



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

413-04-02-00-4260/6– GEN 1/24

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

CONVENTIONS

Communication from the depositary

Under resolution A/RES/ES-10/24 of 18 September 2024, the UN General Assembly invited Switzerland, in its capacity as the depositary of the Geneva Conventions, to convene a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in times of war within six months of the adoption of said resolution.

Switzerland accepts the mandate to arrange a Conference within the required time frame. Commencing in November 2024, Switzerland will conduct consultations in Geneva with the High Contracting Parties in order to present the process and discuss their expectations. Some initial briefings with the Permanent Missions based in Geneva have been scheduled for mid-November.

The process will be led by Ambassador Franz Perrez, head of the Directorate of International Law at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland. Ambassador Salman Bal will conduct the consultations. The title of Special Envoy for the 4th Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions has been conferred on Ambassador Salman Bal for the purpose of performing this function. Any question could be addressed to dil.chcp@eda.admin.ch.

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as the depositary of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols. As is customary, it is addressed to the Governments of the High Contracting Parties and is also being sent directly to the Permanent Missions based in Geneva. All subsequent communications relating to the Conference will be sent solely to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, but will be available on the depositary's webpage (www.dfae.admin.ch/depositaire – Protection of war victims – Notifications).

Bern, 11 November 2024

