

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

p.o.411.61. Belize/Guinea/Samoa/Ang.  
p.o.411.61.0  
p.o.411.619. Togo/Belize/Guinea/RCA/Samoa/Oman/Ang.  
p.o.411.619.0

N o t i f i c a t i o n

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

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I

Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949  
for the Protection of War Victims

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1. Accession of Belize to the Geneva Conventions

On 29 June 1984, Belize has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, for the Protection of War Victims, as there are:

- Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field,
- Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea,
- Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War,
- Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

According to their clauses, Belize shall become a party to the four Geneva Conventions six months later, i.e. on 29 December 1984.

2. Accession of Guinea to the Geneva Conventions

On 11 July 1984, the Republic of Guinea has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the four Geneva Conventions mentioned above.

According to their final clauses, the Republic of Guinea shall become a party to the four Geneva Conventions six months later, i.e. on 11 January 1985.

3. Succession of Samoa to the Geneva Conventions

The Independent State of Western Samoa has declared that it considers itself bound by the four Geneva Conventions mentioned above in virtue of the ratification of these Conventions by New Zealand.

The declaration of the Independent State of Western Samoa dated 1 August 1984 and received on 23 August 1984 takes effect retroactively on 1 January 1962, the date of accession to independence.

4. Accession of Angola to the Geneva Conventions

On 20 September 1984, the People's Republic of Angola has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the four Geneva Conventions mentioned above.

According to their final clauses, the People's Republic of Angola shall become a party to the four Geneva Conventions six months later, i.e. on 20 March 1985.

The said instrument of accession contains the following reservation:

"Ao aderir às Convenções de Genebra de 12 de Agosto de 1949, a República Popular de Angola reserva-se o direito de não estender o benefício decorrente do artigo 85<sup>o</sup> da Convenção relativa ao tratamento dos prisioneiros de guerra, aos autores de crimes de guerra e de crimes contra a humanidade, definidos no artigo sexto dos "Princípios de Nuremberga", tal como formulados em 1950 pela Comissão de Direito Internacional, por incumbência da Assembleia Geral das Nações Unidas."

II

Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I), of 8 June 1977;

Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), of 8 June 1977.

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1. Ratification of the two Protocols by Togo

On 21 June 1984, the Togolese Republic has deposited with the Swiss Government two instruments of ratification of the Protocols mentioned above.

According to the final clauses of the two Protocols, the ratification of the Togolese Republic shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 21 December 1984.

2. Accession of Belize to the two Protocols

On 29 June 1984, Belize has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocols mentioned above.

According to the final clauses of the two Protocols, the accession of Belize shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 29 December 1984.

3. Accession of Guinea to the two Protocols

On 11 July 1984, the Republic of Guinea has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocols mentioned above.

According to the final clauses of the two Protocols, the accession of the Republic of Guinea shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 11 January 1985.

4. Accession of the Central African Republic to the two Protocols

On 17 July 1984, the Central African Republic has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocols mentioned above.

According to the final clauses of the two Protocols, the accession of the Central African Republic shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 17 January 1985.

5. Accession of Samoa to the two Protocols

On 23 August 1984, the Independent State of Western Samoa has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocols mentioned above.

According to the final clauses of the two Protocols, the accession of the Independent State of Western Samoa shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 23 February 1985.

6. Accession of Angola to the Protocol Additional I

On 20 September 1984, the People's Republic of Angola has deposited with the Swiss Government an instrument of accession to the Protocol Additional I only.

According to the final clauses of the aforementioned Protocol the accession of the People's Republic of Angola shall take effect six months later, i.e. on 20 March 1985.

The said instrument of accession contains the following declaration:

"Ao aderir o Protocolo I de 1977, Adicional às Convenções de Genebra de 12 de Agosto de 1949, a República Popular de Angola, declara que enquanto não entrar em vigor e o Estado Angolano não se

tornar parte da Convenção Internacional sobre o Mercenarismo presentemente em fase de elaboração no seio da Organização das Nações Unidas, a República Popular de Angola, considerará que comete crime de mercenarismo:

- A) Aquele que recrutar, organizar, financiar, equipar, treinar ou qualquer outra forma de empregar os mercenários;
- B) Aquele que no Território sob jurisdição ou em qualquer outro local sob seu controlo, permita que se desenvolvam as actividades referidas na alínea anterior ou conceda facilidade para o trânsito ou transporte dos mercenários;
- C) O cidadão estrangeiro que em Território Angolano, desenvolva qualquer actividade atrás referida, contra outro País;
- D) O cidadão angolano que visando atentar contra a soberania e a integridade territorial de um País estrangeiro ou contra a autodeterminação de um Povo, pratique as actividades referidas nos artigos anteriores."

7. Communication of Israel relating to a declaration of the Sultanate of Oman:

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By its notification of 15 June 1984, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs has informed the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of the accession of the Sultanate of Oman to the Protocols I and II, together with a declaration. Referring to the aforementioned notification, the State of Israel, Party to the Geneva Conventions, has transmitted to the Swiss Government, by note of 2 August 1984, the following communication:

"The Government of Israel has taken note that an instrument of Adhesion to the Additional Protocols (I and II) to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 adopted on 8 June 1977, was

received from the Sultanate of Oman and placed with the Government of Switzerland on 29 March 1984.

The Instrument deposited by the Sultanate of Oman includes a hostile declaration of a political character regarding Israel. In the view of the Government of Israel the Geneva Conventions and the Protocols are not the appropriate channel for making political pronouncements, which are, moreover, in flagrant contradiction to the principles, objects and purposes of the Conventions and the Protocols. The statement by the Sultanate of Oman cannot in any way affect whatever obligations are binding upon it under general international law or under particular conventions. In so far as the substance of the matter is concerned, the Government of Israel will adopt towards the Sultanate of Oman an attitude of complete reciprocity."

The present notification is made by the Swiss Government in its capacity of Depository of the Geneva Conventions and of the Protocols Additional.

Berne, 27 September 1984