Model pledges

Parliament and parliamentarians

NHRI and NPM

Other national institutions and mechanisms

*All participants – including institution/mechanism s, CSOs, international and regional organizations and mechanisms, national human rights institutions, academic institutions, experts and other professionals – are encouraged to register pledges to demonstrate their commitment to the global fight against enforced disappearance and readiness to take action.*

*Pledges will also allow to make and measure progress towards the goal of eliminating enforced disappearance everywhere in the world.*

*Pledges’ content should fulfil the following criteria:*

* *Pursue the overall goal i.e. the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance;*
* *Be developed in consultation with stakeholders, especially victims;*
* *Be action-oriented and outline concrete actions;*
* *institution/mechanism clear, measurable commitment(s);*
* *Provide a timeframe.*

*To facilitate the drafting process, these model pledges have been provided by the WCED team. Pledging entities are invited to pick the elements that best correspond to their situation and adapt the model texts to their individual priorities and contexts.*

*The list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. Please feel free to use it as guide.*

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# Strengthening legal and institutional frameworks to fight against impunity and ensure accountability

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support and advocate for the ratification and domestication of the Convention, as well as the recognition of CED's competence, to ensure that the appropriate legal framework for the prohibition and criminalization of enforced disappearances, and redress for victims, is in place.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.6 and 5.7 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: Documented interactions with government officials, including the frequency and nature of meetings, issues discussed, and any commitments or actions taken by officials in response to such engagement. Evaluation of the changes in government attitudes or policies towards ratification over time, as well as towards domestic criminalisation and appropriate penalties for the crime of enforced disappearances.

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism commits to engage its human (staff, experts, etc.) and other resources to leverage the expertise of regional and international human rights mechanisms working on the issue of enforced disappearances; partner with civil society actors for joint advocacy; strengthen relationships with government officials; prepare briefing materials and organize advocacy and sensitisation meetings; facilitate advocacy visits of international mechanisms on enforced disappearances; and in ensuring the overall objective is achieved.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Consult and involve civil society, including victims and their families, and the NHRI in processes related to the ratification and domestication of the Convention.

*The pledge refers to activity 5.11 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the recognition of the competence of the Committee against Enforced Disappearances to examine individual and inter-institution/mechanism communications (articles 31 and 32 of the Convention).

*The pledge refers to activities 1.2 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the development of a plan to implement the Convention, including taking concrete measures to ensure that the appropriate legal framework, policies and practices for the prohibition and criminalization of enforced disappearances and the protection of the rights of victims, are in place.

*The pledge refers to activity 1.3 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the adoption of legislation to make enforced disappearance a separate offence; making a clear distinction from other concepts such as abduction, kidnapping, disappearance and missing person.

*The pledge refers to activities 1.3.1 and 5.5 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the adoption of legislation to recognize the status of “disappeared person” and provide family members with a “certificate of absence".

*The pledge refers to activity 1.3.2 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the strengthening of the legal framework at domestic level by adopting legislation focused on the protection of family members, human rights defenders, civil society actors, journalists and anyone working on the issue of enforced disappearances, whenever relevant.

*The pledge refers to activities 4.1, and 4.3 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the establishment of strong safeguards and mechanisms to protect victims (including family members) and those who assist them (including witnesses in relevant processes) from reprisals.
* Support the mandate of international mechanisms set up to protect against reprisals.

*The pledge refers to activities 4.2 and 4.5 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the establishment of a nationwide register of disappeared persons, accessible to all relevant stakeholders.

*The pledge refers to activity 2.6 and 2.7 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the allocation of the means necessary to ensure efficient search processes.

*The pledge refers to activity 2.5 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

# Empowering victims

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Ensure that a gender-based perspective and the rights of persons in vulnerable situations are fully integrated in actions and strategies related to the prevention of and protection from enforced disappearance.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.2 and 3.3 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Consult and involve civil society (including victims, their families and their representatives) in relevant processes and efforts.

*The pledge refers to activity 5.11 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Ensure that victims have access to proper legal support; and promote access to legal remedies at the national, regional and international levels.

*The pledge refers to activity 3.6 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Monitor the access of all persons deprived of liberty to a lawyer from the first moment after arrest.

*The pledge refers to activity 4.4 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the access of victims to adequate socio-economic and psychosocial support that takes into account the specificity of human rights violations related to enforced disappearances; and its disproportionate impact on women, children, and other vulnerable groups.

*The pledge refers to activity 3.7 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: Number of interactions with victims and families of victims of enforced disappearances. Monitoring reparation efforts for victims and their families including the right to know the truth; satisfaction, rehabilitation (particularly psychosocial support), compensation and restitution; guarantees of non-recurrence including investigation and prosecution of perpetrators.

