



OPCW

Executive Council

109th Session
8 – 11 July 2025

EC-109/S/6
2 April 2025
Original: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**NOMINATION BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP
OF COSTA RICA OF A CANDIDATE FOR THE APPOINTMENT
TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

1. At its 108th Session, the Executive Council (the Council) adopted a decision on the “Road Map for the Process of the Appointment of the Next Director-General in 2025” (EC-108/DEC.5, dated 6 March 2025), requesting the Chairperson of the Council to invite, on the Council’s behalf, States Parties to present their nominations of candidates for the position of Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) by no later than 16 May 2025, to enable their consideration by the Council.
2. The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Costa Rica to the OPCW has submitted to the Technical Secretariat a note verbale informing it of the nomination by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica of H.E. Ambassador Arnoldo Brenes Castro as candidate for the position of Director-General.
3. In accordance with EC-108/DEC.5, the above-mentioned note verbale is herewith conveyed to the members of the Council.

Annex (English only):

Note Verbale No. ECRNL-2025-082 from the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Costa Rica to the OPCW Dated 2 April 2025



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. ECRNL-2025-082 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA TO THE OPCW
DATED 2 APRIL 2025**



EMBAJADA DE LA REPÚBLICA DE COSTA RICA
EN EL REINO DE LOS PAÍSES BAJOS

ECRNL-2025-082


The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Costa Rica presents its compliments to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)-Chairperson of the Executive Council, H.E Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral- and with reference to letter L/PMO-558/25 dated 10 March 2025, has the honour to convey the nomination of H.E Ambassador Arnoldo BRENES CASTRO as candidate for the position of Director General of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW.

The nomination by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica dated 31 March 2025 (reference number DM-0758-2025) and the curriculum vitae of H.E Ambassador Brenes Castro are enclosed to this communication.

This Permanent Representation kindly requests that this communication and its annexes be circulated amongst the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Costa Rica avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)-Chairperson of the Executive Council, H.E Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral- the assurances of its highest consideration.



 The Hague, 02 April 2025

**TO THE
CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
The Hague**



MINISTERIO DE
RELACIONES EXTERIORES
Y CULTO

GOBIERNO
DE COSTA RICA

DESPACHO DEL MINISTRO

San José, March 31, 2025
DM-0758-2025

**Ambassador
Andrés Terán Parral
Chairperson of the Executive Council
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**

Your Excellency, dear Ambassador Terán,

In accordance with decision EC-108/DEC.5 adopted by the Executive Council of the OPCW during the 108th Session held on 6 March 2025, as well as with your note L/PMO-558/25 of 10 March 2025, it is my great pleasure to submit the nomination of Ambassador Arnoldo BRENES CASTRO as the candidate of the Republic of Costa Rica, to be elected as the next Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Due to his vast professional experience and personal qualities, the Government of Costa Rica is confident that Ambassador Arnoldo BRENES CASTRO is uniquely well-positioned to fill this position with uttermost dedication, impartiality and efficiency. In this regard, please find attached Ambassador Brenes Castro's curriculum vitae.

The Government of Costa Rica will greatly appreciate that the candidacy of Ambassador Arnoldo BRENES CASTRO is considered by the Executive Council and all the State Parties to the OPCW in the appointment process that will conclude during the Thirtieth Session of the Conference of State Parties in November 2025.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arnoldo André Tinoco
Minister



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@cancilleriacr



Arnoldo BRENES CASTRO

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information:

Place of birth:	San José, Costa Rica
Date of birth:	January 8, 1964.
Marital status:	Married; one daughter

Education:

1993-1994	UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX Colchester, United Kingdom Master of Arts in Theory and Practice of Human Rights 1993 Oscar Arias Scholarship recipient
1983-1991	LAW SCHOOL at the UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA San Pedro, C. R. Licensed Attorney and Notary Public Graduation thesis approved with honors and recommendation of publication

Other courses:

2021	VIENNA CENTRE FOR DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION , Online Intensive Course on "Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament"
2015	UNITED NATIONS DIVISION FOR OCEAN AFFAIRS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA , Breckenridge, Colorado, U.S.A. "Training Course on the Extended Continental Shelf"
2011	INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME, UNESCO , Dominican Republic "Conflict Prevention and Cooperation in Water Management in Latin America"
2008	UNITED NATIONS DIVISION FOR OCEAN AFFAIRS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA , Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago "Training Course for Delimitation of the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf"
2005	ECOLE NATIONALE D'ADMINISTRATION , Paris, France International cycle on "Europe and Globalization"
2004	UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE , San José, Costa Rica Intensive Course on "New Forms of Security"
2004	CENTER FOR HEMISPHERIC DEFENSE STUDIES/NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY , Washington, D.C. "Interagency Coordination and Counterterrorism Seminar"

- 2000 **CENTER FOR HEMISPHERIC DEFENSE STUDIES/NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY**, Washington, DC
"Defense Planning and Resource Management" Seminar
- 1999 **TORCUATO DI TELLA UNIVERSITY/ AUTONOMOUS TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF MEXICO**, Mexico City
"Training for Civilians on Defense Policy"
- 1996 **UNIVERSITY OF LUND/ RAOUL WALLENBERG INSTITUTE**, Sweden
"Advanced Program on Human Rights"

Work Experience:

- 2000-present **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP**, San José, Costa Rica
-Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Permanent Representative to the OPCW and other international organizations based in The Netherlands (since December 2020)
-Co-Chair of the Study Group on Governance of the International Court of Justice (since 2022).
-Co-Facilitator for the Informal Consultations on Engagement with Civil Society-OPCW (2024).
-Vice-Chair of the General Committee of the OPCW-CSP (2022 and 2025).
-Representative of Costa Rica to the Inter-State Working Group to Advance Proposals for International Criminal Accountability for Documented Chemical Weapons Use (since 2024)
-Governor for Costa Rica to the Common Fund for Commodities (since 2020).
-Advisor to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (2000-2020).
-Coordinator of the *Technical-Scientific Advisory Commission on the Extension of the Continental Shelf of Costa Rica* (2009-2020).
-Coordinator of International Litigation (2005-2020).
-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the case "Land Boundary in the Northern Part of Isla Portillos (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)", International Court of Justice (2017-2018).
-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the case "Maritime Delimitation in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)", International Court of Justice (2014-2018).
-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the case "Construction of a Road in Costa Rica along the San Juan River (Nicaragua v. Costa Rica)", International Court of Justice (2011-2015).
-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the case "Certain Activities Carried Out by Nicaragua in the Border Area (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)", International Court of Justice (2010-2015).
-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the Application for Permission to Intervene in the case "Territorial and Maritime Dispute (Nicaragua v. Colombia)", International Court of Justice (2009-2010).

-Counsel and Advocate for Costa Rica in the "Case Concerning the Dispute Regarding Navigational and Related Rights (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)", International Court of Justice (2005-2009).
-Head of the Costa Rican negotiating delegation of the Costa Rica-Ecuador Maritime Boundary Treaty (2013-2014).
-Human Rights Specialist, responsible for Costa Rica's defense in the submissions presented before the Inter American Commission of Human Rights (2000-2005)
-Member of the *Foreign Service Evaluation Commission* (2002-2004)
-Member of the *International Law Advisory Commission* (since 2000)
-Member of the *Costa Rica-Nicaragua Sub-Commission on Limits and Cartography* (2002-2010)
-National Point of Contact for the *Inter American Committee against Terrorism* (2002-2007)
-Coordinator of the *Inter Institutional Commission for the Review of Costa Rica's Antiterrorism Legislation* (2002-2004)
-Secretary of Costa Rica's *Inter Institutional Commission on Terrorism* (2004-2007).

- 2007-2013 **CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT/ UNIVERSIDAD LATINA**, San José, Costa Rica
Professor of the "Human Rights and Justice in Latin America" course.
- 1999-2001 **UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE**, San José, Costa Rica
Professor at the *Masters Program on Human Rights and Peace Education* (San José, Costa Rica) and at the *Masters Program on Sustainable Environmental Tourism and Peace Promotion* (Tenerife, Spain).
- 1999-2000 **BORGE & ASOCIATES**
Director of the *Study on the Quality of the Attention to the Public of the National Police* contracted by the Government of Nicaragua.
- 1995-1999 **ARIAS FOUNDATION FOR PEACE AND HUMAN PROGRESS**. San José, C.R.
Program Officer, Coordinator of the Security and Demilitarization Program.
- 1998 International Observer to the 1998 elections in Jamaica. Mission organized by the **CARTER CENTER**.
- 1995 **UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE OF THE UNITED NATIONS**. San José, C.R.
Consultant to the "Culture of Peace and Democracy in Central America Program".
- 1988-1993 **LARA, LOPEZ, MATAMOROS, RODRIGUEZ AND TINOCO LAW FIRM**.
San José, C.R.
Private legal practice with emphasis on Immigration and Commercial Law.
- 1992 **UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE OF THE UNITED NATIONS**. San José, C.R.
Consultant to the "Human Rights and Peace Education Program in Central America".

