

EWIPA Conference 19–20 November 2025

Submission of Statements

BRAZIL

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Brazil would like to thank the Government of Costa Rica for organizing this timely conference to take stock of the implementation of the EWIPA Declaration.

As armed conflicts intensify and polarization deepens, it is more important than ever to foster constructive dialogue on policies and practices to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian objects from explosive weapons.

We would like to highlight two initiatives undertaken by Brazil this year to implement the principles set out in the EWIPA Declaration.

Last July, the Brazilian government and the ICRC convened a Regional Meeting of National IHL Commissions of the Americas to foster dialogue and exchange good practices. The meeting featured a dedicated panel on the humanitarian consequences of EWIPA, where participants explored ways to advance the political objectives of the declaration. This event was part of the Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to IHL.

We have also put forth the translation of the EWIPA Declaration to Portuguese, as a means to make its content more accessible. The translation has been shared with Ireland, the depositary of endorsements. I warmly thank Bárbara Morais Figueiredo, of UNIDIR, and Professor Julio Veiga of the IHL Clinic of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, for their valuable support on this project.

Excellencies,

Brazil's active role in the consultations that led to the adoption of the EWIPA Declaration reflects our humanitarian tradition and commitment to multilateralism and to the peaceful resolution of disputes.

The reestablishment of our National Commission on International Humanitarian Law in 2024, marking the 75th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions, underscores our support for IHL. The Commission works to discuss national policies aimed at integrating IHL principles – including those in the EWIPA Declaration – into domestic law, military doctrine, and operations.

Distinguished colleagues,

In ongoing conflicts worldwide, civilian infrastructure is being deliberately targeted, damaged, or destroyed by explosive weapons at alarming rates. Essential facilities – including hospitals, schools, water systems, and power plants – suffer catastrophic damage, with humanitarian consequences that extend far beyond immediate impact zones and endure long after hostilities end.

From Ukraine to Sudan, to Yemen and Myanmar, we witness persistent IHL violations. In Gaza, explosive weapons have devastated civilian infrastructure, displaced millions, and claimed unprecedented numbers of humanitarian workers. We strongly hope the ceasefire brings real and lasting relief to the civilian population.

It is our expectation that this week's conference will contribute to an exchange of good practices to better implement the political commitments of the EWIPA Declaration. By the next follow-up conference, we hope to see even broader global endorsement.

Let us mobilize the political will to prevent IHL violations, protect civilians, and build a more peaceful and humane international order. Brazil stands ready to support this vital commitment.