**In the Name of the God the Merciful**

**Declaration on the Commitment to Respect Humanitarian Norms during and in the aftermath of Armed Conflict or Military Operations**

**We believe** that the norms of protecting civilians from the effects of military actions is one of the basic and entrenched humanitarian norms.

**And as we express** our deep concern about the sufferings of civilians during armed conflict and other forms of violence,

**And as we are seriously concerned** about the continuation of violations against civilians during and in the aftermath of the violent actions as mentioned before,

**And as we are sorry** for the intermittent assaults against civilians, particularly children (the future generation) and women (children’s mothers and the embryos depot),

**And as we are determined** to take all necessary measures and possible mechanisms to prevent such violations in all forms and punishing the perpetrators,

**And as we keep in mind** the importance of providing protection for civilians during and in the aftermath of armed conflict by adopting humanitarian norms to achieve an effective protection for the civilians.

**We are determined to** commit to the following code of conduct for combatants:

1. **Prohibition of child recruitment and use in hostilities**

**Since it is our belief that committing** to this prohibition is enough to obviate the need to most aspects of child protection during armed conflict, **we commit** to the ban of the recruitment and use of children under 18 years old, whether it was a voluntary or obligatory recruitment, and **we commit** also to the prohibition of child participation in hostilities.

1. **Taking measures for the protection of all civilians especially children and women**

**We commit** to the following measures for the protection of all civilians especially children and women:

1. Placing them in hospitals and safe places when necessary.
2. Allowing the delivery of humanitarian aid to them and other civilians in need.
3. Protecting them during displacement, evacuation and return.
4. Taking the necessary measures to protect and preserve the family unity or re-uniting the families after separation by the armed conflict.
5. Striving as much as possible to secure education for civilians particularly children who could be deprived of such right, as a result of hostilities and forced exclusion and denial from their cultural and natural environmental rights; we declare our commitment to ensure free education or access to such education that is consistent with their language and religion.
6. Abstaining from using schools, or any other building used for the provision of education, for military purposes to avoid harm to children and educational personnel.
7. Abstaining from attacking schools, or any other building used for the provision of education, used for military purposes unless no other feasible alternative measures exists.
8. Detaining children only as a last resort and providing special protection to detained children, in particular separating children from adults unless they are members of the same family.
9. **Access to Healthcare**

**We commit** to provide or facilitate the provision of healthcare to civilians who were affected and displaced due to the armed conflict.

1. **Protection from sexual violence and exploitation**

**Since we are aware** that the most dangerous violations during armed conflict is the exposure of vulnerable groups of civilians to sexual violence and exploitation, **we commit** to work to prevent these violations and deal with it and provide assistance to victims.

1. **Distinction between civilians and combatants**

**Since the ensuring** of respecting and protecting civilians during armed conflict is based on the distinction between civilians and combatants, by refraining from targeting civilians unless they directly participate in hostilities, **we declare our commitment** to the distinction, in all times, between civilians and combatants, and civilian objects and military targets.

1. **Considering proportionality and precaution during attacks**

Due to the collateral damages among civilians and civilian objects resulted from military operations, **we commit** before the military attack and military operations to consider the anticipated military advantage in comparison with the expected collateral damages, and to take all feasible precautionary measures to avoid and minimize losses and collateral damage.

1. **Protection during detention**

 **As a confirmation for that we commit to** treat all persons in detention humanely without any adverse distinction based on gender, race, belief, sect, or religion. **We also prohibit** killing, torturing and degrading treatment against them, and a fair trial for them by independent and neutral court that ensures all fundamental guarantees. We commit to providing for the basic needs of detainees, including water and food, medical care, and appropriate shelter.

1. **Protection of sick and wounded, the missing and dead**

**We commit** to collect wounded and sick and taking care of them whether they are allied with us or belong to the enemy side. **We also commit** not to attack them or use violence against them or use them for medical or biological experiments, and to reveal the fate of the missing and cooperating with humanitarian organizations in this context, and to respect the corpses and returning them to their homes.

1. **Protection of the personnel of medical and religious services, and voluntary aid associations**

**Since it is our belief** that protecting wounded and sick is not effective without ensuring the safety for those who provide this protection, **we commit** to respect and protect the medical services personnel, transports and facilities by refraining from attacking them, and providing assistance to them, and never obliging medical personnel to do tasks that contradict with the medical ethics, and **the same commitment** is applicable on the personnel of religious services and the voluntary aid associations.

1. **Non-use of prohibited weapons**

**Since we are aware** that the advantage of using prohibited weapons - such as poisonous and chemical and biological weapons and some other kinds of explosives and incendiary weapons and cluster bombs - is much less than the human and social costs that harm the affected by using it, **we commit** to ban these weapons. **And for the same reason we prohibit** to use, produce, and transfer anti-personnel landmines and keeping them, and we commit also to the destruction of these mines and demining it and registering its locations as possible as we can.

1. **Prohibition of resorting to illegal methods of fighting and respecting the distinctive emblems**

**Since we are convinced** that the civilian and the incapable person to fight should be protected, and since perfidy invites the opponent to believe that the enemy is protected by law as a civilian or person incapable to fight with the intent to breach that belief, **we commit to prohibit** using it, and we commit to prohibit misuse the humanitarian distinctive emblems (the red cross, the red crescent, the red crystal).

1. **Prohibition of taking hostages and using human shields**

**We commit** not to detain any person or put him in custody or threatening to kill him to oblige the opponent to do or refrain from doing something (**taking hostages**). **We also commit** not to exploit the presence of civilians to protect some military locations and bases from military attacks (**using human shields**).

1. **Prohibition of looting and robbery**

**We commit** not to resort to looting or robbery of the private civilian properties and refraining from forcibly taking the private properties of the enemy to seize and use it for personal purposes.

1. **Prohibition of deportation and forced displacement**

**We commit** not to deport or forcibly move the civilians without their own will, unless it is for their own safety or for military imperative reasons, and to allow their return to their residence places after the demise of their deportation or forced displacement reasons.

Should such displacement have to be carried out, all possible measures shall be taken to ensure that the displaced persons may be received under satisfactory conditions of shelter, hygiene, health, safety and nutrition.

1. **Commitment to the prohibition of revenge and reprisal actions, and the adherence to the humanitarian norms**

**We commit** to respect the above-mentioned humanitarian norms and to ensure its respect by the fighters that work under our supervision and control. **We also commit** to take all necessary and reasonable measures to prevent and suppress revenge and reprisal actions and committing violations to the mentioned norms, and to present the violators to these rules to the authorities in charge of internal accountability for investigation and prosecution.