



## STATE CONSULTATIONS ON WORKSTREAM III – IHL AND PEACE

MONDAY, 4 MAY 2026

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Thank you, Co-Chairs.

Malaysia values the importance of this workstream and commends the co-chairs and the International Committee of the Red Cross for a comprehensive and operationally grounded draft on Workstream III.

2. We strongly support the central premise that respect for IHL is not only a legal obligation, but a strategic investment in sustainable peace. The draft correctly underscores that early preparedness, particularly in peacetime, shapes whether societies can recover, reconcile and rebuild trust after conflict.

3. Malaysia welcomes the comprehensive and structured approach of the draft, which addresses the continuum of action before, during and after hostilities. We appreciate the focus on strengthening systems in peacetime and the practical post-conflict implementation measures aimed at sustaining recovery, rebuilding trust and preventing relapse into violence.

4. We particularly commend the integration of humanitarian provisions into mediation and ceasefire processes, especially the inclusion of concrete, ready-to-use clauses. We see that many of these provisions mirror our own regional experience in sustaining peace, where emphasis has been placed on building conditions for long-term stability and trust and in a sense our contribution to this process.

5. At the same time, Malaysia wishes to offer the following suggestions to further complement the document:

5.1. First, the draft is operationally strong, and it could benefit from clearer prioritisation and sequencing of measures, particularly for resource-constrained settings. This could help identifying minimum core measures and enhance implementation.

5.2. Second, we suggest enhancing references to dialogue, cooperation, and the peaceful settlement of disputes, as important elements in the maintenance of international peace and security and the adherence to IHL.

- 5.3. Third, we encourage further emphasis on technical cooperation and capacity building, including through partnerships with international and regional actors. Such efforts could be developed in peacetime and would also contribute as a peacebuilding measure.
- 5.4. Fourth, We consider that child protection is well addressed in the post-hostilities section, but could be further strengthened during conflict section. In this regard, children allegedly associated with armed forces or armed groups should be viewed primarily as victims, and greater emphasis could be placed on ensuring the availability of non-judicial measures, as appropriate, as alternatives to prosecution and detention
- 5.5. Finally, Malaysia sees value in reinforcing data governance and digital resilience, particularly as many of the systems referenced, such as registries and tracing mechanisms, are increasingly digitized and vulnerable to cyber risks.

6. In conclusion, Malaysia believes this draft provides a strong foundation for advancing the nexus between IHL and peace. We remain committed to engaging constructively towards a practical and action-oriented outcome and we will submit this in writing.

Thank you.

**GENEVA**  
**4 MAY 2026**