) 'South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone' means the areas described in Annex 1 as illustrated by the map attached to that Annex;

(b) 'Territory' means internal waters, territorial sea and archipelagic waters, the sea-bed and subsoil beneath, the land territory and the airspace above them;

(c) 'Nuclear explosive device' means any nuclear weapon or other explosive device capable of releasing nuclear energy, irrespective of the purpose for which it could be used. The term includes such a weapon or device in unassembled and partly assembled forms, but, does not include the means of transport or delivery of such a weapon or device if separable from and not an indivisible part of it;

(d) 'Stationing' means emplantation, emplacement, transportation on land or inland waters, stockpiling, storage, installation and deployment.

*Article 2. Application of the Treaty*

1. Except where otherwise specified, this Treaty and its Protocols shall apply to territory within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone.

2. Nothing in this Treaty shall prejudice or in any way affect the rights, or the exercise of the right, of any State under international law with regard to freedom of the seas.

*Article 3. Renunciation of nuclear explosive devices*

Each Party undertakes:

(a) Not to manufacture or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over any nuclear explosive device by any means anywhere inside or outside the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone;

(b) Not to seek or receive any assistance in the manufacture or acquisition of any nuclear explosive device;

(c) Not to take any action to assist or encourage the manufacture or acquisition of any nuclear explosive device by any State.

*Article 4. Peaceful nuclear activities*

Each Party undertakes:

(a) Not to provide source or special fissionable material, or equipment or material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material for peaceful purposes to:

- (i) Any non-nuclear-weapon State unless subject to the safeguards required by Article III.1 of the NPT, or
- (ii) Any nuclear-weapon State unless subject to applicable safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Any such provision shall be in accordance with strict non-proliferation measures to provide assurance of exclusively peaceful non-explosive use;

(b) To support the continued effectiveness of the international non-proliferation system based on the NPT and the IAEA safeguards system.

#### *Article 5. Prevention of stationing of nuclear explosive devices*

1. Each Party undertakes to prevent in its territory the stationing of any nuclear explosive device.

2. Each Party in the exercise of its sovereign right remains free to decide for itself whether to allow visit by foreign ships and aircraft to its ports and airfields, transit of its airspace by foreign aircraft, and navigation by foreign ships in its territorial sea or archipelagic waters in a manner not covered by the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lane passage or transit passage of straits.

#### *Article 6. Prevention of testing of nuclear explosive devices*

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) to prevent in its territory the testing of any nuclear explosive device;
- (b) not to take any action to assist or encourage the testing of any nuclear explosive device by any State.

#### *Article 7. Prevention of dumping*

1. Each Party undertakes:

(a) Not to dump radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter at sea anywhere within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone;

(b) To prevent the dumping of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter by anyone in its territorial sea;

(c) Not to take any action to assist or encourage the dumping by anyone of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter at sea anywhere within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone;

(d) To support the conclusion as soon as possible of the proposed Convention relating to the protection of the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific region and its Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the South Pacific region by dumping, with the aim of precluding dumping at sea of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter by anyone anywhere in the region.

2. Paragraphs 1 (a) and 1 (b) of this Article shall not apply to areas of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone in respect of which such a Convention and Protocol have entered into force.

#### *Article 8. Control system*

1. The Parties hereby establish a control system for the purpose of verifying compliance with their obligations under this Treaty.

2. The control system shall comprise:

- (a) Reports and exchange of information as provided for in Article 9;
- (b) Consultations as provided for in Article 10 and Annex 4 (1);
- (c) The application to peaceful nuclear activities of safeguards by the IAEA as provided for in Annex 2;
- (d) A complaints procedure as provided for in Annex 4.

#### *Article 9. Reports and exchanges of information*

1. Each Party shall report to the Director of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (the Director) as soon as possible any significant event within its jurisdiction affecting the implementation of this Treaty. The Director shall circulate such reports promptly to all Parties.

2. The Parties shall endeavour to keep each other informed on matters arising under or in relation to this Treaty. They may exchange information by communicating it to the Director, who shall circulate it to all Parties.

3. The Director shall report annually to the South Pacific Forum on the status of this Treaty and matters arising under or in relation to it, incorporating reports and communications made under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article and matters arising under Articles 8 (2) (d) and 10 and Annex 2 (4).

#### *Article 10. Consultations and review*

Without prejudice to the conduct of consultations among Parties by other means, the Director, at the request of any Party, shall convene a meeting of the Consultative Committee established by Annex 3 for consultation and co-operation on any matter arising in relation to this Treaty or for reviewing its operation.

#### *Article 11. Amendment*

The Consultative Committee shall consider proposals for amendment of the provisions of this Treaty proposed by any Party and circulated by the Director to all Parties not less than three months prior to the convening of the Consultative Committee for this purpose. Any proposal agreed upon by consensus by the Consultative Committee shall be communicated to the Director, who shall circulate it for acceptance to all Parties. An amendment shall enter into force thirty days after receipt by the depository of acceptances from all Parties.

#### *Article 12. Signature and ratification*

1. This Treaty shall be open for signature by any Member of the South Pacific Forum.

2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Director who is hereby designated depository of this Treaty and its Protocols.

3. If a member of the South Pacific Forum whose territory is outside the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone becomes a Party to this Treaty, Annex 1 shall be deemed to be amended so far as is required to enclose at least the territory of that Party within the boundaries of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone. The delineation of any area added pursuant to this paragraph shall be approved by the South Pacific Forum.

#### *Article 13. Withdrawal*

1. This Treaty is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that in the event of a violation by any Party of a provision of this Treaty essential to the achievement of the objectives of the Treaty or of the spirit of the Treaty, every other Party shall have the right to withdraw from the Treaty.

2. Withdrawal shall be effected by giving notice twelve months in advance to the Director who shall circulate such notice to all other Parties.

#### *Article 14. Reservations*

This Treaty shall not be subject to reservations.

#### *Article 15. Entry into force*

1. This Treaty shall enter into force on the date of deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification.

2. For a signatory which ratifies this Treaty after the date of deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, the Treaty shall enter into force on the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification.

#### *Article 16. Depository functions*

The depository shall register this Treaty and its Protocols pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and shall transmit certified copies of the Treaty and its Protocols to all Members of the South Pacific Forum and all States eligible to become Party to the Protocols to the Treaty and shall notify them of signatures and ratifications of the Treaty and its Protocols.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized by their Government, have signed this Treaty.

DONE at Rarotonga, this sixth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-five, in a single original in the English language.

#### **Annex I – South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone**

A. The area bounded by a line:

- (1) Commencing at the point of intersection of the Equator by the maritime boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea;
- (2) Running thence northerly along that maritime boundary to its intersection by the outer limit of the exclusive economic zone of Papua New Guinea;
- (3) Thence generally north-easterly and south-easterly along that outer limit to its intersection by the Equator;
- (4) Thence east along the Equator to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 163 degrees East;
- (5) Thence north along that meridian to its intersection by the parallel of Latitude 3 degrees North;
- (6) Thence east along that parallel to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 171 degrees East;
- (7) Thence north along that meridian to its intersection by the parallel of Latitude 4 degrees North;
- (8) Thence east along that parallel to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 180 degrees East;
- (9) Thence south along that meridian to its intersection by the Equator;
- (10) Thence east along the Equator to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 165 degrees West;
- (11) Thence north along that meridian to its intersection by the parallel of Latitude 5 degrees 30 minutes North;
- (12) Thence east along that parallel to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 154 degrees West;
- (13) Thence south along that meridian to its intersection by the Equator;
- (14) Thence east along the Equator to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 115 degrees West;
- (15) Thence south along that meridian to its intersection by the parallel of Latitude 60 degrees South;
- (16) Thence west along that parallel to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 115 degrees East;
- (17) Thence north along that meridian to its southernmost intersection by the outer limit of the territorial sea of Australia;
- (18) Thence generally northerly and easterly along the outer limit of the territorial sea of Australia to its intersection by the meridian of Longitude 136 degrees 45 minutes East;
- (19) Thence north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 10 degrees 50 minutes South, Longitude 139 degrees 12 minutes East;
- (20) Thence north-easterly along the maritime boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to where it joins the land border between those two countries;
- (21) Thence generally northerly along that land border to where it joins the maritime boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, on the northern coastline of Papua New Guinea; and
- (22) Thence generally northerly along that boundary to the point of commencement.

B. The areas within the outer limits of the territorial seas of all Australian islands lying westward of the area described in paragraph A and north of Latitude 60 degrees South, provided that any such areas shall cease to be part of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone upon receipt by the depository of written notice from the Government of Australia stating that the areas have become subject to another treaty having an object and purpose

substantially the same as that of this Treaty.

#### **Annex II – IAEA Safeguards**

1. The safeguards referred to in Article 8 shall in respect of each Party be applied by the IAEA as set forth in an agreement negotiated and concluded with the IAEA on all source or special fissionable material in all peaceful nuclear activities within the territory of the Party, under its jurisdiction or carried out under its control anywhere.
2. The agreement referred to in paragraph 1 shall be, or shall be equivalent in its scope and effect to, an agreement required in connection with the NPT on the basis of the material reproduced in document INFCIRC/153 (Corrected) of the IAEA. Each Party shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that such an agreement is in force for it not later than eighteen months after the date of entry into force for that Party of this Treaty.
3. For the purposes of this Treaty, the safeguards referred to in paragraph 1 shall have as their purpose the verification of the non-diversion of nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities to nuclear explosive devices.
4. Each Party agrees upon the request of any other Party to transmit to that Party and to the Director for the information of all Parties a copy of the overall conclusions of the most recent report by the IAEA on its inspection activities in the territory of the Party concerned, and to advise the Director promptly of any subsequent findings of the Board of Governors of the IAEA in relation to those conclusions for the information of all Parties.

#### **Annex III – Consultative Committee**

1. There is hereby established a Consultative Committee which shall be convened by the Director from time to time pursuant to Articles 10 and 11 and Annex 4 (2). The Consultative Committee shall be constituted of representatives of the Parties, each Party being entitled to appoint one representative who may be accompanied by advisers. Unless otherwise agreed, the Consultative Committee shall be chaired at any given meeting by the representative of the Party which last hosted the meeting of Heads of Government of Members of the South Pacific Forum. A quorum shall be constituted by representatives of half the Parties. Subject to the provisions of Article 11, decisions of the Consultative Committee shall be taken by consensus or, failing consensus, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. The Consultative Committee shall adopt such other rules of procedure as it sees fit.
2. The costs of the Consultative Committee, including the cost of special inspections pursuant to Annex 4, shall be borne by the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation. It may seek special funding should this be required.

