

“Who would not subscribe”, said the Pope, “to the basic principles of the Red Cross, and, in particular, to its promise to protect life, to ensure respect for the human person without discrimination, and to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and a lasting peace among all peoples?”

The Pope then severely criticized torture, “this foul plague on mankind”, and inhuman treatment “which causes humiliation and suffering to the victim and degrades the tormentor”.

Finally, he expressed his satisfaction for the good working relations, already considerable in the field, between the Red Cross and the Catholic voluntary organizations, in assisting people in need, and his appreciation “that the Holy See and the ICRC are in the process of studying ways of greater co-operation in their work for peace”.

For the ICRC, founder of the world Red Cross movement, the Pope’s visit illustrates the will of the Catholic Church and of the Red Cross to protect the dignity of man and to promote human rights throughout the world; it gives rise to hopes for developing co-operation between the Catholic Church and the Red Cross, already evident on numerous occasions, in humanitarian operations and the promotion of peace.

The address of the ICRC President and the speech of the Pope will be printed in the next issue of *International Review*.

Zaire accedes to Protocol I

The Republic of Zaire, on 3 June 1982, deposited an instrument of accession to Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), adopted in Geneva on 8 June 1977.

Pursuant to its provisions, the Protocol will come into force for the Republic of Zaire on 3 December 1982.

With this accession, 23 States are now parties to Protocol I and 20 to Protocol II.