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Bangladesh thanks the Secretary General for his report contained in document A/71/183 on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

As a State Party to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the two Additional Protocols of 1977, Bangladesh continues to remain concerned over recurrent reports of serious violation of international humanitarian law by both States and non-state actors in different conflict situations, including in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syrian Arab Republic and other parts of the world. We join others in condemning such violations and the resulting humanitarian crises, and stress the need for holding the perpetrators accountable for alleged violations in order to prevent their recurrence. The gross and wanton violations of IHL that we witness around the world make us only too aware of the challenges of ensuring compliance with the existing legal norms and framework by different actors.

As we understand it, there are a number of in-built mechanisms and procedures within the existing IHL regime that need to be duly invoked and put into effect in order to further promote compliance with IHL provisions by different actors. In lieu of working on further innovations, there is a need for our collective exercise on exploring ways of allowing the existing mechanisms and procedures to serve our purpose better in a relevant and demonstrable manner. It is also perhaps a question of recalibrating mindset towards IHL compliance within the broader context of promoting a 'culture of peace'.



to make IHL provisions further accessible to our people. Bangladesh wishes to thank ICRC Regional Office for its sustained investment in training representatives from both public and private sectors on IHL provisions. The ICRC Country Office is being consulted for developing a number of draft national legislations and also the National Action Plan for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and its successor Resolutions.

In the area of ensuring accountability for mass atrocities and attendant violation of IHL, Bangladesh has achieved some experience and insights into the challenges involved in instituting national judicial processes in compliance with relevant international standards. As