

Invitation

International follow-up conference to the EWIPA Declaration Oslo 22 – 23 April 2024

The first international follow-up conference to the adoption of the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA Declaration) will be held in Oslo on 22 – 23 April 2024.

Norway has the pleasure to invite senior officials from both the civilian and military branches of national governments, from states that have endorsed the EWIPA Declaration and other relevant states, in addition to invited representatives of international and regional organisations, civil society, academia and the private sector, to attend the conference.

This conference aims to take stock of the implementation of the Declaration and focus attention on the humanitarian consequences arising from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. It will also provide an opportunity to present examples of good policies and practices to enhance compliance with International Humanitarian Law and strengthen the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The conference will also seek to encourage more states to endorse the Declaration. Please see the conference concept note attached to this invitation.

We kindly ask all potential attendees to register their interest in participating in the conference by at the latest 15 March 2024: <u>Application for state delegates</u> and <u>Application for civil society, organisations, academia and the private sector</u>.

Participants from ODA-eligible countries may apply for funding under the sponsorship programme that has been established. The venue for the conference will be the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel in Oslo. For more information, please see the attached Concept Note for the Conference.

We look forward to welcoming you in Oslo in April, and to working together to strengthen and promote the implementation of the EWIPA Declaration.

Svein Michelsen

Director Section for Humanitarian Affairs



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs