



Next steps after Oslo

Religions for Peace will work with the CMC on the following 3 main objectives:

1) Ensuring 30 states ratify the Convention quickly to bring the Convention into force

The main objective in 2009 is to get 30 countries to ratify the Convention. The Convention will then enter into force 6 months after the 30th ratification. So far, 4 countries have ratified the Convention (Holy See, Ireland, Norway and Sierra Leone). So, 26 countries to go!

Key actions are:

- To identify parliamentarians and government delegates that will drive forward the ratification procedure in your country.
- To ensure that in countries where national law is required for ratification, the legislation makes the strongest possible interpretation of the treaty's provisions.

Letter writing, briefing meetings or national workshops can be useful ways to make progress in these vital areas.

2) Encouraging states that didn't sign in Oslo to sign as soon as possible in New York

States that did not manage to get their full powers in order to sign in Oslo, or that were not able to make the decision to sign in time, can sign at the UN Treaty Section's signature room in New York.

Key actions are:

- To follow up with key officials if your state did not manage to arrange full powers documents to sign the Convention in time. Encourage them to sign now in New York!
- To encourage states that adopted the Convention in Dublin but didn't sign in Oslo to sign in New York, and to encourage other potential signatory states.
- To advocate in countries that face obstacles preventing them from signing and providing information and arguments to promote signature and ratification.

Make sure governments know that they can still sign the treaty – and tell them how to do it!

States who are very likely to sign: Cameroon, DRC, Djibouti, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Sudan, Swaziland, St Kitts and Nevis.

Other targets: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Estonia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Serbia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Venezuela, Vietnam