#### **Annex IV – Complaints Procedure**

1. A Party which considers that there are grounds for a complaint that another Party is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty shall, before bringing such a complaint to the Director, bring the subject-matter of the Complaint to the attention of the Party complained of and shall allow the latter reasonable opportunity to provide it with an explanation and to resolve the matter.
2. If the matter is not so resolved, the complainant Party may bring the complaint to the Director with a request that the Consultative Committee be convened to consider it. Complaints shall be supported by an account of evidence of breach of obligations known to the complainant Party. Upon receipt of a complaint the Director shall convene the Consultative Committee as quickly as possible to consider it.
3. The Consultative Committee, taking account of effort made under paragraph 1, shall afford the Party complained of a reasonable opportunity to provide it with an explanation of the matter.
4. If, after considering any explanation given to it by the representatives of the Party complained of, the Consultative Committee decides that there is sufficient substance in the complaint to warrant a special inspection in the territory of that Party or elsewhere, the Consultative Committee shall direct that such special inspection be made as quickly as possible by a special inspection team of three suitably qualified special inspectors appointed by the Consultative Committee in

consultation with the complained of and complainant Parties, provided that no national of either Party shall serve on the special inspection team. If so requested by the Party complained of, the special inspection team shall be accompanied by representatives of that Party. Neither the right of consultation on the appointment of special inspectors, nor the right to accompany special inspectors, shall delay the work of the special inspection team.

5. In making a special inspection, special inspectors shall be subject to the direction only of the Consultative Committee and shall comply with such directives concerning tasks, objectives, confidentiality and procedures as may be decided upon by it. Directives shall take account of the legitimate interests of the Party complained of in complying with its other international obligations and commitments and shall not duplicate safeguards procedures to be undertaken by the IAEA pursuant to agreements referred to in Annex 2(1). The special inspectors shall discharge their duties with due respect for the laws of the Party complained of.

6. Each Party shall give to special inspectors full and free access to all information and places within its territory which may be relevant to enable the special inspectors to implement the directives given to them by the Consultative Committee.

7. The Party complained of shall take all appropriate steps to facilitate the special inspection, and shall grant to special inspectors privileges and immunities necessary for the performance of their functions, including inviolability for all papers and documents and immunity from arrest, detention and legal process for acts done and words spoken and written, for the purpose of the special inspection.

8. The special inspectors shall report in writing as quickly as possible to the Consultative Committee, outlining their activities, setting out relevant facts and information as ascertained by them, with supporting evidence and documentation as appropriate, and stating their conclusions. The Consultative Committee shall report fully to all Members of the South Pacific Forum, giving its decision as to whether the Party complained of is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty.

9. If the Consultative Committee has decided that the Party complained of is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty, or that the above provisions have not been complied with, or at any time at the request of either the complainant or complained of Party, the Parties shall meet promptly at a meeting of the South Pacific Forum.

#### **Protocol I**

The Parties to this Protocol

Noting the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty)  
Have agreed as follows:

##### *Article 1*

Each Party undertakes to apply, in respect of the territories for which it is internationally responsible situated within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone, the prohibitions contained in Articles 3, 5 and 6, in so far as they relate to the manufacture, stationing and testing of any nuclear explosive device within those territories, and the safeguards specified in Article 8(2)(c) and Annex 2 of the Treaty.

##### *Article 2*

Each Party may, by written notification to the depository, indicate its acceptance from the date of such notification of any alteration to its obligations under this Protocol brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to Article 11 of the Treaty.

##### *Article 3*

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

##### *Article 4*

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

##### *Article 5*

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each Party shall, in exercising its national

sovereignty, have a right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the depository three months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

##### *Article 6*

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the depository of its instrument of ratification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE at Suva, this Eighth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, in a single original in the English language.

#### **Protocol II**

The Parties to this Protocol

Noting the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty)  
Have agreed as follows:

##### *Article 1*

Each Party further undertakes not to use or threaten to use any nuclear explosive device against:

- (a) Parties to the Treaty; or
- (b) any territory within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone for which a State that has become a Party to Protocol 1 is internationally responsible.

##### *Article 2*

Each Party undertakes not to contribute to any act which constitutes a violation of the Treaty, or to any act of another Party to a Protocol which constitutes a violation of a Protocol.

##### *Article 3*

Each Party may, by written notification to the depository, indicate its acceptance from the date of such notification of any alteration to its obligations under this Protocol brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to Article 11 of the Treaty or by the extension of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone pursuant to Article 12(3) of the Treaty.

##### *Article 4*

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the French Republic, the People's Republic of China, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

##### *Article 5*

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

##### *Article 6*

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have a right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the depository three months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

##### *Article 7*

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the depository of its instrument of ratification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE at Suva, this Eighth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, in a single original in the English language.

#### **Protocol III**

The Parties to this Protocol

Noting the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty)  
Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

Each party undertakes not to test any nuclear explosive device anywhere within the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone.

**Article 2**

Each Party may, by written notification to the depository, indicate its acceptance from the date of such notification of any alteration to its obligation under this Protocol brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to Article 11 of the Treaty or by the extension of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone pursuant to Article 12(3) of the Treaty.

**Article 3**

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the French Republic, the People's Republic of China, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

**Article 4**

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

**Article 5**

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have a right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the depository three months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

**Article 6**

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the depository of its instrument of ratification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE at Suva, this Eighth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, in a single original in the English language.

**Status of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty [Treaty of Rarotonga] and Protocols**

Status on 12 March 2026

**Opened for signature in** Rarotonga, Cook Islands, on 6 August 1985

**Entered into force on** 11 December 1986

**Depository:** Director of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation

Country	Signature	Ratification / Accession (a)
Australia	6 August 1985	11 December 1986
Cook Islands	6 August 1985	28 October 1985
Fed. States of Micronesia		
Fiji	6 August 1985	4 October 1985
Kiribati	6 August 1985	28 October 1986
Marshall Islands		3 March 2025 (a)
Nauru	17 July 1986	13 April 1987
New Zealand	6 August 1985	13 November 1986
Niue	6 August 1985	12 May 1986
Palau		
Papua New Guinea	16 September 1985	15 September 1989
Samoa	6 August 1985	20 October 1986
Solomon Islands	29 May 1987	27 January 1989
Tonga	2 August 1996	18 December 2000
Tuvalu	6 August 1985	16 January 1986
Vanuatu	16 September 1995	9 February 1996

**Protocol I**

Country	Signature	Ratification
France	25 Mar 1996	20 Sep 1996
United Kingdom	25 Mar 1996	19 Sep 1997
United States	25 Mar 1996	

**Protocol II**

Country	Signature	Ratification	In Force
China	10 Feb 1987	21 Oct 1988	21 Oct 1988
France	25 Mar 1996	20 Sep 1996	20 Sep 1996
Russian Federation	15 Dec 1986	21 Apr 1988	21 Apr 1988
United Kingdom	25 Mar 1996	19 Sep 1997	19 Sep 1997
United States	25 Mar 1996		

**Protocol III**

Country	Signature	Ratification	In Force
China	10 Feb 1987	21 Oct 1988	21 Oct 1988
France	25 Mar 1996	20 Sep 1996	20 Sep 1996
Russian Federation	15 Dec 1986	21 Apr 1988	21 Apr 1988
United Kingdom	25 Mar 1996	19 Sep 1997	19 Sep 1997
United States	25 Mar 1996		

**Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [Treaty of Bangkok]**

Reproduced from the ASEAN Summit press release, 5 December 1995; entered into force on 27 March 1997

The States Parties to this Treaty:

[Eds...]

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1. Use of Terms*

For the purposes of this Treaty and its Protocol:

(a) 'Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone', hereinafter referred to as the 'Zone', means the area comprising the territories of all States in Southeast Asia, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, and their respective continental shelves and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ);

(b) 'territory' means the land territory, internal waters, territorial sea, archipelagic waters, the seabed and the sub-soil thereof and the airspace above them;

(c) 'nuclear weapon' means any explosive device capable of releasing nuclear energy in an uncontrolled manner but does not include the means, transport or delivery of such device if separable from and not an indivisible part thereof;

(d) 'station' means to deploy, emplace, emplant, install, stockpile or store;

(e) 'radioactive material' means material that contains radionuclides above clearance or exemption levels recommended by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

(f) 'radioactive wastes' means material that contains or is contaminated with radionuclides at concentrations or activities greater than clearance levels recommended by the IAEA and for which no use is foreseen; and

(g) 'dumping' means

(i) any deliberate disposal at sea, including seabed, and subsoil insertion of radioactive wastes or other matter from vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea, and

(ii) any deliberate disposal at sea, including seabed and subsoil insertion, of vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea containing radioactive material,

but does not include the disposal of wastes or other matter

incidental to, or derived from the normal operations of vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea and their equipment, other than wastes or other matter transported by or to vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea, operating for the purpose, of disposal of such matter or derived from the treatment of such wastes or other matter on such vessels, aircraft, platforms or structures.

#### Article 2. Application of the Treaty

1. This Treaty and its Protocol shall apply to the territories, continental shelves and EEZ of the States Parties within the Zone in which the Treaty is in force.
2. Nothing in this Treaty shall prejudice the rights or the exercise of these rights by any State under the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, in particular with regard to freedom of the high seas, rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage of ships and aircraft, and consistent with the Charter of the United Nations.

#### Article 3. Basic Undertakings

1. Each State Party undertakes not to, anywhere inside or outside the Zone:
  - (a) develop, manufacture or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons;
  - (b) station or transport nuclear weapons by any means; or
  - (c) test or use nuclear weapons.
2. Each State Party also undertakes not to allow, in its territory, any other State to:
  - (a) develop, manufacture or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons;
  - (b) station nuclear weapons; or
  - (c) test or use nuclear weapons.
3. Each State Party also undertakes not to:
  - (a) dump at sea or discharge into the atmosphere anywhere within the Zone any radioactive material or wastes;
  - (b) dispose radioactive material or wastes on land in the territory of or under the jurisdiction of other States except as stipulated in Paragraph 2(e) of Article 4; or
  - (c) allow, within its territory, any other State to dump at sea or discharge into the atmosphere any radioactive material or wastes.
4. Each State Party undertakes not to:
  - (a) seek or receive any assistance in the commission of any act in violation of the provisions of Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article; or
  - (b) take any action to assist or encourage the commission of any act in violation of the provisions of Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article.

