



International Atomic Energy Agency

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

IAEA-INFCIRC/399

25 February 1992

GENERAL Distr.

Original: SPANISH

DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENTS OF ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL
ON THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY
OF TLATELOLCO

The attached text of a declaration made by the Presidents of Argentina and Brazil on 14 February 1992 at a special meeting of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (OPANAL) held in Mexico City to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (the Tlatelolco Treaty) is being circulated for the information of Member States at the request of the Resident Representatives of Argentina and Brazil.

4328225

92-00710

**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA AND
THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL ON THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF
THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO**

Since assuming the office of President in our two countries we have given a fresh and powerful impetus to the adoption of a common nuclear policy, among other things in questions relating to non-proliferation. We have always been prompted by the aim of endowing our nuclear programmes with both internal and external transparency and of demonstrating to the international community the exclusively peaceful objectives which guide them, in conformity with the spirit of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the 25th anniversary of which we are celebrating today.

That programme reflects the determination and the political will of our Governments to strengthen regional and international peace and security, among other things through the adoption of clear verification mechanisms.

In that context we agreed, in the Declaration on Common Nuclear Policy signed on 28 November 1990 at Foz do Iguacu, on three concrete steps:

- The establishment of a Common System of Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials;
- The conclusion of a joint safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency; and
- The adoption of pertinent measures leading to the full entry into force for both countries of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, including whatever steps are necessary to update and improve the text of the Treaty.

The international community has been witness to the speed and efficiency with which these goals were achieved. The results are familiar to all:

- The Agreement between Argentina and Brazil for the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, signed on 18 July 1991 in the city of Guadalajara, which has already been approved by the Congresses of our two countries and ratified by the two Governments. This Agreement reflects the practical achievement of the first step; and

- The signature on 13 December 1991 of the Agreement between Argentina, Brazil, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards.

Today we are taking effective steps to fulfil the third and final commitment mentioned in the Foz do Iguazu Declaration. As soon as possible we shall be submitting for the consideration of OPANAL a number of amendments to the text of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, amendments which are highly technical in nature and which in no way affect the principles and objectives of the Treaty.

We ask all the countries of our region to grant us the support necessary to make this initiative successful, since its aim is to facilitate application of the Treaty.

We congratulate the Government of France on its decision to ratify Additional Protocol I to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, a step which should, we hope in the near future, establish definitively its legal force for the whole region for which it is intended.

All these recent developments, which point to the profound desire shared by all of us to consolidate Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone free of nuclear weapons, have led us to the common conviction that completion of the process just referred to of approving amendments to the text of the Treaty will definitively open the way to its entry into force in our countries.

In this way Argentina and Brazil are contributing clearly and positively to the establishment of a new international climate characterized by co-operation and by the creation of confidence among nations as central elements in the preservation of peace and international security.