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism commits to engage its human resources including human rights experts and psychologists, to support victims and families of victims of enforced disappearances; and to collaborate with civil society and other partners to set up a referral pathway for comprehensive support, and other resources (funding for research, data collection tools, and comprehensive support for victims and their families) in ensuring the overall objective is achieved.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the establishment an implementation of programmes of integral reparations for victims and their families – including fair and adequate compensation, restitution, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

*The pledge refers to activity 7.3 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: Number of interactions with victims and families of victims of enforced disappearances. Monitoring reparation efforts for victims and their families including the right to know the truth; satisfaction, rehabilitation (particularly psychosocial support), compensation and restitution; guarantees of non-recurrence including investigation and prosecution of perpetrators.

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism commits to engage its human resources including human rights experts and psychologists, to support victims and families of victims of enforced disappearances; and to collaborate with civil society and other partners to set up a referral pathway for comprehensive support, and other resources (funding for research, data collection tools, and comprehensive support for victims and their families) in ensuring the overall objective is achieved.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism s commits to:

* Support the creation of a welfare fund for the rehabilitation, reparation and redress of victims and their families.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.11 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism s commits to:

* Support the creation and/or strengthening of national victim-led solidarity networks.
* Support the creation of a permanent platform for victims’ families and NGOs to exchange experiences, receive psychological and legal support.
* Support the creation of a solidarity fund for family member to travel, meet and support each other.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.4, 3.5, 3.12 and 8.5 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Take concrete action to emphasize the importance of acknowledging the past and recognizing past injustices.
* Take concrete action to emphasize the importance of sharing and storytelling, which are key to healing but also to non-recurrence.

*The pledge refers to activities 7.1 and 7.2 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Commemorate the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims on 24 March.
* Commemorate the International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances on 30 August.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.13 and 3.14 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Provide public support to victims; and set up public campaigns to counter social stigma and discrimination.

*The pledge refers to activity 3.8 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the naming of streets, schools, public spaces after disappeared persons and “champions” of the fight against enforced disappearances.
* Support the preservation of memory by turning places of detention into museums or other memory places.

*The pledge refers to activities 7.5 and 7.6 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

# Raising awareness, training and education about enforced disappearances and existing mechanisms

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support, organise and/or participate in activities aiming at exchanging experiences, learning and good practices related to the fight against enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.5, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.10 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Build and strengthen the capacities of relevant officials by organizing or contributing to specific trainings on enforced disappearance, forensics and relevant instruments and mechanisms.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.1 and 5.2 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Build and strengthen the capacities of the judiciary by organizing or contributing to specific training of judges, lawyers and law enforcement officials on the crime of enforced disappearances, related forensics and relevant instruments and mechanisms.

*The pledge refers to activities 2.2, 5.2 and 5.12 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the inclusion in university curricula the teaching and dissemination of, and research into, topics related to the disappearance of persons, from a multidisciplinary standpoint, that includes an accurate account of violations that occurred.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.14 and 7.7 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support artistic and cultural initiatives to inspire action.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.17 and 7.8 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Monitor, investigate, document, and report on cases of enforced disappearances to raise awareness about the issue of enforced disappearances and address the common misconceptions attached to it.
* Strengthen documentation and reporting capacities of victims and organizations who support them.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.9, 5.8 and 5.4 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: Number of monitored, investigated, and documented cases of enforced disappearances and government responses, as well as reports published and submitted to national bodies such as Parliament and sent to regional and international human rights mechanisms, including the Committee on Enforced Disappearances and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, regarding developments related to enforced disappearances.

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism commits to engage its human (human rights monitoring and investigation experts, legal experts, and other relevant staff) to monitor, investigate, document, and prepare reports on cases of enforced disappearances; and other resources (funding for monitoring and investigation work, research, data collection and management, and travel expenses for in-person engagement and reporting to regional and international mechanisms) in ensuring the overall objective is achieved.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the provision of family members, journalists and researchers with unimpeded access to information, including archives.

*The pledge refers to activities 2.8 and 7.4 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Contribute to publicly disseminating the outcome of inquiries performed by truth commissions, where relevant.

*The pledge refers to activity 7.9 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

# Enhancing cooperation and partnership

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Provide authorities with technical assistance to address misconceptions about and promote ratification and implementation of the Convention and all other instruments and standards related to enforced disappearances.
* Support the organization of learning exchanges with other institution/mechanism s to share good practices in relation to the ratification and implementation of the Convention and other instruments and standards related to enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.5, 5.9, 5.10, 8.1 and 8.2 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support regional and international mechanisms mandated to combat enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activity 8.7 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the enhancement of the coordination and cooperation at the regional and international levels in connection with forensic capacities, the search of disappeared persons and criminal proceedings.
* Support the enhancement of international cooperation to assist victims of enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activities 1.4, 1.5, 2.3 and 2.9 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY

Pledge number

The institution/mechanism commits to:

* Support the creation of a global alliance of young people against enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activities 6.2 and 8.6 of the Plan of Action.*

**Indicators for measuring progress**: [if applicable]

**Resource implications**: The institution/mechanism will determine the resources that may be required to carry out this pledge based on the objectives they set and the actions they choose to take in their specific context.

**Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized**: DD/MM/YYYY