#### Article 4. Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes

1. Nothing in this Treaty shall prejudice the right of the States Parties to use nuclear energy, in particular for their economic development and social progress.
2. Each State Party therefore undertakes:
  - (a) to use exclusively for peaceful purposes nuclear material and facilities which are within its territory and areas under its jurisdiction and control;
  - (b) prior to embarking on its peaceful nuclear energy programme, to subject its programme to rigorous nuclear safety assessment conforming to guidelines and standards recommended by the IAEA for the protection of health and minimization of danger to life and property in accordance with Paragraph 6 of Article I of the Statute of the IAEA;
  - (c) upon request, to make available to another State Party the assessment except information relating to personal data, information protected by intellectual property rights or by

industrial or commercial confidentiality, and information relating to national security;

(d) to support the continued effectiveness of the international non-proliferation system based on the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the IAEA safeguards system; and

(e) to dispose radioactive wastes and other radioactive material in accordance with IAEA standards and procedures on land within its territory or on land within the territory of another State which has consented to such disposal.

3. Each State Party further undertakes not to provide source or special fissionable material, or equipment or material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material to:
  - (a) any non-nuclear-weapon State except under conditions subject to the safeguards required by Paragraph I of Article III of the NPT; or
  - (b) any nuclear-weapon State except in conformity with applicable safeguards agreements with the IAEA.

#### Article 5. IAEA Safeguards

Each State Party which has not done so shall conclude an agreement with the IAEA for the application of full scope safeguards to its peaceful nuclear activities not later than eighteen months after the entry into force for that State Party of this Treaty.

#### Article 6. Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident

Each State Party which has not acceded to the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident shall endeavour to do so.

#### Article 7. Foreign Ships and Aircraft

Each State Party, on being notified, may decide for itself whether to allow visits by foreign ships and aircraft to its ports and airfields, transit of its airspace by foreign aircraft, and navigation by foreign ships through its territorial sea or archipelagic waters and overflight of foreign aircraft above those waters in a manner not governed by the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage.

#### Article 8. Establishment of the Commission for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone

1. There is hereby established a Commission for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone, hereinafter referred to as the 'Commission'.
2. All States Parties are *ipso facto* members of the Commission. Each State Party shall be represented by its Foreign Minister or his representative accompanied by alternates and advisers.
3. The function of the Commission shall be to oversee the implementation of this Treaty and ensure compliance with its provisions.
4. The Commission shall meet as and when necessary in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty including upon the request of any State Party. As far as possible, the Commission shall meet in conjunction with the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.
5. At the beginning of each meeting, the Commission shall elect its Chairman and such other officers as may be required. They shall hold office until a new Chairman and other officers are elected at the next meeting.
6. Unless otherwise provided for in this Treaty, two-thirds of the members of the Commission shall be present to constitute a quorum.
7. Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.
8. Except as provided for in this Treaty, decisions of the Commission shall be taken by consensus or, failing consensus, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.
9. The Commission shall, by consensus, agree upon and adopt rules of procedure for itself as well as financial rules governing its funding and that of its subsidiary organs.

#### Article 9. The Executive Committee

1. There is hereby established, as a subsidiary organ of the Commission, the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of all States Parties to this Treaty. Each State Party shall be represented by one senior official as its representative, who may be accompanied by alternates and advisers.
3. The functions of the Executive Committee shall be to:
  - (a) ensure the proper operation of verification measures in accordance with the provisions on the Control System as stipulated in Article 10;
  - (b) consider and decide on requests for clarification and for a fact-finding mission;
  - (c) set up a fact-finding mission in accordance with the Annex of this Treaty;
  - (d) consider and decide on the findings of a fact-finding mission and report to the Commission;
  - (e) request the Commission to convene a meeting when appropriate and necessary;
  - (f) conclude such agreements with the IAEA or other international organizations as referred to in Article 18 on behalf of the Commission after being duly authorized to do so by the Commission; and
  - (g) carry out such other tasks as may, from time to time, be assigned by the Commission.
4. The Executive Committee shall meet as and when necessary for the efficient exercise of its functions. As far as possible, the Executive Committee shall meet in conjunction with the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting.
5. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be the representative Chairman of the Commission. Any submission or communication made by a State Party to the Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be disseminated to the other members of the Executive Committee.
6. Two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee shall be present to constitute a quorum.
7. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote.
8. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall be taken by consensus or, failing consensus, by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

#### *Article 10. Control System*

1. There is hereby established a control system for the purpose of verifying compliance with the obligations of the States Parties under this Treaty.
2. The Control System shall comprise:
  - (a) the IAEA safeguards system as provided for in Article 5;
  - (b) report and exchange of information as provided for in Article 11;
  - (c) request for clarification as provided for in Article 12; and
  - (d) request and procedures for a fact-finding mission as provided for in Article 13.

#### *Article 11. Report and Exchange of Information*

1. Each State Party shall submit reports to the Executive Committee on any significant event within its territory and areas under its jurisdiction and control affecting the implementation of this Treaty.
2. The States Parties may exchange information on matters arising under or in relation to this Treaty.

#### *Article 12. Request for Clarification*

1. Each State Party shall have the right to request another State Party for clarification concerning any situation which may be considered ambiguous or which may give rise to doubts about the compliance of that State Party with this Treaty. It shall inform the

Executive Committee of such a request. The requested State Party shall duly respond by providing without delay the necessary information and inform the Executive Committee of its reply to the requesting State Party.

2. Each State Party shall have the right to request the Executive Committee to seek clarification from another State Party concerning any situation which may be considered ambiguous or which may give rise to doubts about compliance of that State Party with this Treaty. Upon receipt of such a request, the Executive Committee shall consult the State Party from which clarification is sought for the purpose of obtaining the clarification requested.

#### *Article 13. Request for a Fact-Finding Mission*

A State Party shall have the right to request the Executive Committee to send a fact-finding mission to another State Party in order to clarify and resolve a situation which may be considered ambiguous or which may give rise to doubts about compliance with the provisions of this Treaty, in accordance with the procedure contained in the Annex to this Treaty.

#### *Article 14. Remedial Measures*

1. In case the Executive Committee decides in accordance with the Annex that there is a breach of this Treaty by a State Party, that State Party shall, within a reasonable time, take all steps necessary to bring itself in full compliance with this Treaty and shall promptly inform the Executive Committee of the action taken or proposed to be taken by it.
2. Where a State Party fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Paragraph 1 of this Article, the Executive Committee shall request the Commission to convene a meeting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 3(e) of Article 9.
3. At the meeting convened pursuant to Paragraph 2 of this Article, the Commission shall consider the emergent situation and shall decide on any measure it deems appropriate to cope with the situation, including the submission of the matter to the IAEA and, where the situation might endanger international peace and security, the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations.
4. In the event of breach of the Protocol attached to this Treaty by a State Party to the Protocol, the Executive Committee shall convene a special meeting of the Commission to decide on appropriate measures to be taken.

#### *Article 15. Signature, Ratification, Accession, Deposit and Registration*

1. This Treaty shall be open for signature by all States in Southeast Asia, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification in accordance with the constitutional procedure of the signatory States. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand which is hereby designated as the Depositary State.
3. This Treaty shall be open for accession. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Depositary State.
4. The Depositary State shall inform the other States Parties to this Treaty on the deposit of instruments of ratification or accession.
5. The Depositary State shall register this Treaty and its Protocol pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

#### *Article 16. Entry into Force*

1. This Treaty shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of the seventh instrument of ratification and/or accession.
2. For States which ratify or accede to this Treaty after the date of this seventh instrument of ratification or accession, the Treaty shall enter into force on the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession.

#### *Article 17. Reservations*

This Treaty shall not be subject to reservations.

#### *Article 18. Relations with Other International Organizations*

The Commission may conclude such agreements with the IAEA or other international organizations as it considers likely to facilitate the efficient operation of the Control System established by this Treaty.

#### Article 19. Amendments

1. Any State Party may propose amendments to this Treaty and its Protocol and shall submit its proposals to the Executive Committee, which shall transmit them to all the other States Parties. The Executive Committee shall immediately request the Commission to convene a meeting to examine the proposed amendments. The quorum required for such a meeting shall be all the members of the Commission. Any amendment shall be adopted by a consensus decision of the Commission.
2. Amendments adopted shall enter into force 30 days after the receipt by the Deposit State of the seventh instrument of acceptance from the States Parties.

#### Article 20. Review

Ten years after this Treaty enters into force, a meeting of the Commission shall be convened for the purpose of reviewing the operation of this Treaty. A meeting of the Commission for the same purpose may also be convened at anytime thereafter if there is consensus among all its members.

#### Article 21. Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute arising from the interpretation of the provisions of this Treaty shall be settled by peaceful means as may be agreed upon by the States Parties to the dispute. If within one month the parties to the dispute are unable to achieve a peaceful settlement of the dispute by negotiation, mediation, enquiry or conciliation, any of the parties concerned shall, with the prior consent of the other parties concerned, refer the dispute to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice.

#### Article 22. Duration and Withdrawal

1. This Treaty shall remain in force indefinitely.
2. In the event of a breach by any State Party of this Treaty essential to the achievement of the objectives of this Treaty, every other State Party shall have the right to withdraw from this Treaty.
3. Withdrawal under Paragraph 2 of Article 22, shall be effected by giving notice twelve months in advance to the members of the Commission.

*In witness whereof*, the undersigned have signed this Treaty.

*Done* at Bangkok, this fifteenth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-five, in one original in the English language.

#### Annex

##### Procedure for a Fact-Finding Mission

1. The State Party requesting a fact-finding mission as provided in Article 13, hereinafter referred to as the 'requesting State', shall submit the request to the Executive Committee specifying the following:
  - (a) the doubts or concerns and the reasons for such doubts or concerns;
  - (b) the location in which the situation which gives rise to doubts has allegedly occurred;
  - (c) the relevant provisions of the Treaty about which doubts of compliance have arisen; and
  - (d) any other relevant information.
2. Upon receipt of a request for a fact-finding mission, the Executive Committee shall:
  - (a) immediately inform the State Party to which the fact-finding mission is requested to be sent, hereinafter referred to as the 'receiving State', about the receipt of the request; and
  - (b) not later than 3 weeks after receiving the request, decide if the request complies with the provisions of Paragraph 1 and whether or not it is frivolous, abusive or clearly beyond the scope of this Treaty. Neither the requesting nor receiving State

Party shall participate in such decisions.

