



P.242.512.0 – GEN 4/08

**Notification to the Governments of the States parties
to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims**

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL III

I. Declaration by the State of Israel

On 5 November 2008, the State of Israel deposited with the Swiss Federal Council the following declaration referring to the text contained in the instrument of ratification of the Protocol III deposited by the State of Israel on 22 November 2007 (notification GEN 3/07 of 26 November 2007) (original English version):

«The Embassy of the State of Israel presents its compliments to the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to refer to the declaration made by Israel upon ratification of the Third Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions.

In response to questions raised in relation to this declaration, the State of Israel wishes to confirm that this declaration is not intended to enable Israel to derogate from any of the provisions of the Protocol. It also recognizes that under the terms of the Protocol, the Red Crystal, when used as a protective emblem, may not incorporate any additional emblems or combine them as part of the protective emblem.»

II. Communication by Switzerland

In its capacity as depositary of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols, the Swiss Federal Council has the honour to inform the States Parties that Switzerland, as a State Party, replied, on 7 November 2008, to the State of Israel concerning its declaration made on 5 November 2008 as follows (original English version):

«The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the State of Israel and acknowledges receipt of the Embassy's note verbale dated 3.11.08 by which the Government of the State of Israel clarifies its declaration made at the ratification, on 22 November 2007, of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III).

The Federal Department thanks the Embassy for this note which makes it clear that the State of Israel respects the Protocol III in its entirety and will therefore solely use the Additional Emblem (Red Crystal) as the distinctive emblem in accordance with said Protocol.»

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as depositary (www.eda.admin.ch/depositary) of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols.

Berne, 14 November 2008

