



FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Notification
to the Governments of the States parties
to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949
for the Protection of War Victims

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL III

I. Signature by the Republic of Cap-Verde

On 10 January 2006, the Republic of Cap-Verde signed the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), done at Geneva on 8 December 2005.

II. Signature by the Republic of San Marino

On 19 January 2006, the Republic of San Marino signed the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), done at Geneva on 8 December 2005.

III. Corrections of the signed texts

The certified true copies of the English, French and Spanish texts of the Protocol III have been transmitted to the States Parties with notification of 4 January 2006. The Arabic, Chinese and Russian texts signed on 8 December 2005 contain some lacks of concordance, syntax and orthography. The depositary has the honour to submit herewith two copies of each of these three linguistic versions: the first copy is the text as signed on 8 December 2005 and the second copy shows the suggested corrections to this text.

As far as no State having signed the Protocol III deposits an objection till 1st March 2006, the Depositary will perform these corrections in the original and deliver certified true copies of the Arabic, Chinese and Russian consolidated texts with the relative procès-verbal of rectification.

According to Article 79 paragraph 2 of the Vienna Convention of 23 May 1969 on the law of treaties, possible objections may not be general, but have to indicate precisely which proposed correction is refused. Furthermore, the Depositary wishes all possible objections

to be justified, the aim of these modifications being to restore the concordance of all the linguistic versions and to correct the errors of syntax and orthography. The consequence of an objection would be the upholding of the signed text actually containing the said errors.

IV. *Communications from the depositary*

The Protocol III will remain open for signature until 7 December 2006, upon appointment, at the Depositary in Berne.

It will furthermore be possible to sign the Protocol III in Geneva on 13 and 14 March 2006, at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organizations.

The States Parties intending to sign the Protocol III are kindly asked to notify the Depositary (DFA, Treaty Section, CH-3003 Berne; Phone: +41 31 325 07 63, Fax: +41 31 325 07 29, E-Mail: dv-staatsvertraege@eda.admin.ch) and to submit in advance, if not already done, for control purposes, the necessary specific full powers for such a signature.

The States Parties which submitted only copies or faxes of full powers, for the signing of the Protocol III or for their participation in the Diplomatic Conference of 5-8 December 2005 in Geneva, are kindly asked to submit to the Depositary the corresponding original documents.

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as Depositary of the Geneva Conventions and according to articles 15 and 17 of Protocol III.

Enclosures



Berne, 23 January 2006