



SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRAZILIAN-ARGENTINE AGENCY FOR ACCOUNTING AND CONTROL OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS (ABACC)

1. The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 3rd December 2011, within the framework of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), expressed their satisfaction at the twentieth anniversary of the agreements through which Argentina and Brazil affirmed their unequivocal commitment to the strictly peaceful use of nuclear energy, and created the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC).
2. They both recognized that political dialogue, transparency and mutual confidence in the nuclear field became a fundamental pillar of the relationship between Brazil and Argentina, benefitting integration and cooperation of the entire region. They also highlighted the contribution of these two factors to the consolidation of the regime of the Tlatelolco Treaty.
3. They expressed their satisfaction at the international recognition of the successful

experience of the ABACC, which constitutes an example and a strong inspiration for other regions of the world; particularly those where Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones do not exist as yet. Additionally, they highlighted the contribution of the Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones to non-proliferation and to the promotion and strengthening of nuclear disarmament.

4. They warmly welcomed the recent recognition by the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) of the safeguards agreement of the ABACC which ensures the highest guarantees regarding nuclear safeguards. They also highlighted that the NSG ratified the inalienable right of the non nuclear-armed states to have unrestricted access to exchanges related to the development of the most important or advanced nuclear technologies for peaceful uses.
5. They stressed the need for nuclear disarmament and their conviction that the existence of nuclear weapons increases the security threats of all States, including those possessing them. They expressed their expectation that the nuclear-armed countries move forward in their individual efforts to disarmament and to establish, with due rapidity, in the multilateral arena, a transparent, irreversible and verifiable schedule for nuclear disarmament.