

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Notification

to the Governments of the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions
of August 12, 1949, for the Protection of War Victims

PROTOCOLS ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF AUGUST 12, 1949,
AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF INTERNATIONAL ARMED
CONFLICTS (PROTOCOL I) AND NON-INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS (PRO-
TOCOL II), ADOPTED AT GENEVA ON JUNE 8, 1977.

Accession of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

On April 8, 1983, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has deposited
with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Pro-
tocols I and II, mentioned above.

According to Article 95, Paragraph 2, of Protocol I and Article 23,
Paragraph 2, of Protocol II, the said Protocols have entered into
force for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on October 8, 1983, i.e.
six months after the deposit of the instrument of accession.

Accession of China

On September 14, 1983, the People's Republic of China has deposited
with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocols
I and II, mentioned above.

This instrument includes the following reservation:

"Actuellement la Chine n'a pas de législation sur l'extradition. Et les problèmes d'extradition doivent être traités différemment selon des cas concrets. Pour cette raison la Chine n'accepte pas les contraintes contenues dans le paragraphe 2 de l'article 88 du Protocole I."

According to Article 95, Paragraph 2, of Protocol I, and to Article 23, Paragraph 2, of Protocol II, the said Protocols shall enter into force for the People's Republic of China on March 14, 1984, i.e. six months after the deposit of the instrument of accession.

Communication of Israel relating to a declaration of the United Arab Emirates

By its notification of April 18, 1983, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs has informed the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of the accession of the United Arab Emirates to the Protocols I and II, together with a declaration. Referring to the aforementioned notification, the State of Israel, Party to the Geneva Conventions, has transmitted to the Swiss Government, by note of June 14, 1983, the following communication

"The Government of Israel takes note that an instrument of adhesion to the Additional Protocols (I and II) to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, adopted on 8 June 1977, was received from the Government of the United Arab Emirates and placed with the Government of Switzerland on 9th March 1983.

The instrument deposited by the Government of the United Arab Emirates contains a statement of a political character in respect of Israel. In the view of the Government of the State of Israel, the Geneva Conventions and the Protocols are not the proper place

for making such political pronouncements, which are, moreover, in flagrant contradiction to the principles, objects and purposes of the Conventions and the Protocols. This statement by the Government of the United Arab Emirates cannot in any way affect whatever obligations are binding upon the United Arab Emirates under general international law or under particular conventions. The Government of the State of Israel will, in so far as concerns the substance of the matter, adopt towards the Government of the United Arab Emirates an attitude of complete reciprocity."

The present notification is made by the Swiss Government in its capacity of Depositary of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, and in application of Article 100 of Protocol I and of Article 26 of Protocol II.

Bern, October 21, 1983