3. In case the Executive Committee decides that the request does not comply with the provisions of Paragraph 1, or that it is frivolous, abusive or clearly beyond the scope of this Treaty, it shall take no further action on the request and inform the requesting State and the receiving State accordingly.
4. In the event that the Executive Committee decides that the request complies with the provisions of Paragraph 1, and that it is not frivolous, abusive or clearly beyond the scope of this Treaty, it shall immediately forward the request for a fact-finding mission to the receiving State, indicating, *inter alia*, the proposed date for sending the mission. The proposed date shall not be later than 3 weeks from the time the receiving State receives the request for a fact-finding mission. The Executive Committee shall also immediately set up a fact-finding mission consisting of 3 inspectors from the IAEA who are neither nationals of the requesting nor receiving State.
5. The receiving State shall comply with the request for a fact-finding mission referred to in Paragraph 4. It shall cooperate with the Executive Committee in order to facilitate the effective functioning of the fact-finding mission, *inter alia*, by promptly providing unimpeded access of the fact-finding mission to the location in question. The receiving State shall accord to the members of the fact-finding mission such privileges and immunities as are necessary for them to exercise their functions effectively, including inviolability of all papers and documents and immunity from arrest, detention and legal process for acts done and words spoken for the purpose of the mission.
6. The receiving State shall have the right to take measures to protect sensitive installations and to prevent disclosures of confidential information and data not related to this Treaty.
7. The fact-finding mission, in the discharge of its functions, shall:
  - (a) respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State;
  - (b) refrain from activities inconsistent with the objectives and purposes of this Treaty;
  - (c) submit preliminary or interim reports to the Executive Committee; and
  - (d) complete its task without undue delay and shall submit its final report to the Executive Committee within a reasonable time upon completion of its work.
8. The Executive Committee shall:
  - (a) consider the reports submitted by the fact-finding mission and reach a decision on whether or not there is a breach of this Treaty;
  - (b) immediately communicate its decision to the requesting State and the receiving State; and
  - (c) present a full report on its decision to the Commission.
9. In the event that the receiving State refuses to comply with the request for a fact-finding mission in accordance with Paragraph 4, the requesting State through the Executive Committee shall have the right to request for a meeting of the Commission. The Executive Committee shall immediately request the Commission to convene a meeting in accordance with Paragraph 3(e) of Article 9.

#### Protocol to the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone

The States Parties to this Protocol,

*Desiring* to contribute to efforts towards achieving general and complete disarmament of nuclear weapons, and thereby ensuring international peace and security, including in Southeast Asia;

*Noting* the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone, signed at Bangkok, on the fifteenth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-five;

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### Article 1

Each State Party undertakes to respect the Treaty on the

Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone, hereinafter referred to as the 'Treaty', and not to contribute to any act which constitutes a violation of the Treaty or its Protocol by States Parties to them.

#### Article 2

Each State Party undertakes not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against any State Party to the Treaty. It further undertakes not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons within the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone.

#### Article 3

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

#### Article 4

Each State Party undertakes, by written notification to the Depository State, to indicate its acceptance or other wise of any alteration to its obligations under this Protocol that may be brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to Article 19 thereof.

#### Article 5

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each State Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme national interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the Depository State twelve months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events its regards as having jeopardized its supreme national interests.

#### Article 6

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 7

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State Party on the date of its deposit of its instrument of ratification with the Depository State. The Depository State shall inform the other States Parties to the Treaty and to this Protocol on the deposit of instruments of ratification.

*In witness whereof* the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed the Protocol.

### Status of Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [Treaty of Bangkok] and Protocols

Status on 12 March 2026

**Signed in** Bangkok, Thailand, on 15 December 1995

**Entered into force on** 27 March 1997

**Depository:** Government of Thailand

Country	Signature	Ratification
Brunei Darussalam	15 December 1995	22 November 1996
Cambodia	15 December 1995	27 March 1997
Indonesia	15 December 1995	10 April 1997
Laos	15 December 1995	16 July 1996
Malaysia	15 December 1995	11 October 1996
Myanmar	15 December 1995	17 July 1996
Philippines	15 December 1995	21 June 2001
Singapore	15 December 1995	27 March 1997
Thailand	15 December 1995	20 March 1997
Vietnam	15 December 1995	26 November 1996

#### Protocol

Country	Signature	Ratification	Deposit
China			
France			
Russian Federation			
United Kingdom			
United States			

### African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [Treaty of Pelindaba]

Opened for signature 11 April 1996; entered into force on 15 July 2009

*The Parties to this Treaty,*

*Guided* by the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (hereinafter referred to as OAU) at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964 (AHG/RES.11(1)), in which they solemnly declared their readiness to undertake, through an international agreement to be concluded under United Nations auspices, not to manufacture or acquire control of nuclear weapons,

*Guided also*, by the resolutions of the fifth-fourth and fifty-sixth ordinary sessions of the Council of Ministers of OAU, held at Abuja from 27 May to 1 June 1991 and at Dakar from 22 to 28 June 1992 respectively, (CM/RES.1342 (LIV) and CM/RES.1395 (LVI)), which affirmed that the evolution of the international situation was conducive to the implementation of the Cairo Declaration as well as the relevant provisions of the 1986 OAU Declaration on Security, Disarmament and Development,

*Recalling* United Nations General Assembly resolution 3472 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975, in which it considered nuclear-weapon-free zones one of the most effective means for preventing the proliferation, both horizontal and vertical, of nuclear weapons,

*Convinced* of the need to take all steps in achieving the ultimate goal of a world entirely free of nuclear weapons, as well as of the obligations of all States to contribute to this end,

*Convinced also* that the African nuclear-weapon-free zone will constitute an important step towards strengthening the non-proliferation regime, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, promoting general and complete disarmament and enhancing regional and international peace and security.

*Aware* that regional disarmament measures contribute to global disarmament efforts,

*Believing* that the African nuclear-weapon-free zone will protect African States against possible nuclear attacks on their territories,

*Noting* with satisfaction existing NWFZs and recognizing that the establishment of other NWFZs, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of States Parties to the African NWFZ,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (hereinafter referred to as the NPT) and the need for the implementation of all its provisions,

*Desirous* of taking advantage of article IV of the NPT, which recognizes the inalienable right of all States Parties to develop research on, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for such purposes,

*Determined* to promote regional cooperation for the development and practical application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in the interest of sustainable social and economic development of the Africa continent,

*Determined* to keep Africa free of environmental pollution by radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter,

*Welcoming* the cooperation of all States and governmental and non-governmental organizations for the attainment of these objectives,

*Have decided* by this treaty to establish the African NWFZ and hereby agree as follows:

*Article 1.* Definition/Usage of Terms

For the purpose of this Treaty and its Protocols:

- (a) 'African nuclear-weapon-free zone' means the territory of the continent of Africa, islands States members of OAU and

- (b) all islands considered by the Organisation of African Unity in its resolutions to be part of Africa;
- (c) 'Territory' means the land territory, internal waters, territorial seas and archipelagic waters and the airspace above them as well as the sea bed and subsoil beneath;
- (d) 'Nuclear explosive device' means any nuclear weapon or other explosive device capable of releasing nuclear energy, irrespective of the purpose for which it could be used. The term includes such a weapon or device in unassembled and partly assembled forms, but does not include the means of transport or delivery of such a weapon or device if separable from and not an indivisible part of it;
- (e) 'Stationing' means implantation, emplacement, transport on land or inland waters, stockpiling, storage, installation and deployment;
- (f) 'Nuclear installation' means a nuclear-power reactor, a nuclear research reactor, a critical facility, a conversion plant, a fabrication plant, a reprocessing plant, an isotope separation plant, a separate storage installation and any other installation or location in or at which fresh or irradiated nuclear material or significant quantities of radioactive materials are present.
- (g) 'Nuclear material' means any source material or special fissionable material as defined in Article XX of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and as amended from time to time by the IAEA.

#### Article 2. Application of the Treaty

1. Except where otherwise specified, this Treaty and its Protocols shall apply to the territory within the African nuclear-weapon-free zone, as illustrated in the map in annex I.
2. Nothing in this Treaty shall prejudice in any way affect the rights, or the exercise of the rights, of any state under international law with regards to freedom of the seas.

#### Article 3. Renunciation of Nuclear Explosive Devices

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) Not to conduct research on, develop, manufacture, stockpile of otherwise acquire, possess or have control over any nuclear explosive device by any means anywhere;
- (b) Not to seek or receive any assistance in the research on, development, manufacture, stockpiling or acquisition, or possession of any nuclear explosive device;
- (c) Not to take any action to assist or encourage the research on, development, manufacture, stockpiling or acquisition, or possession of any nuclear explosive device

#### Article 4. Prevention of Stationing of Nuclear Explosive Devices

1. Each Party undertakes to prohibit, in its territory, the stationing of any nuclear explosive device.
2. Without prejudice to the purposes and objectives of the treaty, each party in the exercise of its sovereign rights remains free to decide for itself whether to allow visits by foreign ships and aircraft to its ports and airfields, transit of its airspace by foreign aircraft, and navigation by foreign ships in its territorial sea of archipelagic waters in a manner not covered by the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lane passage or transit passage of straits.

#### Article 5. Prohibition of Testing of Nuclear Explosive Devices

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) Not to test any nuclear explosive device;
- (b) To prohibit in its territory the testing of any nuclear explosive device;
- (c) Not to assist or encourage the testing of any nuclear explosive device by any State anywhere.

#### Article 6. Declaration, Dismantling, Destruction or Conversion of Nuclear Explosive Devices and the Facilities for their Manufacture

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) To declare any capability for the manufacture of nuclear explosive devices;

- (b) To dismantle and destroy any nuclear explosive devices that it has manufactured prior to the coming into force of this treaty;
- (c) To destroy facilities for the manufacture of nuclear explosive devices or, where possible, to convert them to peaceful uses;
- (d) To permit the International Atomic Energy Agency (hereinafter referred to as IAEA) and the Commission established in article 12 to verify the processes of dismantling and destruction of the nuclear explosive devices, as well as the destruction or conversion of the facilities for their production.

#### Article 7. Prohibition of Dumping of Radioactive Wastes

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) To effectively implement or to use as guidelines the measures contained in the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa in so far as it is relevant to radioactive waste;
- (b) Not to take any action to assist or encourage the dumping of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter anywhere within the African nuclear-weapon-free zone.

#### Article 8. Peaceful Nuclear Activities

1. Nothing in this treaty shall be interpreted as to prevent the use of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes.
2. As part of their efforts to strengthen their security, stability and development, the Parties undertake to promote individually and collectively the use of nuclear science and technology for economic and social development. To this end they undertake to establish and strengthen mechanisms for cooperation at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels.

3. Parties are encouraged to make use of the programme of assistance available in IAEA and, in this connection, to strengthen cooperation under the African Regional Cooperation Agreement for Research, Training and Development related to Nuclear Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as AFRA).

