

Information Circular

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Communication dated 3 October 2022 received from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the Agency

1. The Secretariat has received a Note Verbale dated 3 October 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the Agency.

2. As requested, the Note Verbale, together with its attachments, is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.

MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

AUA04601/22

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and has the honour to request that an IAEA INFCIRC be published on the outcomes of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which took place from 21 to 23 June 2022, in Vienna, Austria, namely, the Declaration entitled "Our commitment to a world free of nuclear weapons", and the Vienna Action Plan.

This INFCIRC is requested on behalf of the TPNW troika of outgoing and incoming presidents of the meetings of States parties, Austria, Mexico and Kazakhstan.

The Permanent Mission of Mexico avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 3 October 2022



TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

VIENNA

Annex I

Declaration of the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Our commitment to a world free of nuclear weapons¹

1. We, the States parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,² have gathered here for the first Meeting of States Parties to mark the entry into force of the Treaty, to reaffirm our determination to realize the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and to chart our path forward for the full and effective implementation of the Treaty. We welcome the broad participation of signatory States and observers, as well as other observers, civil society representatives and survivors of nuclear weapons use and testing.

2. We celebrate the entry into force of the Treaty on 22 January 2021. Nuclear weapons are now explicitly and comprehensively prohibited by international law, as has long been the case for biological and chemical weapons. We welcome that the Treaty fills this gap in the international legal regime against weapons of mass destruction and reaffirm the need for all States to comply at all times with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law.

3. We reiterate the moral and ethical imperatives which inspired and motivated the creation of the Treaty and which now drive and guide its implementation:

- That the establishment of a legally binding prohibition on nuclear weapons constitutes a fundamental step towards the irreversible, verifiable and transparent elimination of nuclear weapons needed for the achievement and maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons and, hence, for the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
- That the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons cannot be adequately addressed, transcend national borders, pose grave implications for human survival and well-being and are incompatible with respect for the right to life. They inflict destruction, death and displacement, as well as profound long-term damage to the environment, socioeconomic and sustainable development, the global economy, food security and the health of current and future generations, including with regard to the disproportionate impacts they have on women and girls.
- That all States share the responsibility to achieve nuclear disarmament, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, to prevent any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and to assist victims, redress the harms and remediate the environmental damage caused by previous use and testing of nuclear-armed States in accordance with their respective obligations under international law and bilateral agreements.
- That the risk of a nuclear weapon detonation by accident, miscalculation or design concerns the security of all humanity and achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world serves both national and collective security interests.
- That the risks posed to all humanity by the existence of nuclear weapons are, thus, so grave that immediate action is needed to achieve a world without

¹ Adopted by the Meeting at its 6th plenary meeting, on 23 June 2022.

² A/CONF.229/2017/8.

nuclear weapons. This is the only way to guarantee that they are never used again, under any circumstances. We cannot afford to wait.

4. We are alarmed and dismayed by threats to use nuclear weapons and increasingly strident nuclear rhetoric. We stress that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is a violation of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations. We condemn unequivocally any and all nuclear threats, whether they be explicit or implicit and irrespective of the circumstances.

5. Far from preserving peace and security, nuclear weapons are used as instruments of policy, linked to coercion, intimidation and heightening of tensions. This highlights now more than ever the fallacy of nuclear deterrence doctrines, which are based and rely on the threat of the actual use of nuclear weapons and, hence, the risks of the destruction of countless lives, of societies, and of nations, and of inflicting global catastrophic consequences. We thus insist that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, all nuclear-armed States never use or threaten to use these weapons under any circumstances.

6. We remain gravely concerned that nine States still possess between them approximately 13,000 nuclear weapons and by security doctrines, which set out rationales for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. Many of these weapons are on high alert and ready to be launched within minutes. We are further concerned that some non-nuclear-armed States continue to advocate for nuclear deterrence and encourage the ongoing possession of nuclear weapons. Growing instability and outright conflict greatly exacerbate the risks that these weapons will be used, whether deliberately or by accident or miscalculation. The existence of nuclear weapons diminishes and threatens the common security of all States; indeed, it threatens our very survival.

