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UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS GENEVA BRANCH

> Palais des Nations CH-1211 Genève 10

> > 20 October 2022

*To the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva* 

Excellencies, dear delegates,

The United Nations Office for Disarmament (UNODA) is pleased to launch the call for nominations of the Sponsorship Programme to support the participation of high-level State representatives at the Adoption Ceremony 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), to take place on 18 November 2022 in Dublin, Ireland.

The Sponsorship Programme is administered by the UNODA with the generous financial contribution of the Republic of Ireland. The Sponsorship Programme focuses on States qualifying - as per the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) as Least Developed Countries (LDC) as well as Small Island Developing States (SID).

States meeting these criteria are encouraged to present their applications for sponsorship in the form of a Note Verbale and through the attached application form to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) at <u>unoda-geneva@un.org</u> with copy to <u>ewipa@dfa.ie</u>.

Applications will be received until Monday 31 October 2022.

Kindly note that the note verbale must be endorsed by the applicants Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Permanent Mission and include the name, title and contact information of the nominated representative.

Please note, that organizers hope that the conference will be attended at the Ministerial or senior representative level. However, applications from working level representatives with direct responsibilities on issues related to EWIPA may also be considered.

All requests for sponsorship will be reviewed by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, in accordance with the abovementioned criteria. Taking into account the availability of resources, requests will be considered on a first come first served basis, while also taking into account geographic diversity and gender balance. Please note that funding is limited, and whilst we encourage applications from all eligible states, it is not possible to guarantee sponsorship for all applicants.

Successful applicants will receive sponsorship to cover the return flights to Dublin as well as two nights stay in order to enable participation for the entirety of the conference, and events organised in its margins.

> Please accept the assurance of our highest consideration United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs Geneva Branch