#### Article 9. Verification of Peaceful Uses

Each Party undertakes:

- (a) To conduct all activities for the peaceful use of nuclear energy under strict non-proliferation measures to provide assurance of exclusively peaceful uses;
- (b) To conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with IAEA for the purpose of verifying compliance with the undertakings in subparagraph (a) of this article;
- (c) Not to provide source or special fissionable material, or equipment or material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material for peaceful purposes to any non-nuclear-weapon State unless subject to a comprehensive safeguards agreement concluded with IAEA.

#### Article 10. Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Facilities

Each Party undertakes to maintain the highest standards of security and effective physical protection of nuclear materials, facilities and equipment to prevent theft or unauthorized use and handling. To that end each Party, *inter alia*, undertakes to apply measures of physical protection equivalent to those provided for in the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and in recommendations and guidelines developed by IAEA for that purpose.

#### Article 11. Prohibition of Armed Attack on Nuclear Installations

Each Party undertakes not to take, or assist, or encourage any action aimed at an armed attack by conventional or other means against nuclear installations in the African nuclear-weapon-free zone.

#### Article 12. Mechanism for Compliance

1. For the purpose of ensuring compliance with their undertakings under this Treaty, the Parties agree to establish the African Commission of Nuclear Energy (hereafter referred to as the Commission) as set out in annex III.
2. The Commission shall be responsible *inter alia* for:
  - (a) Collating the reports and the exchange of information as provided for in article 13;
  - (b) Arranging consultations as provided for in annex IV, as well as convening conferences of Parties on the concurrence of simple majority of State Parties on any matter arising from the implementation of the Treaty;
  - (c) Reviewing the application to peaceful nuclear activities of safeguards by IAEA as elaborated in annex II;
  - (d) Bringing into effect the complaints procedure elaborated in annex IV;
  - (e) Encouraging regional and sub-regional programs for cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology;
  - (f) Promoting international cooperation with extra-zonal States for the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology.
3. The Commission shall meet in ordinary session once a year, and may meet in extraordinary session as may be required by the complaints and settlement of disputes procedure in annex IV.

#### Article 13. Report and Exchanges of Information

1. Each Party shall submit an annual report to the Commission on its nuclear activities as well as other matters relating to the Treaty, in accordance with the format for reporting to be developed by the Commission.
2. Each Party shall promptly report to the Commission any significant event affecting the implementation of the Treaty.
3. The Commission shall request the IAEA to provide it with an annual report on the activities of AFRA.

#### Article 14. Conference of Parties

1. A Conference of all Parties to the Treaty shall be convened by the Depository as soon as possible after the entry into force of the Treaty to, *inter alia*, elect members of the Commission and determine its headquarters. Further conferences of State Parties shall be held as necessary and at least every two years, and convened in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) of article 12.
2. The Conference of all Parties to the Treaty shall adopt the Commission's budget and a scale of assessment to be paid by the State Parties.

#### Article 15. Interpretation of the Treaty

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation of the Treaty shall be settled by negotiation, by recourse to the Commission or another procedure agreed to by the Parties, which may include recourse to an arbitral panel or to the International Court of Justice.

#### Article 16. Reservations

This Treaty shall not be subject to reservations.

#### Article 17. Duration

This Treaty shall be of unlimited duration and shall remain in force indefinitely.

#### Article 18. Signature, Ratification and Entry into Force

1. This Treaty shall be open for signature by any state in the African nuclear-weapon-free zone. It shall be subject to ratification.
2. It shall enter into force on the date of deposit of the twenty-eighth instrument of ratification.
3. For a signatory that ratifies this Treaty after the date of the deposit of the twenty-eighth instrument of ratification, it shall enter into force for that signatory on the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification.

#### Article 19. Amendments

1. Any amendments to the Treaty proposed by a Party shall be submitted to the Commission, which shall circulate it to all Parties.
2. Decision on the adoption of such an amendment shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the Parties either through written communication to the Commission or through a conference of Parties convened upon the concurrence of a simple majority.
3. An amendment so adopted shall enter into force for all parties after receipt by the Depository of the instrument of ratification by the majority of Parties.

#### Article 20. Withdrawal

1. Each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Treaty, have jeopardized its supreme interests.
2. Withdrawal shall be effected by a Party giving notice, which includes a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interest, twelve months in advance to the Depository. The Depository shall circulate such notice to all other parties.

#### Article 21. Depository Functions

1. This Treaty, of which the Arabic, English, French and Portuguese texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of OAU, who is hereby designated as Depository of the Treaty.
2. The Depository shall:
  - (a) Receive instruments of ratification;
  - (b) Register this Treaty and its Protocols pursuant to article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations;
  - (c) Transmit certified copies of the Treaty and its Protocols to all states in the African nuclear-weapon-free zone and to all states eligible to become party to the Protocols to the Treaty, and shall notify them of signatures and ratification of the Treaty and its Protocols.

#### Article 22. Status of the Annexes

The annexes form an integral part of this Treaty. Any reference to this Treaty includes the annexes.

#### Annex I – Map of an African Nuclear-weapon-Free Zone

[not reproduced]

#### Annex II – Safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency

1. The safeguards referred to in subparagraph (b) of the article 9 shall in respect of each Party be applied by the International Atomic Energy Agency as set forth in an agreement negotiated and concluded with the Agency on all source or special fissionable material in all nuclear activities within the territory of the Party, under its jurisdiction or carried out under its control anywhere.
2. The Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be, or shall be equivalent in its scope and effect to, the agreement required in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (INFCIRC/153 corrected). A party that has already entered into a safeguards agreement with the IAEA is deemed to have already complied with the requirement. Each Party shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that the Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 is in force for it not later than eighteen months after the date of entry into force for that Party of this Treaty.
3. For the purpose of this Treaty, the safeguards referred to in paragraph 1 above shall have as their purpose the verification of the non-diversion of nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities to nuclear explosive devices or for purposes unknown.
4. Each Party shall include in its annual report to the Commission, in conformity with art. 13, for its information and review, a copy of the overall conclusions of the most recent report by the International Atomic Energy Agency on its inspection activities in the territory of the Party concerned, and advise the Commission promptly of any change in those conclusions. The information furnished by a Party shall not be, totally or partially, disclosed or transmitted to third parties, by the addressees of the

reports, except when that Party gives its express consent.

### Annex III – African Commission on Nuclear Energy

1. The Commission established in article 12 shall be composed of twelve Members elected by Parties to the Treaty for a three-year period, bearing in mind the need for equitable geographical distribution as well as to included Members with advanced nuclear programmes. Each Member shall have one representative nominated with particular regard for his/her expertise in the subject of the Treaty.

2. The Commission shall have a Bureau consisting of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Executive Secretary. It shall elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, at the request of Parties to the Treaty and in consultation with the Chairman, shall designate the Executive Secretary of the Commission. For the first meeting a quorum shall be constituted by representatives of two thirds of the Members of the Commission. For that meeting decisions of the Commission shall be taken as far as possible by consensus or otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the Members of the Commission. The Commission shall adopt its rules of procedure at that meeting.

3. The Commission shall develop a format for reporting by States as required under articles 12 and 13.

4.

(a) The budget of the Commission, including the costs of inspections pursuant to annex IV to this Treaty, shall be borne by the Parties to the Treaty in accordance with a scale of assessment to be determined by the Parties;

(b) The Commission may also accept additional funds from other sources provided such donations are consistent with the purposes and objectives of the Treaty;

### Annex IV – Complaints procedure and settlement of disputes

1. A Party which considers that there are grounds for a complaint that another Party or a Party to Protocol I or II is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty shall bring the subject-matter of the complaint to the attention of the Party complained of and shall allow the latter thirty days to provide it with an explanation and to resolve the matter. This may include technical visits agreed upon between the Parties.

2. If the matter is not so resolved, the complainant Party may bring this complaint to the Commission.

3. The Commission, taking account of efforts made under paragraph 1 above, shall afford the Party complained of forty-five days to provide it with an explanation of the matter.

4. If, after considering any explanation given to it by the representatives of the Party complained of, the Commission considers that there is sufficient substance in the complaint to warrant an inspection in the territory of that Party or territory of a party to Protocol III, the Commission may request the International Atomic Energy Agency to conduct such inspection as soon as possible. The Commission may also designate its representatives to accompany the Agency's inspection team.

(a) The request shall indicate the tasks and objectives of such inspection, as well as any confidentiality requirements;

(b) If the Party complained of so requests, the inspection team shall be accompanied by representatives of that Party provided that the inspectors shall not be thereby delayed or otherwise impeded in the exercise of their functions;

(c) Each Party shall give the inspection team full and free access to all information and places within each territory that may be deemed relevant by the inspectors to the implementation of the inspection;

(d) The Party complained of shall take all appropriate steps to facilitate the work of the inspection team, and shall accord them the same privileges and immunities as those set forth in the relevant provisions of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(e) The International Atomic Energy Agency shall report its findings in writing as quickly as possible to the Commission, outlining its activities, setting out relevant facts and information as ascertained by it, with supporting evidence and documentation as appropriate, and stating its conclusions. The Commission shall report fully to all States Parties to the Treaty giving its decision as to whether the Party complained of is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty;

(f) If the Commission considers that the Party complained of is in breach of its obligations under this Treaty, or that the above provisions have not been complied with, States Parties to the Treaty shall meet in extraordinary session to discuss the matter;

(g) The States Parties convened in extraordinary session may as necessary, make recommendations to the Party held to be in breach of its obligations and to the Organization of African Unity. The Organization of African Unity may, if necessary, refer the matter to the United Nations Security Council;

(h) The costs involved in the procedure outlined above shall be borne by the Commission. In the case of abuse, the Commission shall decide whether the requesting State Party should bear any of the financial implications.

5. The Commission may also establish its own inspection mechanisms.

### Protocol I

*The Parties to this Protocol,*

*Convinced* of the need to take all steps in achieving the ultimate goal of a world entirely free of nuclear weapons as well as the obligations of all States to contribute to this end,

*Convinced also* that the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, negotiated and signed in accordance with the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (AHG/Res.11(1)) of 1964, resolutions CM/Res.1342(LIV) of 1991 and CM/Res.1395(LVI) Rev. 1 of 1992 of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 48/86 of 16 December 1993, constitutes an important measure towards ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, promoting general and complete disarmament, and enhancing regional and international peace and security,

*Desirous* of contributing in all appropriate manners to the effectiveness of the Treaty,

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### Article 1

Each Protocol Party undertakes not to use or threaten to use a nuclear explosive device against:

(a) Any Party to the Treaty; or

(b) Any territory within the African nuclear-weapon-free zone for which a State that has become a Party to Protocol III is internationally responsible as defined in annex I.

