**PROPOSED DRAFT JOINT PLEDGE BY NIGERIA AND THE NIGERIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY TO BE ADOPTED AT THE 34TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT**

**Specific Pledge**

# Pledge title:

 Strengthening the legal framework and increasing the respect for the protective emblems

# Type of pledge: SPECIFIC – JOINT

# State(s) / National Society(ies) / other humanitarian partner(s):

The Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Nigerian Red Cross Society.

# Pledge for the period :

2024–2028

# Objective of the Pledge:

This is to ensure that the red cross, red crescent and the red crystal are used in line with the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols so that humanitarian aid and personnel are not put at risk.

# Conference theme(s)/topic related to this pledge:

Taking into account the relevant provisions of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols on the use and protection of the emblems and the current Nigerian Red Cross Act of 1960, CAP 324 on the protection of designations, signs and emblems of the Red Cross, and to prevent infringements on the use of the emblems and attack on NRCS office within the Nigerian territory, the Nigerian Government and the Nigerian Red Cross Society will strengthen their cooperation to reaffirm the importance to respect the emblems and their designations at any time in order to ensure an effective protection of victims of armed conflicts.

The Nigerian Government hereby commits to:

* assessing and considering the review of the current legal framework and considers holding regular meetings of relevant interlocutors to follow-up on misuse of the emblems and their designations, for instance under the umbrella of the National IHL Committee;
* public sensitization.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society, in its auxiliary role as a Voluntary Aid Society for the purposes of the Four Geneva Conventions and use of the emblem, commits to support the Nigerian Government in the development of the actions as mentioned above.

In addition, the Nigerian Red Cross Society and the Nigerian Government pledge to continue their dialogue on all matters related to the respect of the emblem in order to ensure respect for the emblems and their designations at all times.

# Action plan

 By 2028

1. Nigeria commits, with the support of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, to:
	* Assessing the current legal framework on the protection and use of the emblems and suggesting recommendations to improve the compliance with it;
	* Considering the review of the legal framework on the protection and use of the emblems by clarifying the possible uses of the emblem and which actors within Nigeria can use the emblem;
	* Defining the shared responsibilities on the follow-up to the protection of the emblem and their designations between the Nigerian Government and the Nigerian Red Cross Society.
	* In collaboration with the National Society, carrying out sensitization on the use of the emblems.
2. Nigeria and the Nigerian Red Cross Society commit to:
	* Setting up a compliance mechanism for files related to the misuse of the emblems and their designations;
	* Examining the possibilities for sensitization in Nigeria on the rules related to the protective emblems.

# Indicators for measuring progress

 TBD

 Review of the NRCS Act

 Engagement with the National Orientation Agency on public sensitization

# Resource implications

TBD

fiscal allocation for national budget

# Ministries/ Department/ Agencies Concerned

1. Ministry of Justice
2. Ministry of Defense
3. Ministry of Health (in particular the National Primary Health Care Development Board)
4. Ministry of Information and National Orientation (in particular the National Orientation Agency)
5. National and States Emergency Management Agencies
6. National Assembly
7. National IHL Committee
8. Nigerian Red Cross Society