Model pledges

Civil society organisations

Non-governmental organisations

Individuals

*All participants – including States, 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;*
* *State 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.*

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

Pledge number

The Actor commits to:

* Engage with the government to advocate for the ratification and domestication by actors of the Convention and other relevant instruments; 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for and contribute to 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

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

*The pledge refers to activities 1.3.1, 1.3.2 and 5.5 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for the strengthening of the legal framework at domestic level by the adoption of laws 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, 4.3 and 4.5 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for the establishment of strong mechanisms to protect victims, including family members, and those who assist them, including witnesses in relevant processes from reprisals, and ensure that actions that criminalize, intimidate persecute or stigmatize disappeared persons, their families or the people that support them are investigated and that the perpetrators are punished.
* Support the mandate of international mechanisms set up to protect against reprisals.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for the establishment of and contribute to a nationwide register of disappeared persons, accessible to all relevant stakeholders.
* Advocate for the establishment of and contribute to regional and international interconnected databases of verifiable statistics on the number of forcibly disappeared persons.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

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

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Support, and advocate for the involvement of, victims, their families and their representatives in relevant search and investigation processes, including forensic investigation processes.

*The pledge refers to activities 2.1, 2.4 and 3.1 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for, provide, facilitate access to and/or strengthen legal support to victims; and promote access to legal remedies at the national, regional and international levels.
* Monitor the access of all persons deprived of liberty to a lawyer from the first moment of arrest.

*The pledge refers to activities 3.6 and 4.4 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for, provide, facilitate access to and/or strengthen socio-economic and psychosocial support to victims that takes into account the specificity of ED-related human rights violations, and its disproportionate impact on women, children, and other vulnerable groups.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for the establishment and implementation of programmes of integral reparations for victims and their families – including fair and adequate compensation, restitution, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.
* Support the creation of a welfare fund for the rehabilitation, reparation and redress of victims and their families.

*The pledge refers to activity 3.11 and 7.3 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Support the creation, establish or strengthen victim-led solidarity networks at the national, regional and international levels.
* 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, 8.4, 8.5 and 8.12 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Provide public support to victims by setting up public campaigns to counter social stigmas and discrimination.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for the naming streets, schools, public spaces after disappeared persons and “champions” of the fight against enforced disappearances.
* Advocate for 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor 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, and 5.10 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Build and strengthen the capacities of public officials by organizing or contributing to specific training on enforced disappearances and the relevant instruments and mechanisms.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

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

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Take action to engage young people in the fight against enforced disappearances.
* Raise awareness in schools and universities.
* Advocate for the inclusion in university curricula of 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, 6.1 and 7.7 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Support artistic and cultural initiatives to inspire action.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor 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, 5.4 and 5.8 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

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

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Support and organise activities aiming at strengthening technical assistance to promote ratification and implementation, including by addressing misconceptions actors may have on the issue.

*The pledge refers to activities 5.4, 8.1 and 8.2 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

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

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Support the coordination and cooperation at the regional and international levels in connection with forensic capacities, the search of disappeared persons and criminal proceedings.

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

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor commits to:

* Advocate for and participate in international cooperation efforts to assist victims of enforced disappearances.

*The pledge refers to activity 1.5 of the proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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 Actor 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 proposed Action Plan.*

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

**Resource implications**: The Actor 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