



OLA/2022/SM/06/07

The Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and has the honour, in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 75/138 of 22 December 2020 and in response to the letter of 17 January 2022 (Reference: LA/COD/2/1), to submit the following information:

- Ireland has continued to lead consultations on a political declaration on strengthening the protection of civilians from the humanitarian consequences arising from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA), which would seek to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law (IHL) and the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict involving the use of EWIPA. It is hoped that negotiations will conclude and the declaration will be adopted in the coming months.
- Since beginning its term as an elected member of the UN Security Council in January 2021, Ireland has consistently called at the Council for compliance with IHL and accountability for IHL violations.
- On 9 July 2021, Ireland submitted detailed comments on the International Law Commission's draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts.
- Ireland's national committee on IHL has continued to meet regularly under the chairmanship of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The national committee provides an effective means of promoting wider knowledge of IHL within the State system. The national committee most recently met on 17 December 2021.
- In 2022, Ireland established a national advisory committee on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict (NAC). The NAC will be an important element in the implementation of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the event of Armed Conflict and its 2nd Protocol. The first meeting of the NAC is scheduled to take place in June 2022.

The Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Legal Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 7 June 2022