



Statement on the Universality (Article 12)
3rd Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW
Delivered by Christian N. Ciobanu, TPNW Advisor
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President, Co-Chairs, and Excellences,

Kiribati welcomes the Co-Chairs' report on the universalization of the TPNW. We believe that universalization is vital to further strengthening the goals and spirit of the TPNW. In this regard, we warmly welcome the Solomon Islands' ratification of this historic treaty as well as Indonesia and Sierra Leone.

Universalization also promotes the humanitarian provisions of the Treaty contained in Articles 6 and 7. This is why we have been actively encouraging all Pacific states to join the TPNW and why we try to convene regional consultations to inform all Pacific states on how the Treaty addresses the legacy of nuclear weapons in the Pacific region.

We firmly believe that the TPNW reinforces the Treaty of Rarotonga.

In Kiribati, we recognize the importance of youth empowerment and advocacy in relation to the promotion of the TPNW. This is why we are proud that two art competitions have been organized around the humanitarian provisions of the TPNW.

All States parties should encourage and support creative projects by their citizens, especially young people, as a means of raising awareness about the TPNW and as a means of encouraging states to join this treaty.

As we move towards the Review Conference, we hope that all Pacific states will join this historic treaty.

I thank you.