7. We regret and are deeply concerned that, despite the terrible risks, and despite their legal obligations and political commitments to disarm, none of the nuclear-armed States and their allies under the nuclear umbrella are taking any serious steps to reduce their reliance on nuclear weapons. Instead, all nuclear-armed States are spending vast sums to maintain, modernize, upgrade or expand their nuclear arsenals and are placing a greater emphasis on and increasing the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines. We strongly call for an immediate end to these disconcerting trends. We underscore that these resources could be better utilized for sustainable development.

8. In these circumstances, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is needed more than ever. We will move forward with its implementation, with the aim of further stigmatizing and delegitimizing nuclear weapons and steadily building a robust global peremptory norm against them.

9. Together, we are developing the mechanisms of the Treaty. We will discharge our national obligations in full. We will work in partnership with the United Nations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, other international and regional organizations, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and other non-governmental organizations, religious leaders, parliamentarians, academics, indigenous peoples, victims of the use of nuclear weapons (hibakusha), as well as those affected by nuclear testing and youth groups. We recognize and appreciate their valuable contribution to taking forward nuclear disarmament. We will continue to draw on the expertise of leading scientists and consult and work inclusively with affected communities.

10. The humanitarian spirit of the Treaty is reflected in its positive obligations, aimed at redressing the harm caused by nuclear weapons use and testing. We will strengthen international cooperation among States parties to advance the

implementation of the positive obligations of this Treaty. We will work with affected communities to provide age- and gender-sensitive assistance without discrimination to survivors of the use or testing of nuclear weapons, and to remediate environmental contamination. We emphasize the innovative gender provisions of the Treaty and stress the importance of the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men in nuclear disarmament diplomacy.

11. We will work to build the membership of the Treaty in all regions. We will harness the public conscience in support of our goal of universal adherence to the Treaty and its full implementation. We will work to implement the Action Plan that we have adopted to guide our efforts to achieve the objectives and goals of the Treaty. We will meet regularly to review the implementation of the Treaty and we will identify any additional measures to strengthen the Treaty and move nuclear disarmament forward.

12. We will also work with States outside the Treaty. We recognize the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons³ as the cornerstone of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and deplore threats or actions that risk undermining it. As fully committed States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, we reaffirm the complementarity of the Treaty with the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We are pleased to have advanced the implementation of article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty by bringing into force a comprehensive legal prohibition of nuclear weapons, as a necessary and effective measure related to the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament. We urge all States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to reinvigorate their efforts to fully implement the obligation of article VI and the actions and commitments agreed at Non-Proliferation Treaty review conferences. We reiterate our commitment to work constructively with all States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to achieve our shared objectives.

13. We will continue to support all measures that can effectively contribute to nuclear disarmament. These include efforts to bring into force the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,⁴ interim measures to reduce the risk of use and threat of use of nuclear weapons, further development of disarmament verification measures, strengthening negative security assurances and a legal instrument prohibiting fissile material for the production for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices. We pledge to continue collaborating with nuclear-weapon-free zones, affirming that the prohibitions, obligations and objectives of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons are fully compatible with and complementary to the treaties establishing these zones.

14. We pledge to highlight further the urgency of nuclear disarmament, the important evidence regarding the humanitarian consequences and risks posed by the existence of nuclear weapons in all relevant disarmament and non-proliferation processes and to the global public more widely. The prevention of these consequences must be at the centre of our collective efforts to achieve and maintain a world without these weapons.

15. We urge all States to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons without delay. We appeal to those States that are not yet ready to take this step to engage cooperatively with the Treaty and work with us in support of our shared goal of a world free of nuclear weapons. We deplore the actions of some nuclear-armed States to discourage non-nuclear-armed States from joining the Treaty. We suggest that the energy and resources of these States would be better directed to making concrete progress towards nuclear disarmament. This would truly contribute to

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

⁴ See General Assembly resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

sustainable peace, security and development for all. We would welcome and celebrate such progress.