#### Article 2

Each Protocol Party undertakes not to contribute to any act that constitutes a violation of the Treaty or of this Protocol.

#### Article 3

Each Protocol Party undertakes, by written notification to the Depository, to indicate its acceptance or otherwise of any alteration to its obligation under this Protocol that may be brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to article 20 of the Treaty.

#### Article 4

This Protocol shall be open for signature by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

#### Article 5

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 6

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the Depository twelve months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

#### Article 7

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the Depository of its instrument of ratification or the date of entry into force of the Treaty, whichever is later.

*In witness whereof* the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed this Protocol.

#### Protocol II

*The Parties to this Protocol,*

*Convinced* of the need to take all steps in achieving the ultimate goal of a world entirely free of nuclear weapons as well as the obligations of all States to contribute to this end,

*Convinced also* that the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, negotiated and signed in accordance with the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (AHG/Res.11(1)) of 1964, resolutions CM/Res.1342(LIV) of 1991 and CM/Res.1395(LVI) Rev.1 of 1992 of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/86 of 16 December 1993, constitutes an important measure towards ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, promoting general and complete disarmament, and enhancing regional and international peace and security,

*Desirous* of contributing in all appropriate manners to the effectiveness of the Treaty,

*Bearing in mind* the objective of concluding a treaty banning all nuclear tests,

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### Article 1

Each Protocol Party undertakes not to test or assist or encourage the testing of any nuclear explosive device anywhere within the African nuclear-weapon-free zone.

#### Article 2

Each Protocol Party undertakes not to contribute to any act that constitutes a violation of the Treaty or of this Protocol.

#### Article 3

Each Protocol Party undertakes, by written notification to the Depository, to indicate its acceptance or otherwise of any alteration to its obligation under this Protocol that may be brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to article 20 of the Treaty.

#### Article 4

This Protocol shall be open for signature by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

#### Article 5

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 6

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely, provided that each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdrawal from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the Depository twelve months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

#### Article 7

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the Depository of its instrument of ratification or the date of entry into force of the Treaty, whichever is later. *In witness whereof* the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have signed this Protocol.

#### Protocol III

*The Parties to this Protocol,*

*Convinced* of the need to take all steps in achieving the ultimate goal of a world entirely free of nuclear weapons as well as the obligations of all States to contribute to this end,

*Convinced also* that the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, negotiated and signed in accordance with the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (AHG/Res.11(1)) of 1964, resolutions CM/Res.1342(LIV) of 1991 and CM/Res.1395(LVI) Rev.1 of 1992 of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/86 of 16 December 1993, constitutes an important measure towards ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, promoting general and complete disarmament, and enhancing regional and international peace and security,

*Desirous* of contributing in all appropriate manners to the effectiveness of the Treaty,

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### Article 1

Each Protocol Party undertakes to apply, in respect of the territories for which it is de jure or de facto internationally responsible situated within the African nuclear-weapon-free zone, the provisions contained in articles 3,4,5,6,7,8,9 and 10 of the Treaty and to ensure the application of safeguards specified in annex II of the Treaty.

#### Article 2

Each Protocol Party undertakes not to contribute to any act that constitutes a violation of the Treaty or of this Protocol.

#### Article 3

Each Protocol Party undertakes, by written notification to the Depository, to indicate its acceptance or otherwise of any alterations to its obligation under this Protocol that may be brought about by the entry into force of an amendment to the Treaty pursuant to article 20 of the Treaty.

#### Article 4

This Protocol shall be open for signature by France and Spain.

#### Article 5

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 6

This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely provided that each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty have the right to withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to the Depository twelve months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

#### Article 7

This Protocol shall enter into force for each State on the date of its deposit with the Depository of its instrument of ratification or the date of entry into force of the Treaty, whichever is later. *In witness whereof* the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments have signed this Protocol.

---

### Status of African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [Treaty of Pelindaba] and Protocols

---

Status on 12 March 2026

---

Signed in Cairo, Egypt, on 11 April 1996

Entered into force on 15 July 2009

Depositary: African Union

Country	Signature	Deposit
Algeria	11 April 1996	11 February 1998
Angola	11 April 1996	20 June 2014
Benin	11 April 1996	4 September 2007
Botswana	9 June 1998	16 June 1999
Burkina Faso	11 April 1996	27 August 1998
Burundi	11 April 1996	15 July 2009
Cameroon	11 April 1996	28 September 2010
Cape Verde	11 April 1996	07 February 2020
Central African Republic	11 April 1996	
Chad	11 April 1996	18 January 2012
Comoros	11 April 1996	24 July 2012
Congo	27 January 1997	26 November 2013
Côte d'Ivoire	11 April 1996	28 July 1999
Dem. Rep. of Congo	11 April 1996	23 February 2022
Djibouti	11 April 1996	
Egypt	11 April 1996	
Equatorial Guinea		19 February 2003
Eritrea	11 April 1996	
Ethiopia	11 April 1996	13 March 2008
Gabon	11 April 1996	12 June 2007
Gambia	11 April 1996	16 October 1996
Ghana	11 April 1996	27 July 2011
Guinea	11 April 1996	21 January 2000
Guinea-Bissau	11 April 1996	4 January 2012
Kenya	11 April 1996	9 January 2001
Lesotho	11 April 1996	14 March 2002
Liberia	9 July 1996	
Libya	11 April 1996	11 May 2005
Madagascar		23 December 2003
Malawi	11 April 1996	23 April 2009
Mali	11 April 1996	22 July 1999
Mauritania	11 April 1996	24 February 1998
Mauritius	11 April 1996	24 April 1996
Morocco	11 April 1996	18 April 2022
Mozambique	11 April 1996	28 August 2008
Namibia	11 April 1996	1 March 2012
Niger	11 April 1996	22 February 2017
Nigeria	11 April 1996	18 June 2001
Rwanda	11 April 1996	1 February 2007
Sao Tome and Principe	9 July 1996	
Senegal	11 April 1996	25 October 2006
Seychelles	9 July 1996	23 May 2014
Sierra Leone	11 April 1996	
Somalia	23 February 2006	
South Africa	11 April 1996	27 March 1998
Sudan	11 April 1996	
Swaziland	11 April 1996	17 July 2000
Tanzania	11 April 1996	19 June 1998
Togo	11 April 1996	18 July 2000
Tunisia	11 April 1996	7 October 2009
Uganda	11 April 1996	
Zambia	11 April 1996	18 August 2010
Zimbabwe	11 April 1996	6 April 1998

"This treaty shall be open for signature by any State in the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. It shall be subject to ratification. It shall enter into force on the date of deposit of the twenty-eighth instrument of ratification."

#### Protocol I

Country	Signature	Ratification	Deposit
China	11 Apr 1996	6 Sep 1996	10 Oct 1997
France	11 Apr 1996	31 Jul 1997	10 Oct 1997
Russian Federation	5 Nov 1996	11 Mar 2011	5 Apr 2011
United Kingdom	11 Apr 1996	27 Feb 2001	12 Mar 2001
United States	11 Apr 1996		

#### Protocol II

Country	Signature	Ratification	Deposit
France	11 Apr 1996	31 Jul 1997	20 Sep 1996
China	11 Apr 1996	6 Sep 1996	10 Oct 1997
Russian Federation	5 Nov 1996	11 Mar 2011	5 Apr 2011
United Kingdom	11 Apr 1996	27 Feb 2001	12 Mar 2001
United States	11 Apr 1996		

#### Protocol III

Country	Signature	Ratification	Deposit
France	11 Apr 1996	31 Jul 1997	20 Sep 1996
Spain			

### Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

Opened for signature 8 September 2006, entered into force 21 March 2009

#### The Parties to this Treaty,

Guided by the Almaty Declaration of the Heads of State of the Central Asian States adopted on 28 February 1997; the Statement of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the five States of the region adopted at Tashkent on 15 September 1997; the United Nations General Assembly resolutions and decisions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998, 55/33 W of 20 December 2000, 57/69 of 22 November 2002, 58/518 of 8 December 2003, 59/513 of 3 December 2004 and 60/516 of 8 December 2005, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia", and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations adopted at Bishkek on 9 July 1998,

Stressing the need for continued systematic and consistent efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, and convinced that all states are obliged to contribute to that end,

Convinced that a Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone will constitute an important step toward strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, promoting cooperation in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and enhancing regional and international peace and security,

Believing that a Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone will help to promote the security of Central Asian States, particularly if the five Nuclear-Weapon States, as recognized under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1968 (hereafter referred to as the NPT) adhere to the accompanying Protocol on security assurances,

Recognizing that a number of regions, including Latin America and the Caribbean, the South Pacific, South-East Asia and Africa, have created nuclear-weapon-free zones, in which the possession of nuclear weapons, their development, production, introduction and deployment as well as use or threat of use, are prohibited, and striving to broaden such regime throughout the planet for the good of all living things,

Reaffirming the obligations set out in the NPT, the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the NPT, and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT, as well as the principles and objectives set out in the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty of 1996 (hereafter referred to as the CTBT),

Have decided to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1. Definitions and Usage of Terms

For the purposes of this Treaty and its Protocol:

(a) The "Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone" includes: the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan;

(b) "Nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device" means any weapon or other explosive device capable of releasing nuclear energy, irrespective of the military or civilian purpose for which the weapon or device could be used. The term includes such a weapon or device in unassembled or partly assembled forms, but does not include the means of transport or delivery of such a weapon or device if separable from and not an indivisible part of it;

(c) "Stationing" means implantation, emplacement stockpiling, storage, installation and deployment;

(d) "Nuclear material" means any source material or special fissionable material as defined in Article XX of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (hereinafter referred to as the IAEA), as amended from time to time by the IAEA;

(e) "Radioactive waste" means any radioactive material, i.e. any substance containing radionuclides, that will be or has already been removed and is no longer utilized, at activities and activity concentrations of radionuclides greater than the exemption levels established in international standards issued by the IAEA;

(f) "Facility" means:

(i) a reactor, a critical facility, a conversion plant, a fabrication plant, a reprocessing plant, an isotope separation plant or a separate storage installation; or

(ii) any location where nuclear material in amounts greater than one effective kilogram is customarily used.

#### Article 2. Application of the Treaty

a) The scope of application of a Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone is defined exclusively for the purposes of this Treaty as the land territory, all waters (harbors, lakes, rivers and streams) and the air space above them, which belong to the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan;

b) Nothing in this Treaty shall prejudice or in any way affect the rights of any Central Asian States in any dispute concerning the ownership of or sovereignty over lands or waters that may or may not be included within this zone.