Publications:**Books**

- 1999 **"THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES OF DEMILITARIZATION IN AFRICA"** Conference Report
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 78 pp.
- 1998 **"SOLDADOS COMO EMPRESARIOS: LOS NEGOCIOS DE LOS MILITARES EN CENTROAMÉRICA"**, Co-editor
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 185 pp.
- 1998 **"SOLDIERS AS BUSINESSMEN: THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA'S MILITARIES"**, Co-editor
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 169 pp.
- 1995 **"NECESIDADES, DERECHOS Y DEBERES HUMANOS"**
Didactic guide for the *"Culture of Peace and Democracy in Central America Program"* of the University for Peace, San José, 79 pp.
- 1992 **"UN LLAMADO A LA RESPONSABILIDAD"**
University for Peace-Ministerio de Gobernación, Guatemala, 145 pp.

Articles

- 2020 **EL NUEVO TRATADO DE LÍMITES MARÍTIMOS ENTRE LA REPÚBLICA DEL ECUADOR Y LA REPÚBLICA DE COSTA RICA**
Article in *Revista Costarricense de Política Exterior*, Number 33, May
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, San José, 14 pp.
- 2020 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR ON MARITIME DELIMITATION**
Report Number 3-8 (2) en *International Maritime Boundaries*, Vol VIII, 11 pp.
- 2005 **LA CONVENCION INTERAMERICANA CONTRA EL TERRORISMO Y LA LEGISLACION COSTARRICENSE**
Article in *Revista Costarricense de Política Exterior*, Volume V, Number 1, August
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, San José, 24 pp.
- 2003 **REFLEXIONES SOBRE LA SEGURIDAD Y LA DEFENSA**
Article in *Revista Costarricense de Política Exterior*, Volume III, Number 1, August
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, San José, 12 pp.
- 2003 **SOLDIERS AS BUSINESSMEN: THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA'S MILITARIES**, Co-author
Article in *The Military as an Economic Actor*
Palgrave-Macmillan, England

- 1999 **“LA DESMILITARIZACIÓN TOTAL COMO UN NUEVO PARADIGMA DE SEGURIDAD EN CENTROAMERICA”**
Article in the *Diálogo Centroamericano* Bulletin N° 38, March-May
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 3 pp.
- 1998 **“EL COMERCIO DE ARMAS Y LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS”**
Article in the *Diálogo Centroamericano* Bulletin N° 35, November-December
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 5 pp.
- 1998 **“AMENAZAS A LA SEGURIDAD EN CENTROAMERICA: ¿SE JUSTIFICAN LAS RESPUESTAS MILITARES?”**
Article in the *Diálogo Centroamericano* Bulletin N° 34, Octubre
Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, San José, 7 pp.
- 1991 **“SOME JURIDICAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE DECLARATION OF HUMAN RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PEACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”**
Article in “*Seeking the True Meaning of Peace, Conference Proceedings and Post- Conference Contributions*”, University for Peace Press, San José, 20 pp.

Distinctions:

PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION

Appointed 20 November 2019, renewed 20 March 2025.

SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALER ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM, OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

Knight of Magistral Grace, accepted on October 9, 2001.

INSTITUTO HISPANO-LUSO-AMERICANO DE DERECHO INTERNACIONAL.

Associate, elected on December 7, 2012

Languages: Fluent in Spanish and English; advanced level in French (DEL F 2nd Degree, DALF B1 and B2).

Special

Interests: Peace, Human Rights, International Relations, International Law, International Security, Disarmament, Philosophy, Compared Religion.