16. We have no illusions about the challenges and obstacles that lie before us in realizing the aims of this Treaty, but we move ahead with optimism and resolve. In the face of the catastrophic risks posed by nuclear weapons and in the interest of the very survival of humanity, we cannot do otherwise. We will take every path that is open to us and work persistently to open those that are still closed. We will not rest until the last State has joined the Treaty, the last warhead has been dismantled and destroyed and nuclear weapons have been totally eliminated from the Earth.

Annex II

Vienna Action Plan¹

1. This Action Plan was adopted by the States parties at the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022.

2. The purpose of this Action Plan is to facilitate effective and timely implementation of the Treaty and its objectives and goals following the first Meeting of States Parties. The Plan sets out concrete steps and actions and elaborates on roles and responsibilities. The actions are designed to guide States parties and other relevant actors in the practical implementation of the Treaty, and thus to support States parties in meeting their obligations and furthering the objective and purpose of the Treaty in a cooperative spirit among States parties and other involved stakeholders.

3. Implementation and universalization of the Treaty are essential to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons and to addressing the harm caused by nuclear weapons to people and the environment.

4. With the following actions, the States parties establish a framework to guide the implementation of the Treaty and set in motion processes to develop further areas of cooperation and implementation across the different provisions of the Treaty. The Vienna Action Plan details the actions that States parties will take during the intersessional period, primarily in preparation for the second Meeting of States Parties but also beyond, in order to support implementation and universalization of the Treaty.

I. Universalization (article 12)

5. Article 12 of the Treaty requires State parties to encourage States not party to the Treaty to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty, with the goal of universal adherence of all States to the Treaty.

6. The situations and positions of States currently outside the Treaty differ widely. They include States already adhering to nuclear-weapon-free zones or having comparable national laws in place, States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons that do not possess nuclear weapons, and States currently relying on nuclear weapons for their security, including nuclear hosting States as well as nuclear-armed States. These differences need to be taken into account in implementing the universalization obligation stipulated in article 12. Therefore, universalization efforts are understood broadly, including through increasing signatures and ratifications, as well as promoting the underlying rationale of the total elimination of nuclear weapons owing to their inherent risks and catastrophic humanitarian consequences. Universalization should serve as a strategy to maximize the authority of the core norms and principles of the Treaty in international politics.

To this end, States parties resolve:

Action 1: To make universalization efforts a priority of States parties. These efforts should focus on increasing the number of signatures and ratifications, as well as actively engaging in promoting the norms, values and underlying arguments of the Treaty, such as concern about the inherent risks and catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, and the Treaty's effective contribution towards disarmament and international peace and security.

¹ Adopted by the Meeting at its 6th plenary meeting, on 23 June 2022.

Action 2: To call upon all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible.

Action 3: To promote universalization, including through ministerial or diplomatic démarches or outreach visits, either on their own or in a group of Treaty supporters, to capitals of non-States parties or at regional or other relevant organizations, highlighting the value of the Treaty and the political, legal and practical importance of signature and ratification.

Action 4: To explore potential areas in which further information to facilitate accession to the Treaty might be necessary, and potentially explore options to fill these gaps.

Action 5: To share best practices and provide technical support for the ratification process, for example through capacity-building activities, such as workshops and seminars, to explain the provisions of the Treaty in detail and help to clarify the steps that a prospective State party would have to undertake to implement the Treaty. To that end, parties will endeavour to utilize existing regional and multilateral frameworks, as feasible.

Action 6: To appoint within 60 days national contact points for facilitating the implementation of article 12.

Action 7: To raise awareness of the Treaty at international conferences and regional workshops and seminars, as well as through the commissioning of studies and publications to promote the case for the Treaty.

Action 8: To make every effort to increase the number of States voting in favour of the relevant resolutions before the General Assembly as a positive step in support of the Treaty.

Action 9: To highlight the importance of the Treaty in statements, including at the political level, through joint regional or cross-regional statements, and resolutions and in all relevant forums, including organs of the United Nations disarmament machinery.

