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## COMMUNICATION OF 4 JULY 1995 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHILE, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR AND PERU TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

- 1. On 12 July 1995, the Director General received from the Permanent Mission of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru a Statement of 4 July 1995 by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Permanent South Pacific Commission in response to the announcement by the President of the Republic of France regarding the resumption of nuclear testing by France in the South Pacific.
- 2. As requested by the Permanent Mission of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, the text of the Statement is being circulated for the information of Member States of the Agency.

## PERMANENT SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

## GENERAL SECRETARIAT

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Permanent South Pacific Permanent Commission, in response to the announcement by the President of the French Republic regarding the resumption of nuclear testing on the Mururoa Atoll from September 1995 until May 1996, have agreed to state:

- 1. That they deeply deplore this decision, which breaks the moratorium maintained by France since 1992; constitutes a set-back as far as the current negotiations on a complete nuclear test ban treaty are concerned and encourages nuclear rivalry by stimulating indirectly a similar stance on the part of other nuclear-weapon States;
- 2. That the decision of the French Government contradicts the spirit and objectives of the recent agreements adopted in New York, as well as the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the Tlatelolco Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- 3. That the conducting of nuclear tests in the South Pacific constitutes a potential risk for the health and safety of the populations of the coastal States, their biological resources and their environment and does not take into account the precautionary principle recognized in the Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development.

The Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru urge the French government to reconsider its decision.

Drawn up simultaneously at Santa Fe de Bogotá, Santiago de Chile, Quito and Lima on 4 July 1995.