REFERENCE: ODA-2022-00008

SUBJECT: Invitation for submittal of applications to the Sponsorship Programme for the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

The Office for Disarmament Affairs presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States and Observer States to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the decision of 28 January 2022, by States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) to establish a sponsorship programme, operated by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), to ensure the crucial inclusivity and broad participation prioritised by States Parties for the First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP).

As agreed by the States Parties, the sponsorship programme is financed exclusively through voluntary contributions of those States in a position to do so. Per the general guidance agreed by States Parties, eligible States are States under the category of Least Developed Countries (LDC) eligible to receive Official Development Assistance (based on the Development Assistance Committee list of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) or Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Additional criteria for the sponsorship programme are equitable regional representation and gender equity.

The agreed general guidance also states that the sponsorship programme will cover 1 (one) person per delegation from eligible States to ensure, as a priority, the participation of States Parties at 1MSP. Subject to availability of funds, the participation of delegates from Signatory States as well as States that have supported the TPNW (e.g., voted in favour of its adoption and/or voted in favour of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the TPNW) can also be sponsored.

Interested eligible Member States and Observer States are invited to apply for sponsorship by sending an official letter or note verbale from the Permanent Mission in New York to the Office for Disarmament Affairs (tpnw@un.org) no later than 10 May 2022.

States submitting applications should state clearly the purpose of the request (i.e., “application for the sponsorship programme for TPNW 1MSP”). The application should also include the name, location/duty station and contact details of the delegate proposed to be sponsored.

Mr. Christopher King, Senior Political Affairs Officer, UNODA may be contacted in case of any questions regarding the sponsorship programme (email: king6@un.org).

The Office for Disarmament Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of Member States and Observer States to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

6 April 2022