

6ème Commission

Point 82 GH O¶RUGUH GX MRXU

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GH UHODWLIV j OD SURWHFWLRQ GHV YLI
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to
the protection of victims of armed conflicts

New York, le 17 octobre 2022

Déclaration de la Suisse

174, 169 et 79 Etats. /D 6XLVVH HQFRXUDJH IRUWHPHQW OHV (WDWV QH O¶D
aux trois Protocoles ou à les ratifier dans un avenir proche. En 2024, nous fêterons les 75 ans des
Conventions de Genève. Cet anniversaire représente une excellente opportunité

Monsieur le Président OU Madame la Présidente,

Conformément à ses engagements pris lors de la 33^{ème} Conférence internationale de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge, la Suisse a publié *VRQ SUHPLHU UDSSRUW YRORQWDLUH VXU* international humanitaire au niveau national en 2020. *'¶DXWUHV (WDWV RQW DXVVL Up* volontaire ou sont en train de le faire. Les rapports volontaires sont des instruments très utiles : ils permettent de nourrir les échanges entre Etats sur les défis et les bonnes pratiques. Premièrement, les bonnes pratiques décrites dans les rapports peuvent constituer une source d'inspiration pour les autres Etats. Deuxièmement, le partage des défis est un premier pas vers le développement de solutions communes. La Suisse encourage les Etat *V TXL QH O¶RQW SDV HqFRUH IDLW j V¶LQVFULUH j FHWWH UpXQLRQ* *YRORQWDLUHV HQ YXH G¶XQH PHLOOHXUH PLVH HQ °XYUH GX ', +*

Par ailleurs, la Suisse organise une réunion en ligne *G¶ports gouvernementaux sur le DIH en début* *G¶DQQpH S. C&E K&DQp* portera sur *ID SURWHFWLRQ G H&as¶les Conflits armés HPHQW* Son objectif est de permettre des échanges de bonnes pratiques entre Etats, ainsi que de contribuer à *GHV SURJUqV UpDOLVWHV HW SUDJPDWLTXHV GDQV Les D¶rations HQ °XY* ont été envoyées aux Missions permanentes à Genève. La Suisse invite chaleureusement les Etats *TXL QH O¶RQW SDV HqFRUH IDLW j V¶LQVFULUH j FHWWH UpXQLRQ*

Je vous remercie.

Unofficial translation

Mr Chair or Madam Chair,

As depositary of the Geneva Conventions and the three Additional Protocols, Switzerland attaches particular importance to the universal ratification of these instruments. The Geneva Conventions have been universally ratified. The three Additional Protocols have been ratified by 174, 169 and 79 states respectively. Switzerland strongly encourages all states that have not yet done so to accede to or ratify the three Additional Protocols in the near future . In 2024, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions . This anniversary represents a n excellent opportunity for states that are not yet parties to reconsider the possibility of joining the Additional Protocols.

Switzerland also calls on states parties to the First Additional Protocol which have not yet done so to recognise the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact -Finding Commission (IHFFC). The IHFFC is the dedicated expert body established by Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions to respond to incidents in relation to international humanitarian law (IHL). It stands at the service of parties to an armed conflict to help them to restore an attitude of respect for this body of law.

A Group of Friends of the IHFFC has been quite recently established. States that have questions about the IHFFC are encouraged to approach the members of the Group of Friends. In order to recognise the IHFFC's competence, all a state needs to do is to send a declaration to that effect to the depositary state.

Mr Chair OR Madam Chair,

In accordance with its commitments made at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Switzerland has published its first voluntary report on the implementation of international humanitarian law at the national level in 2020. Other states have also drafted voluntary reports or are currently doing so. Voluntary reports are very useful instruments: they allow for exchanges between states on challenges and good practices. First, the good practices described in the reports can be a source of inspiration for other states. Second, sharing challenges is a first step towards developing common solutions. Switzerland encourages states that have not yet done so to draft voluntary reports to better implement IHL at the national level.

In addition, Switzerland is organising an online meeting of governmental experts on international humanitarian law early next year. This meeting will focus on the protection of the environment in armed conflicts. Its objective will be to facilitate the exchange of best practices between states and to contribute to realistic and pragmatic progress in the implementation of IHL at the national level. Invitations have been sent to the Permanent Missions in Geneva. Switzerland invites all states that have not yet done so to warmly register for this meeting.

I thank you.