

UN Resolution on the Protocols

At its thirty-seventh session on 16 December 1982 the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution on the Protocols (A/RES/37/116), which reads as follows:

State of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I) and the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/44 of 8 December 1977 and 34/51 of 23 November 1979,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹ on the state of signatures and ratifications of the two Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,²

Noting resolution VII of the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference, adopted in November 1981,

Convinced of the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflict and the need to secure the full observance of human rights in armed conflicts pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Noting the virtually universal acceptance of the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the protection of victims of armed conflicts, and their binding character for all Parties,

¹ A/34/445.

² A/32/144, annexes I and II.

Noting further with appreciation the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to disseminate information about the two additional Protocols,

Concerned, however, at the fact that so far only a limited number of States have signed, ratified or acceded to the two Protocols,

Mindful of the need for continued improvement of the implementation and for further expansion of the body of humanitarian rules relating to armed conflict,

1. *Reiterates* its call, contained in General Assembly resolution 34/51, that all States should consider without delay the matter of ratifying or acceding to the two Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts;

2. *Calls* on all States becoming parties to Protocol I to consider the matter of making the declaration provided for under Article 90 of that Protocol;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session a report on the status of the Protocols based on information received from Member States;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session an item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts: report of the Secretary-General".