Action 10: To highlight the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, the risks associated with these weapons and the legal and ethical questions regarding the use and the threat of use of nuclear weapons and the practice of nuclear deterrence.

Action 11: To cooperate with affected States not party to the Treaty to advance the objectives of the Treaty and to facilitate adherence to the Treaty.

Action 12: To engage with those States that for the moment remain committed to nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence, inter alia, by providing opportunities for dialogue, highlighting the underlying rationale of the Treaty and the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and their inherent risks, and pursuing a fact-based approach in engaging with concerns or criticisms about the Treaty.

Action 13: To encourage and support involvement and active cooperation of all relevant partners and, to the extent possible, coordinate these universalization efforts to facilitate domestic ratification processes. These partners include the United Nations and the Secretary-General, including United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, other international institutions and organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and other non-governmental organizations as well as parliamentarians and interested citizens.

Action 14: To share information on their universalization activities within the Treaty through reports to Meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences, updates to the informal contact group on universalization or other appropriate means.

II. Towards the elimination of nuclear weapons (article 4)

7. Article 4 of the Treaty is one of the fundamental precepts that establish this legal instrument as a disarmament treaty and as part of the broader disarmament legal architecture. To achieve its disarmament goal, the Treaty envisages the designation of a competent international authority or authorities, with particular negotiation and verification mandates. This reflects the awareness of the negotiators of the Treaty that implementing article 4 is a substantial endeavour that should be undertaken in a considered and holistic manner.

8. There is no requirement for the designation of a competent international authority or authorities by the first Meeting of States Parties or by the entry into force of the Treaty for a State party to which article 4 (1) or article 4 (2) applies. In this early stage of implementation of the Treaty, further reflection and work on developing such a mechanism with the input of State parties, as well as relevant scientific and technical input, is the most substantive and meaningful way to approach the implementation of these provisions.

To this end, States Parties resolve:

Action 15: To pursue further discussions during the intersessional period towards developing a coherent approach on matters related to a competent international authority or authorities, from the general obligations of States parties to the specific mandate of the international authority or authorities, and providing guidance for the designation of authorities.

Action 16: To designate within 90 days national contact points with regard to the designation of the competent international authority or authorities.

Action 17:To elaborate during the intersessional period on the specific requirements of extension requests related to article 4 of the Treaty for nucleararmed States' destruction of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in their ownership, possession or control (article 4 (2)) and for the removal of such weapons or devices from nuclear hosting States (article 4 (4)). This intersessional process should be based upon or informed by advice from the Scientific Advisory Group and information from relevant international technical agencies.

Action 18: To commit their best efforts to advancing and supporting progress on nuclear disarmament verification, while recognizing that verification is not an end in itself, nor a substitute for nuclear disarmament, but a positive enabler for progress on disarmament.

III. Victim assistance, environmental remediation and international cooperation and assistance (articles 6 and 7)

9. The Treaty's positive obligations are central to the humanitarian goals of the Treaty. They aim to address the harm from past use and testing of nuclear weapons as well as the ongoing and expected future harm from the resulting contamination. Articles 6 and 7 draw on similar provisions in other humanitarian disarmament treaties but they are the first of their kind in a nuclear weapons treaty. These articles are designed to address the human and environmental effects of nuclear weapons and

to provide affected States parties with technical, material and financial support to further the implementation of the Treaty.

To this end, States parties resolve:

Action 19: To engage with relevant stakeholders, including international organizations, civil society, affected communities, indigenous peoples, and youth, and work cooperatively to advance the effective and sustainable implementation of articles 6 and 7. In particular, they will closely consult with, actively involve, and disseminate information to, affected communities at all stages of the victim assistance and environmental remediation process.

Action 20: To engage and promote information exchange with States not party to the Treaty that have used or tested nuclear weapons, or any other nuclear explosive devices, on their provision of assistance to affected States parties for the purpose of victim assistance and environmental remediation.

Action 21: To establish national focal points for articles 6 and 7, with appropriate contact details for consultations, no later than three months after the first Meeting of States Parties.

