

NEW PARTIES TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS

Accession of the Kingdom of Bhutan to the Geneva Conventions

On 10 January 1991, the Kingdom of Bhutan deposited its instrument of accession to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 with the Swiss Government.

Pursuant to their provisions, the Geneva Conventions will enter into force for the Kingdom of Bhutan on 10 July 1991.

The Kingdom of Bhutan thus becomes the **165th** State party to the Geneva Conventions.

The Federal Republic of Germany ratifies the Protocols

On 14 February 1991, the Federal Republic of Germany ratified the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relative to the protection of victims of international (Protocol I) and non-international (Protocol II) armed conflicts, adopted in Geneva on 8 June 1977.

The instrument of ratification was accompanied by various declarations, the text of which is given below.

- 1. It is the understanding of the Federal Republic of Germany that the rules relating to the use of weapons introduced by Additional Protocol I were intended to apply exclusively to conventional weapons without prejudice to any other rules of international law applicable to other types of weapons.*
- 2. The Federal Republic of Germany understands the word "feasible" in Articles 41, 56, 57, 58, 78 and 86 of Additional Protocol I to mean that which is practicable or practically*