

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GHANA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA AT THE LAUNCH OF THE PROGRESS
REPORT OF THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO GALVANISE POLITICAL
COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL)
16TH OCTOBER 2025**

- Distinguished Colleagues
- Excellencies
- Representatives of the International committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and
- Fellow partners

Ghana wishes to first commend Jordan, Kazakhstan, China, South Africa, Brazil and France, the founding states of the Global Initiative and the ICRC for their foresight and leadership in establishing a collaborative platform dedicated to strengthening respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Your vision continues to inspire collective action at a time when global adherence to IHL faces complex and evolving challenges.

2. We also recognize, with appreciation, the outstanding work of our fellow co-chairs and participating members across all seven (7) workstreams. Your dedication and technical contributions have ensured that this initiative remains not only a forum for dialogue, but also a driver of practical progress in reinforcing the norms that protect human dignity during armed conflict.

3. Ghana is honoured to co-chair workstream VI: Upholding IHL in the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) during armed conflict, together with Switzerland, Luxembourg and Mexico. As the digital domain increasingly becomes a frontier of warfare, we must ensure that technological

advances are governed by the same humanitarian principles that guide conduct in traditional battle fields. Our work in this area seeks to foster a shared understanding among states that the use of ICTs in armed conflict must remain consistent with IHL obligations, safeguarding civilian populations and critical infrastructure from digital harm.

4. As we take stock through this progress report, Ghana reaffirms its full commitment to this Initiative and to the universal application of IHL in all domains of warfare; physical, cyber, and beyond. Let us continue to translate political will into practical measures that preserve humanity even in the darkest moments of conflict.

5. Thank you.