Action 22: To adopt or adapt and implement relevant national laws and policies on articles 6 and 7, where appropriate.

Action 23: To coordinate and develop mechanisms, where needed, to facilitate the provision, by States parties in a position to do so, of the international cooperation and technical, material and financial assistance that affected States parties may require to implement the Treaty's victim assistance and environmental remediation provisions. Mechanisms should match needs, which may arise at any stage of implementing article 6, with offers of assistance.

Action 24: To cooperate with the United Nations system, relevant international, regional or national organizations or institutions, relevant non-governmental organizations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, and bilaterally, as appropriate, in the development of their implementation framework.

Action 25: To conduct all victim assistance, environmental remediation and international cooperation and assistance activities in accordance, in particular, with the principles of accessibility, inclusivity, non-discrimination and transparency and in coordination with affected communities, and provide victim assistance in a manner that is age- and gender-sensitive, given the disproportionate impact of nuclear weapons use and testing on women and girls and indigenous people.

Action 26: To review the implementation framework as well as implementation of articles 6 and 7 regularly, in particular as new information emerges and situations evolve, and draw, as appropriate, on lessons from implementation measures for positive obligations in other treaty regimes.

Action 27: To recognize the importance of information exchange for the implementation of articles 6 and 7. To this end, consulting with, and bearing in mind the needs and constraints of, affected States, States parties will develop guidelines for voluntary reporting on national measures related to victim assistance, environmental remediation and international cooperation and assistance, including deadlines, as appropriate. In the development of these guidelines, States parties will draw on the input of relevant stakeholders, including international organizations, civil society, affected communities, indigenous peoples, and youth.

Action 28: To consider developing a voluntary and a non-burdensome format for reporting during the intersessional period before the second Meeting of States Parties, in close cooperation with States concerned, taking into account best practices for reporting under other disarmament treaties. For affected States parties, such reports could include the effects of nuclear weapons in their territory, their progress in implementing the Treaty's victim assistance and environmental remediation obligations and where they may need external support. Other States parties could report on what international cooperation and assistance they have provided and on their outreach to States not party in support of their objectives of articles 6 and 7.

Action 29: To discuss the feasibility of, and propose possible guidelines for, establishing an international trust fund for States that have been affected by the use or testing of nuclear weapons, taking into account relevant precedents for such a trust fund. The purpose of such a fund would be, inter alia, to provide aid to assist survivors and to support measures toward environmental remediation.

States parties affected by nuclear weapons use or testing resolve:

Action 30: To assess the effects of nuclear weapons use and testing with respect to areas under their jurisdiction or control, including, in particular, the needs of victims and contamination of the environment, as well as national capacities to address them. Initial assessments could focus on gathering existing knowledge about ongoing and expected effects, and current and planned responses to date, and determining what additional information is needed. These initial assessments should be completed by and shared with the second Meeting of States Parties.

Action 31: To develop national plans for implementation of their victim assistance and environmental remediation obligations, which include budgets and time frames. Such plans could be integrated into existing frameworks to increase efficiency, and international cooperation and assistance should be provided where needed to reduce the burden on affected States parties. Affected States parties should share their progress with the second Meeting of States Parties.

States parties in a position to do so resolve:

Action 32: To act upon their obligation under article 7 (3) to assist those States parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support, by contributing to the mobilization of resources and the provision of technical, material and financial assistance to States parties affected by nuclear weapons use or testing, to further the implementation of this Treaty.

IV. Institutionalizing scientific and technical advice for the effective implementation of the Treaty

10. Further enriching knowledge of the humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons and a shared understanding of the risks of nuclear weapons as well as technical guidance for the implementation of article 4 will be important to ensure the effective implementation of the Treaty. The establishment of the Scientific Advisory Group aims to assist States parties in implementing the Treaty and in strengthening the credibility of the implementation process.

