
Translated from Arabic

Republic of Lebanon

Ministry of Defence

Office of the Minister

Subject: Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict

In note LA/COD/2, the Secretary-General of the United Nations requests Member States to provide information by 1 June 2012 regarding the status of the Protocols Additional and measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law and implement it at the national level.

The Ministry of Defence is committed to implementing all international conventions and instruments in its areas of competence which have been ratified by Lebanon. By virtue of the Law of 28 February 1997 (International Convention No. 613), article 1, the Government of Lebanon is authorized to become a party to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949. The requirement to implement the provisions of the two Protocols takes precedence over ordinary law, as article 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure states that where the provisions of international conventions conflict with those of ordinary law, the first shall prevail.

International humanitarian law is a basic component of the curricula of military schools and academies at all levels. Annual courses on the topic have been organized for officers, and conferences and seminars have been held for various military units.

On 2 December 2009, the Army Command under the Ministry of Defence established an Office of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. Its functions include examining all treaties and conventions signed by Lebanon concerning international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and incorporating them into the work of the Army.

(signed) Fa'iz **Ghusn**

Minister of Defence