#### Article 3. Basic Obligations

1. Each Party undertakes:

(a) Not to conduct research on, develop, manufacture, stockpile or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device by any means anywhere;

(b) Not to seek or receive any assistance in research on, development, manufacture, stockpiling, acquisition, possession or obtaining control over any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device;

(c) Not to take any action to assist or encourage the conduct of research on, development, manufacture, stockpiling, acquisition or possession of any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device;

(d) Not to allow in its territory:

(i) The production, acquisition, stationing, storage or use, of any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device;

(ii) The receipt, storage, stockpiling, installation or other form of possession of or control over any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device;

(iii) Any actions, by anyone, to assist or encourage the development, production, stockpiling, acquisition, possession of or control over any nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device.

2. Each Party undertakes not to allow the disposal in its territory of radioactive waste of other States.

#### Article 4. Foreign Ships, Aircraft, and Ground Transportation

Without prejudice to the purposes and objectives of this Treaty, each Party, in the exercise of its sovereign rights, is free to resolve issues related to transit through its territory by air, land or water,

including visits by foreign ships to its ports and landing of foreign aircraft at its airfields.

#### Article 5. Prohibition of Testing of Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices

Each Party undertakes, in accordance with the CTBT:

(a) Not to carry out any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion;

(b) To prohibit and prevent any such nuclear explosion at any place under its jurisdiction or control;

(c) To refrain from causing, encouraging, or in any way participating in the carrying out of any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion.

#### Article 6. Environmental Security

Each Party undertakes to assist any efforts toward the environmental rehabilitation of territories contaminated as a result of past activities related to the development, production or storage of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in particular uranium tailings storage sites and nuclear test sites.

#### Article 7. Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes

No provision of this Treaty shall prejudice the rights of the Parties to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

#### Article 8. IAEA Safeguards

Each Party undertakes:

(a) To use for exclusively peaceful purposes the nuclear material and facilities which are within its territory, under its jurisdiction, or under its control anywhere;

(b) To conclude with the IAEA and bring into force, if it has not already done so, an agreement for the application of safeguards in accordance with the NPT (INFCIRC/153 (Corr.)), and an Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/540 (Corr.)) not later than 18 months after the entry into force of this Treaty;

(c) Not to provide: (i) source or special fissionable material or (ii) equipment or material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material, to any non-nuclear-weapon State, unless that State has concluded with the IAEA a comprehensive safeguards agreement and its Additional Protocol referred to in paragraph (b) of this article.

#### Article 9. Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Equipment

Each Party undertakes to maintain effective standards of physical protection of nuclear material, facilities and equipment to prevent its unauthorized use or handling or theft. To that end, each Party undertakes to apply measures of physical protection to nuclear material in domestic use, transport and storage, to nuclear material in international transport, and to nuclear facilities within its territory at least as effective as those called for by the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material of 1987 and by the recommendations and guidelines developed by the IAEA for physical protection.

#### Article 10. Consultative Meetings

The Parties agree to hold annual meetings of their representatives, on a rotating basis, as well as extraordinary meetings, at the request of any Party, in order to review compliance with this Treaty or other matters related to its implementation.

#### Article 11. Settlement of Disputes

Disputes between the Parties involving the interpretation or application of this Treaty shall be settled through negotiations or by other means as may be deemed necessary by the Parties.

#### Article 12. Other Agreements

This Treaty does not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties under other international treaties which they may have concluded prior to the date of the entry into force of this Treaty. The Parties shall take all necessary measures for effective implementation of the purposes and objectives of this Treaty in accordance with the main principles contained therein.

#### Article 13. Reservations

This Treaty shall not be subject to reservations.

#### Article 14. Signature and Ratification

(a) This Treaty shall be open for signature at Semipalatinsk, the Republic of Kazakhstan, by all States of the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone: the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

(b) This Treaty shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 15. Entry into Force and Duration

(a) This Treaty shall enter into force 30 days after the date of the deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification.

(b) This Treaty shall be of unlimited duration.

#### Article 16. Withdrawal from the Treaty

(a) Any Party may, by written notification addressed to the Depositary, withdraw from the Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Treaty, have jeopardized its supreme national interests. Such notification shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme national interests.

(b) Withdrawal shall take effect 12 months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary, who shall circulate such notification to all Parties to the Treaty and to the signatories of the Protocol.

#### Article 17. Amendments

(a) Any amendment to this Treaty, proposed by a Party, shall be circulated by it to all Parties and submitted to the Consultative Meeting at least 90 days before the Meeting.

(b) Decisions on the adoption of such an amendment shall be taken by consensus of the Parties.

(c) An amendment so adopted shall enter into force for all Parties after receipt by the Depositary of the instrument of ratification of this amendment from all Parties.

#### Article 18. Depositary

(a) This Treaty shall be deposited with the Kyrgyz Republic, which is hereby designated as Depositary of this Treaty.

(b) The Depositary shall, *inter alia*:

(i) Provide an opportunity to sign this Treaty and its Protocol and receive instruments of ratification of this Treaty and its Protocol;

(ii) Register this Treaty and its Protocol pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations;

(iii) Transmit certified copies of this Treaty and its Protocol to all Parties and to all Parties to its Protocol, and notify them of signatures and ratifications of this Treaty and its Protocol.

*In witness whereof*, the undersigned, being duly authorized, have signed this Treaty.

*Done* at Semipalatinsk, the Republic of Kazakhstan, this eighth day of September, two thousand six, in one copy in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

#### Protocol

*The Parties to this Protocol,*

[Eds...]

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### Article 1. Negative Security Assurances

Each Party to this Protocol undertakes not to use or threaten to use a nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device against any Party to the Treaty.

#### Article 2. Not Contributing to Violations

Each Party to this Protocol undertakes not to contribute to any act that constitutes a violation of the Treaty or of this Protocol by Parties to them.

#### Article 3. Effect of Treaty Amendments

Each Party to this Protocol undertakes, by written notification to the Depositary, to indicate its acceptance or otherwise of any alteration to its obligation under this Protocol that may be brought about by the entry into force of amendments to the Treaty pursuant to Article 17 of the Treaty.

#### Article 4. Signature

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the French Republic, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

#### Article 5. Ratification

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification.

#### Article 6. Duration of and Withdrawal from the Protocol

(a) This Protocol is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely;

(b) Any Party to this Protocol may, by written notification addressed to the Depositary, withdraw from this Protocol if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject-matter of this Protocol, have jeopardized its supreme national interests. Such notification shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme national interests;

(c) Withdrawal shall take effect 12 months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depositary, who shall circulate such notification to all Parties to the Treaty and to the signatories of this Protocol.

#### Article 7. Entry into Force

This Protocol shall enter into force for each Party to this Protocol on the date of its deposit with the Depositary of its instrument of ratification or on the date of entry into force of the Treaty, whichever is later.

#### Rules of Procedure to Implement Article 10 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

##### Consultative Meetings of the Parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

###### 1. Consultative Meetings

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia the Parties shall hold annual meetings or extraordinary meetings in order to review compliance with the Treaty or other matters related to its implementation.

###### 2. First Consultative Meeting

2.1 The first annual consultative meeting shall take place no later than 2 months after the entry into force of the Treaty.

2.2 The first annual consultative meeting will take place in Dushanbe, the Republic of Tajikistan.

2.3 At the end of the first annual meeting, the Parties shall decide on the venue and date of the next annual meeting.

###### 3. Extraordinary Consultative Meeting

3.1 Extraordinary consultative meetings shall be convened, at the request of any Party to the Treaty, whenever that motion is seconded by two other Parties.

3.2 The motion to convene an extraordinary consultative meeting shall be transmitted through, diplomatic channels, by the initiating Party to the Party acting as Host at that time, with an explanation of the need to convene it.

3.3 The Host Party clears the holding of the meeting with all other Parties within 10 days since the receipt of the motion to convene such a meeting.

###### 4. Duration of Consultative Meetings

The duration of consultative meetings shall be normally no more than 3 days unless the Parties decide otherwise.

###### 5. Composition of Delegations

5.1 An official delegation of the Party shall consist of the head of

the delegation (or an authorized official) and his/her advisors.

5.2 The names of the members of the official delegation and the accompanying officials are communicated by the Parties to the Host Party through, diplomatic channels, normally no later than 10 days before the start of the meeting.

5.3 The composition of official delegations sent to attend consultative meetings shall not exceed the "1+3" formula.

6. The Host Party's functions and responsibilities as Chair

6.1 The Host Party, through its representative, chairs annual and extraordinary consultative meetings.

6.2 The Host Party acts as Chair until the next annual meeting.

6.3 Throughout that period, the designated Depository of the Treaty is responsible for any communications related to the implementation of Article 10 of the Treaty.

7. Decision Making

7.1 Each Party shall have one vote.

7.2 Decisions of consultative meetings shall be taken by consensus.

7.3 Decisions adopted by the Parties are reflected in the outcome documents signed by the heads of official delegations of the Parties (or authorized officials). Documents adopted at consultative meetings constitute a mandatory annex to the outcome documents.

7.4 The outcome documents are prepared in the Russian and, if needed, in the English languages.

8. Observers

With the consent of the Parties to the Treaty, the five Nuclear-Weapon States, as recognized under the NPT, as well as representatives of relevant international organization may be invited to attend annual as well as extraordinary consultative meetings as observers.

9. Working languages

English and Russian will be the working languages of annual meetings or extraordinary meetings.

10. Reporting

At the conclusion of the Consultative Meeting, the Host Country prepares a record in the Russian and, if needed, in the English languages. With the consent of all Parties to the Treaty, the record may be transmitted to all interested international organizations as well as to the observers attending the meeting.

11. Cost Sharing

The cost of holding of annual or extraordinary meetings, except transportation and accommodation, shall be borne by the Host Country.

