

*In relation to paragraph 5(b) of Article 51 and to paragraph 2(a)(iii) of Article 57, it is the understanding of Australia that references to the "military advantage" are intended to mean the advantage anticipated from the military attack considered as a whole and not only from isolated or particular parts of that attack and that the term "military advantage" involves a variety of considerations including the security of attacking forces. It is further the understanding of Australia that the term "concrete and direct military advantage anticipated", used in Articles 51 and 57, means a bona fide expectation that the attack will make a relevant and proportional contribution to the objective of the military attack involved.*

*It is the understanding of Australia that the first sentence of paragraph 2 of Article 52 is not intended to, nor does it, deal with the question of incidental or collateral damage resulting from an attack directed against a military objective.*

In accordance with their provisions, the Protocols will come into force for Australia on 21 December 1991.

Australia is the **103rd** State to become party to Protocol I and the **93rd** to Protocol II.

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## **Declaration of succession of the Republic of Namibia to the Geneva Conventions**

On 22 August 1991, the Republic of Namibia deposited a declaration of succession to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 with the Swiss Government. The Conventions had already been in force in Namibian territory (formerly South West Africa) since 31 March 1952 by virtue of the Republic of South Africa's accession to them.

In accordance with international practice, the entry into force in Namibia of the four Conventions is retroactive to 21 March 1990, the date on which the country became independent. The accession to the Conventions, which was made on Namibia's behalf by the United Nations Council for Namibia on 18 October 1983, is therefore no longer applicable.

The Republic of Namibia is the **166th** State to become party to the Geneva Conventions.