

In a brief address, President Mubarak commented that in the present world situation the need was greater than ever before for ensuring respect and strict adherence to international humanitarian law. He pledged his government's support for the ICRC's work, adding that Egypt would spare no effort to impress upon world leaders the need for action to counter what he termed "the vicious circle of violence and hatred".

The Egyptian President then had a private discussion with Mr. Hay, who outlined the ICRC's activities in the Middle East.

President Mubarak, who was making the first visit to the ICRC by an Egyptian Head of State, was accompanied by several senior aides, notably his Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kamal Hassan Ali.

Australian Prime Minister visits ICRC

The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Robert Hawke, visited on 10 June the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. He was accompanied by Australia's Permanent Representative in Geneva, Ambassador David Sadleir, as well as other officials.

He was welcomed by the ICRC President, Mr. Alexandre Hay, and senior ICRC staff. During a private meeting, the Prime Minister was given a short account of ICRC operations in the world.

Accession of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the Protocols

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines deposited with the Swiss Government, on 8 April 1983, an instrument of accession to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I) and non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), adopted in Geneva on 8 June 1977.

Pursuant to their provisions, the Protocols will enter into force for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on 8 October 1983.

This is the 32nd State to become party to Protocol I and the 26th to Protocol II.
