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Argentina-Brazil Nuclear Non-Proliferation Initiatives

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Foreword

This is the third of a series of PPNN Issue Reviews. The purpose of these Reviews is to provide background material on topics related to nuclear non-proliferation and to examine associated policy options.

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Introduction

As the 1995 NPT Extension and Review Conference approaches, the nuclear non-proliferation regime faces a series of critical challenges. A successful outcome in 1995 will require not only careful preparation but also substantial evidence of non-proliferation progress in key regions. One such region is Latin America.

The Latin American region has long benefited from the existence of the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco, which established the framework for a nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ) in the area. However, the Treaty was never fully implemented because Argentina and Brazil resisted being incorporated into its remit. They also declined to become party to the other major international non-proliferation arrangements such as the NPT. This situation changed after 1988, as outlined in two previous **PPNN Studies**. Since 1990 Argentina and Brazil have embarked on a new avenue for nuclear cooperation involving innovative bilateral verification and inspection arrangements and an agreement with the IAEA for implementing full-scope safeguards in their respective territories, as described in this **Issue Review**.

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