

2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of the action plan of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Report submitted by Ecuador

Action 1 of the action plan

1. Since the first session of the General Assembly, Ecuador, in accordance with its constitution, has been a strong advocate of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. It recognizes the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of that regime.
2. In keeping with this historical tradition and its constitutional mandate, Ecuador signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty on 9 July 1968, just days after its opening for signature, and ratified it on 7 March 1969. Since then, it has participated actively in the review conferences and preparatory sessions.
3. Ecuador participated in the three Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, in Oslo, Nayarit (Mexico) and Vienna, and supported the Humanitarian Pledge presented by Austria at the Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Vienna in December 2014.
4. Ecuador co-sponsored General Assembly resolutions [70/33](#), [70/47](#), [70/48](#) and [70/50](#), concerning nuclear disarmament, which were adopted in 2015. It also participated actively in the Open-ended Working Group taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiation, convened pursuant to resolution [70/33](#), in Geneva in 2016.
5. Ecuador co-sponsored and promoted General Assembly resolution [71/258](#), adopted in 2016, by which the General Assembly decided to convene the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. It then participated actively in the two sessions of the conference, from 27 to 31 March 2017 and from 15 June to 7 July 2017. At the conclusion of the conference, Ecuador voted in favour of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The President of Ecuador signed the Treaty on 20 September 2017 and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility deposited the instrument of ratification on 25 September 2019. Ecuador considers that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons complements the



Non-Proliferation Treaty and strengthens it by setting out the legal framework for complete prohibition, thus fulfilling article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Actions 6, 7, 15 and 16

6. Ecuador, as a member of the Conference on Disarmament, has supported the efforts made to ensure that this important mechanism can adopt a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that includes, inter alia, the negotiation of a legally binding instrument providing security assurances against the use and the threat of use of nuclear weapons to non-nuclear-weapon States, and also the negotiation of an instrument on fissile materials, which should not only ban the production of fissile materials but also take into account existing stockpiles.

Action 9

7. Ecuador is part of the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), which was adopted in 1967. The Treaty was preceded by a joint letter signed in 1963 by the Presidents of five Latin American States, including Ecuador.

Actions 10–14

8. Ecuador signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty on 24 September 1996 and ratified it on 12 November 2001. Ecuador has promoted the universalization of the Treaty in all its statements on the topic, in particular by calling on the States listed in annex 2 to sign and ratify it without delay so that it can soon enter into force.

9. In accordance with its obligations under the Treaty and in an example of effective cooperation with the international verification system, Ecuador, in cooperation with the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, built an infrasound station and a radionuclide station in the Galápagos Islands to protect the environment of this natural heritage of humanity.

Action 23

10. Ecuador has, in various forums, called on all States that are not parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to accede or return to it, without conditions and as non-nuclear-weapon States.

Actions 24–29

11. Ecuador has concluded a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol thereto with the International Atomic Energy Agency, and has submitted the required periodic reports.

Action 47

12. While Ecuador does not, and does not intend to, use nuclear fission as a source of energy, it respects the right of States to make their own decisions with regard to the development of such energy sources, in accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Nevertheless, it calls for activities related to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy to be conducted with the utmost respect for the relevant international instruments, and for the safety of people and facilities and the protection of the environment to be considered priorities.

Actions 48–58

13. Ecuador supports the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the provision of technical cooperation related to the use of nuclear technologies and has received cooperation from the Agency to enable it to benefit from such technologies, in particular in the areas of health, environmental protection and the control of infestations affecting agricultural products intended for export.