### Status of Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (CANWFZ) and Protocols

Status on 12 March 2026

**Signed in** Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan, on 8 September 2006

**Entered into force on** 21 March 2009

**Depository:** Government of Kyrgyzstan

Country	Signature	Ratification
Kazakhstan	8 September 2006	19 February 2009
Kyrgyzstan	8 September 2006	27 July 2007
Tajikistan	8 September 2006	13 January 2009
Turkmenistan	8 September 2006	17 January 2009
Uzbekistan	8 September 2006	10 May 2007

#### Protocol

Country	Signature	Ratification
China	6 May 2014	17 August 2015

France	6 May 2014	21 November 2014
Russian Federation	6 May 2014	22 June 2015
United Kingdom	6 May 2014	30 January 2015
United States	6 May 2014	

### Declaration by Mongolia Regarding Its Nuclear-Weapon Free Status

17 September 2012

Emphasizing that in its foreign policy Mongolia sets the goal of pursuing its national interests, developing friendly cooperation with all the countries of the world as well as actively contributing, to the extent possible, to the efforts of the international community to strengthen peace and security;

Emphasizing also that with respect to its two neighbouring States Mongolia is pursuing the policy of maintaining balanced and friendly relations and developing broad cooperation;

Welcoming the Joint Declaration of the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, on Mongolia's Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status signed on 17 September 2012;

Noting in particular the intent of these states, expressed in their Joint Declaration of 17 September 2012, as long as Mongolia maintains its nuclear-weapon-free status, to respect that status and not to contribute to any act that would violate it;

Mongolia declares as follows:

1. Mongolia is pursuing a policy of refraining from joining any military alliance or grouping, or allowing the use of its territory against any other State as well as banning the stationing on its territory of foreign troops and weapons, including nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

2. Mongolia confirms that as a non-nuclear-weapons-State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons it has fully complied with, in particular, the commitments set out in Article II of that Treaty, and that, pursuant to the Law of Mongolia on its Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status, which entered into force on February 3, 2000, Mongolia also has the domestic legal status of being free from all nuclear weapons.

3. Mongolia confirms that, pursuant to Mongolia's law on its nuclear-weapon-free status, committing, initiating, or participating in the following acts or activities relating to nuclear weapons is prohibited on the territory of Mongolia:

a) developing, manufacturing, or otherwise acquiring, possessing or having control over nuclear weapons;

b) stationing or transporting nuclear weapons by any means;

c) testing or using nuclear weapons;

d) dumping or disposing of nuclear-weapons-grade radioactive material or nuclear waste;

e) transporting through the territory of Mongolia nuclear weapons, or parts or components thereof, as well as nuclear waste or any other nuclear material specially designed or produced for weapons purposes.

4. Mongolia welcomes the following texts, which constitute the elements on which Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status is based:

a) The statement concerning security assurances for Mongolia as regards nuclear weapons issued on October 5, 2000, by the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America;

b) The Joint Declaration of the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America on Mongolia's

Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status issued on 17 September 2012.

**Joint Declaration, the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America on Mongolia's Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status**

17 September 2012

The People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America;

Welcoming the declaration by Mongolia in 1992 of its nuclear-weapon-free status, and passage of the Law of Mongolia on its Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status, which entered into force on February 3, 2000;

Taking into account that the negative security assurances were given to Mongolia, as a non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), by the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America in their respective unilateral declarations issued on April 5 and 6, 1995, and referred to in the Security Council Resolution 984 (1995) of April 11, 1995, or as subsequently updated;

Recalling the statement concerning security assurances for Mongolia as regards nuclear weapons issued on October 5, 2000, by the People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America;

Taking into account Mongolia's status as a non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as its unique geographic status;

Welcoming Mongolia's policy of developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with other States;

Welcoming Mongolia's Declaration Regarding Its Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status of 17 September 2012;

Noting that the following declaration constitutes a political commitment only and does not create by itself any legal obligations;

Declare as follows:

1. The People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm to Mongolia their intent to cooperate on the implementation of General Assembly Resolution 53/77D of December 4, 1998, with respect to Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. The People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their intent to seek immediate Security Council action to provide assistance to Mongolia, as a non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of April 11, 1995, if Mongolia should become a victim of an act of aggression or an object of a threat of aggression in which nuclear weapons are used.
3. The People's Republic of China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm, in the case of Mongolia, their respective unilateral negative security assurances as stated in their declarations Issued on April 5 and 6, 1995 and referred to in Security Council Resolution 984 (1995) of April 11, 1995, or as subsequently updated.
4. The People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation recall and reconfirm the legally binding commitments undertaken by them with respect to Mongolia through the conclusion of bilateral treaties with Mongolia regarding these matters.
5. The People's Republic of China, France, the Russian

Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America affirm their intent, as long as Mongolia maintains its nuclear-weapon-free status, to respect that status and not to contribute to any act that would violate it.

**UN General Assembly Resolution  
'Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects'**

A/RES/79/241

[31 December 2024]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a qualified group of up to 25 experts, which is representative, based on the principle of equitable geographic distribution and giving due regard to gender balance, to prepare a new comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones, aimed at assessing the current status of existing and potential nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as examining options and recommendations towards strengthening existing zones and the possible establishment of new zones, including in the Middle East;
2. *Underlines* the importance of the report of the Disarmament Commission in 1999 and its annex I, on principles and guidelines for establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, in the preparation of the study;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the administrative measures necessary for the establishment of the qualified group of experts during the eightieth session of the General Assembly, including through a wide call for nominations from Member States, to work in New York for a period of three weeks divided into three meetings, with the possibility of flexible arrangements, as well as two 2-day informal consultative meetings, open-ended so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views with the Chair of the group;
4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to inform Member States that would not have experts in the group that, upon prior notification, they would have the rights of access to the meetings, of addressing the group and of submitting to it written material;
5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issues that belong to the scope of the aforementioned study and to submit a report thereon before the end of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, regional organizations, organizations of the United Nations system with a special competence in disarmament and non-proliferation, disarmament and peace-related institutes and relevant non-governmental organizations to communicate their views on the issues that belong to the scope of the aforementioned study and submit a report thereon before the end of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly;
7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the study prepared by the group of qualified experts to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session an item entitled "Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones".

**UN Press Release: Marking Thirtieth Anniversary, Commemoration of Bangkok Treaty Highlights South-East Asia's Commitment to Advancing Peace**

[15 December 2025]

Since 1995, South-East Asia has unequivocally rejected nuclear weapons. In concluding the South-East Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty in Bangkok 30 years ago, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member States reaffirmed their determination towards a region and a world free of nuclear weapons.

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, through its Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the

Pacific, in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, will convene a three-day programme in Bangkok from 15 to 17 December 2025 to commemorate this thirtieth anniversary of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty).

The commemoration will gather Government officials, diplomats, international and regional organizations, academics and youth representatives to reflect on three decades of regional commitment to maintaining South-East Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone and to discuss future pathways for strengthening the Treaty's implementation.

A central feature of this year's commemoration is the Youth Multimedia Arts Exhibition, showcasing winning works from a regional competition supported by the Youth Leader Fund for a World without Nuclear Weapons, funded by the Government of Japan. Through photography, digital media, animation and visual design, young people translate the principles of the Bangkok Treaty — and the aspiration for a world free from nuclear weapons — into compelling artistic narratives.

The official programme will open on 15 December with remarks from senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. The ceremony will also honour the regional winners of the Youth Multimedia Arts Competition.

Over the following two days, ASEAN-based Youth Leader Fund members and competition winners will join experts and practitioners for a series of skills workshops, dialogues and youth-led activities, held in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and local partners. These engagements aim to strengthen youth participation in disarmament, enhance regional networks, and translate the spirit of the Bangkok Treaty into innovative youth-driven initiatives.

The thirtieth anniversary of the Bangkok Treaty underscores the region's sustained commitment to bringing about the elimination of nuclear weapons and to advancing peace, stability and cooperation.

---

## Communiqué by the OPANAL Member States on the occasion of the 59th Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco

[14 February 2026]

---

The 33 Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL):

1. Commemorate this day the 59th Anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), which established the first Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in a densely populated area, has served as a source of inspiration for four other regions in the world and Mongolia.
2. Reiterate their deep concern over the threat to the survival of humankind posed by the existence of about 12,241 nuclear weapons<sup>1</sup>, as well as the catastrophic humanitarian impact and consequences of their use or any intentional or accidental detonation.
3. Stress their great concern about the prevalent international situation, especially the increasing threat, explicit or veiled, of use of nuclear weapons; because many of those are on alert status, in a context of geopolitical tensions and armed conflicts and threats of terrorism. Demand that States that possess this type of weapons cease the qualitative and quantitative improvement and modernization programs of their nuclear arsenals, the development of new types of such weapons and of new scenarios and procedures for the development and employment of new types of such weapons, which is inconsistent with international law, in particular with the obligation to adopt effective measures towards nuclear disarmament.
4. Condemn once again unequivocally any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, whether they be explicit or implicit and irrespective of the circumstances.
5. Demand that nuclear weapons never be used again, by any

actor and under any circumstance. This can only be assured through the prohibition and subsequent transparent, verifiable, and irreversible elimination of all nuclear weapons.

6. Reiterate that, although the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones do not constitute an end in themselves, they do represent a step towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control. Therefore, encourage the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones by means of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the respective regions.
7. Emphasize that the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones promote peace and stability at the regional and international levels by prohibiting the possession, acquisition, development, testing, manufacturing, production, stockpiling, deployment, and use of nuclear weapons; and reaffirm the priority of verifiable, irreversible, transparent and complete nuclear disarmament.
8. Reaffirm that the unequivocal and legally binding negative security assurances granted to the States belonging to Denuclearized Zones against the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons are a fundamental element for the nuclear non-proliferation regime and constitute a legitimate interest of the international community.
9. Call once again on the four States Parties to the Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco that issued interpretative declarations contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaty<sup>2</sup> and to international law, to continue examining them together with OPANAL aiming at revising or eliminating them in order to provide full and unequivocal negative security assurances to the States of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to respect the militarily denuclearized character of the region.
10. Reiterate their commitment to continue promoting the dialogue and cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones, including Mongolia. Regret that the Fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia has not been held to date, in accordance with resolution 73/71, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 December 2018.
11. Welcome the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/79/241 entitled "*Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects*", promoted by the States Parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as a contribution to the strengthening of existing nuclear weapon free zones and the establishment of new zones; and the convening of the Group of Qualified Experts by the UN Secretary-General, which is preparing the aforementioned study.
12. Commit to work constructively to the success of the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which will be held from 27 April to 22 May 2026, in New York, as this Treaty constitutes the cornerstone of the international nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament regime.
13. Take note that the First Review Conference of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), will be held from 30 November to 4 December 2026, in New York under the presidency of South Africa. Note that Latin America and the Caribbean is the region with the largest number of States Party to this international instrument, as well as that the TPNW has joined the Treaty of Tlatelolco and the NPT, on the path towards the elimination of these weapons of mass destruction in a transparent, verifiable, and irreversible manner.
14. Commend the firm conviction and permanent commitment of Latin America and the Caribbean to continue promoting complete and verifiable nuclear disarmament as a priority objective, and in manner consistent with the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace, reaffirming, in this regard, this condition in light of the current circumstances, in which the Member States reiterate their historic commitment to the principles of International Law, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, the prohibition of the use and threat of use of force, and the peaceful settlement of disputes.
15. Acknowledge that the current international environment, marked by the erosion of arms control mechanisms and the persistence of doctrines based on nuclear deterrence, calls for intensified collective efforts in support of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

