

# National implementation of TPNW articles 6 and 7: Recommendations towards the 2MSP

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#### Vienna Action Plan commitments

States parties resolve:

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

#### Vienna Action Plan commitments

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.

#### Vienna Action Plan commitments

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.

- All states parties with individuals or areas known to be affected by nuclear weapons use or testing should share initial assessments and progress on plans with the 2MSP
- Assessments and plans have practical value, including for requesting assistance
- They are a tool for applying the TPNW's humanitarian/human rights lens to national situations

Initial assessments and progress on national plans should:

- Be produced in close consultation with affected communities and consulting other stakeholders (Vienna Action Plan action 19)
- Indicate what is known so far about impacts and responses and gaps in knowledge, outline plans made to date
- Indicate next steps, known needs for international cooperation and assistance, and how SPs will involve stakeholders considering factors in marginalisation (recalling action 19, 25, TPNW preamble, article 6)
- Be shared for consultation before presenting at 2MSP and made accessible when finalised (recalling actions 19, 25)

#### In sharing information:

- Consider piloting voluntary reporting template
- Work may involve signposting to existing documents
- To elaborate next steps, recommend states present an initial national strategy document to 2MSP, to be developed and reported on at 3MSP
- Ensure documentation is accessible

#### In looking at existing knowledge:

- Take the holistic approach in article 6 and a broad definition of 'victims' (see ICRC) to consider what harms are known/under studied
- Share the basis/methodology of studies and data
- Review how age, gender and marginalisation have been considered (recalling article 6, TPNW preamble)
- Look at what expertise may be underrepresented (recalling action 19)
- Ensure close consultation with affected communities and engagement of other stakeholders (recalling action 19)

#### Looking at existing responses

- Consider to what extent these address the full range of impacts
- Examine how responses compare to the holistic approach to victim assistance in article 6
- Review how age and gender sensitivity and non-discrimination are treated in current responses (recalling article 6)
- Ensure close consultation with affected communities and engagement of other stakeholders (recalling action 19)

- Looking at all these aspects informs analysis of gaps, needs and so next steps
- It also should inform the identification of challenges and requests for international cooperation and assistance

# Recommendations: international cooperation and assistance

- Share expertise or technical assistance on national plans (action 31)
- Share any information they hold that could assist affected states with their activities
- Consider piloting the draft voluntary reporting template to share international cooperation and assistance activities and plans with 2MSP

#### Recommendations: all states

• Share at 2MSP any steps since 1MSP or entry into force that are relevant to implementing articles 6 and 7 e.g. new laws adopted relevant to victim assistance/environmental remediation, international assistance under other frameworks/bodies

#### Recommendation: Further discussion

- Recommend states parties hold further intersessional discussion on national implementation
- States parties should be invited to further share on their national situations and current work, and representatives of affected communities to give their input and perspectives