

for action at the national level to have these measures adopted, and the participants' determination to see that such action was taken.

It was therefore recommended that further seminars be organized in French-speaking and English-speaking Africa to create an awareness of the importance of adopting legal and practical measures in advance, in peacetime, to ensure that IHL is put into effect.

*J.M.*

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## **The Arab Republic of Egypt ratifies the Protocols**

On 9 October 1992 the Arab Republic of Egypt ratified the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating 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 a declaration and a notification, the texts of which (original: Arabic) are given below:

### **DECLARATION**

*The Arab Republic of Egypt, in ratifying Protocols I and II of 1977 additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, wishes to express its conviction that the provisions of Additional Protocols I and II represent the minimum level of legal and actual protection that must be afforded to persons and civilian and cultural objects in armed conflict.*

*On the basis of its strong conviction of the principles of the great Islamic Sharia, the Arab Republic of Egypt wishes at the same time to emphasize that it is the duty of all nations alike to refrain from the involvement of innocent civilians in armed conflict; furthermore they should make all efforts, to the maximum extent possible, to that end as this is indispensable for the survival of humanity and the cultural heritage and civilization of all countries and nations.*

*The Arab Republic of Egypt, while declaring its commitment to respecting all the provisions of Additional Protocols I and II, wishes to emphasize, on the basis of reciprocity, that it upholds the right to react against any violation by any party of the obligations imposed by Additional Protocols I and II with all means admissible under international law in order to prevent any further violation. In this context it wishes to assert that military commanders planning or executing attacks make their decisions on the basis of their assessment of all kinds of information available to them at the time of the military operations.*

## NOTIFICATION

*The Arab Republic of Egypt, while welcoming the adoption by the Diplomatic Conference in June 1977 of Protocols I and II additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 in six languages, including the Arabic language, notes that all original texts are certified and equally authentic with no prevalence of one single language over the other.*

*However, on comparison of the original Arabic text of Additional Protocols I and II with the other original texts, it became evident that in some respects the Arabic text does not fully correspond to the other original texts to the extent that it is at variance in terms of both expression and substance with some of the provisions of Additional Protocols I and II adopted by States in the field of international law and human relations.*

*Hence the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the deposit of its instrument of ratification of Protocols I and II additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 with the depositary, the Swiss Federal Council, wishes to declare that in that respect it shall adopt the meaning which best concurs with the original texts of Additional Protocols I and II.*

In accordance with their provisions, the Protocols will come into force for the Arab Republic of Egypt on 9 April 1993.

The Arab Republic of Egypt is the **118th** State to become party to Protocol I and the **108th** State party to Protocol II.