

Translated from Spanish

Report

Comments and observations of the Republic of Paraguay concerning the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/30, entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts"

> States parties are called upon to become parties to the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols:

The Republic of Paraguay approved and ratified the Geneva Conventions by Act No. 693 of 30 September 1960.

Protocols I and II to the Geneva Conventions were approved by Act No. 28 of 20 August 1990.

Act No. 3455 of 4 April 2008 on the adoption of an additional distinctive emblem (Protocol III) for the Red Cross was recently enacted.

> All States are called upon to consider becoming parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict:

The Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, as well as its implementing regulations and its Protocol, were approved by Act No. 2429 of 19 August 2004.

The Second Protocol to the Convention was approved by Act No. 2438 of 1 September 2004.

In accordance with those provisions, the Inter-ministerial Committee for the Study and Application of International Humanitarian Law (CEADIH), together with the Department of Legal Affairs, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the Ministry of Defence, is currently engaged in registering cultural property. The registration of such property located in the Casa de la Independencia, the "El Cabildo" Cultural Centre, the Ñandejara Guazú church in the town of Piribebuy and the national sanctuary of Our Lady of Miracles of Caacupé has begun. More recently, those activities have expanded to include the San Blas church in the city of Itá.

> All States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions are called upon to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation:

CEADIH has prepared an educational document entitled "Guide to Humanitarian Standards", which contains principles and provisions for the dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law within the Armed Forces. By means of General Order No. 112 of 28 June 2007, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Armed Forces ordered the approval and publication of the guide and its distribution to all military personnel serving in the National Armed Forces.

In addition, the educational document entitled “Soldier’s Guide” was prepared by the Department of Legal Affairs, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the Ministry of Defence, with the support of the United Nations Information Centre. The document was distributed to Paraguay’s military units.

> To promote the establishment of national commissions or committees for the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and the dissemination of the rules of international humanitarian law:

The Republic of Paraguay established CEADIH by Decree No. 8802 of 12 May 1995; the committee was subsequently restructured by Decree No. 15.926 of 28 December 2001. CEADIH comprises representatives of the Ministry of Defence (which hosts the Office of the President and the General Secretariat), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Labour, the Ministry of the Interior and the Paraguayan Red Cross.