To this end, States parties resolve:

Action 33: To support the work of the Scientific Advisory Group, including through the appointment of recognized experts drawn from the broadest possible pool in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and/or the humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons, and the

requisite humanitarian response, active at relevant institutions and universities on the basis of their expertise in the particular scientific fields relevant to the implementation of the Treaty.

Action 34: To identify and engage scientific and technical experts and institutions in States parties to the Treaty by the second Meeting of States Parties and, through the Scientific Advisory Group, establish a geographically diverse and gender-balanced network of experts to support the goals of the Treaty.

V. Relationship of the Treaty with the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime

11. While the Treaty is a stand-alone legally binding instrument, it builds upon, contributes to and complements a rich and diverse disarmament and non-proliferation architecture. In order to highlight and underscore these complementarities with specific disarmament instruments, particularly the Non-Proliferation Treaty, States parties resolve:

Action 35: To emphasize the complementarity of the Treaty with the existing disarmament and non-proliferation regime at appropriate opportunities, including preparatory meetings and review conferences of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and with relevant multilateral nuclear disarmament-related initiatives and groupings.

Action 36: To appoint an informal facilitator or facilitators to further explore and articulate the possible areas of tangible cooperation between the Treaty and the Non-Proliferation Treaty during the intersessional period, and provide support for the efforts of the informal facilitator or facilitators.

Action 37: To cooperate with other international bodies, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in order to enhance cooperation, including in the areas of nuclear safeguards and verification. Such cooperation should enhance the complementarity between the Treaty, the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Test-Ban Treaty.

Action 38: To continue to work together on outreach projects in order to raise awareness, not only among Governments, but also with civil society, academia, parliamentarians and the general public, including youth organizations, so as to highlight the complementarity between the Treaty and the existing disarmament and non-proliferation regime, including nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties.

VI. Other matters essential for achieving the aims of the Treaty

Principles of inclusivity and cooperation among stakeholders in the implementation of the Treaty

States parties resolve:

Action 39: To meet their obligations in the Treaty's established spirit of cooperation, inclusivity and transparency, and to integrate gender considerations across the work of the Treaty's implementation.

Action 40: To cooperate closely with the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, academia, affected communities and other civil society organizations.

Action 41: To facilitate the active participation of relevant stakeholders and take into account the different needs of people in affected communities and indigenous people and ensure strong ownership by all States parties.

Action 42: To contribute on a voluntary basis to initiatives to facilitate widespread representation at meetings of the Treaty.

Additional aspects of support for Treaty implementation

12. The effective functioning and full implementation of the Treaty have been enhanced through the decisions taken at the first Meeting of States Parties to establish an intersessional structure that takes into account the requirements and resources available in this early phase of the Treaty.

States parties resolve:

Action 43: To support the efforts of the Coordination Committee and the informal working groups in their coordination of the intersessional work between Meetings of States Parties.

Action 44: To continue to reaffirm the valuable role of the United Nations in providing support to Meetings of States Parties.

Action 45: To enhance and make use of synergies between the Treaty and other relevant instruments of disarmament and of international humanitarian and human rights law to which States parties to the Treaty are party.

Transparency and exchange of information

States parties resolve:

Action 46: To fulfil their obligation to provide initial declarations under article 2 without delay.

Implementing the gender provisions of the Treaty

13. As States parties move forward with Treaty implementation, they should reflect on the gender-related provisions of the Treaty and consider specific implementation actions to operationalize them.

To this end, States parties resolve:

Action 47: To emphasize the gender-responsive nature of the Treaty and recommend that gender considerations be taken into account across all Treaty-related national policies, programmes and projects.

Action 48: To establish a gender focal point to work during the intersessional period to support the implementation of the gender provisions of the Treaty and report on progress made to the second Meeting of States Parties.

Action 49: To begin work during the intersessional period to develop guidelines for ensuring age- and gender-sensitive victim assistance, taking into account relevant approaches in other humanitarian disarmament instruments.

Action 50: To begin work during the intersessional period to develop guidelines for the integration of gender perspectives in international cooperation and assistance, taking into account relevant approaches in other humanitarian disarmament instruments.