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*Translated from Arabic*

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has taken a number of measures that are aimed at promulgating and implementing international humanitarian law, the most significant of which are set forth below:

A. The establishment of the National Committee for International Humanitarian Law.

The National Committee for International Humanitarian Law was established pursuant to Prime Minister's Decree No. 2989 of 2004. It is chaired by the Minister of State for Red Crescent Affairs and its members include representatives of the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Defence, Foreign Affairs and Higher Education; the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and the Directorate of Civil Defence. The mandate of the National Committee is to implement the provisions of international humanitarian law by means of the following:

1. Compiling a list of the operative international humanitarian law-related international instruments to which Syria has become a party, with a view to enumerating and implementing the measures that are required under those commitments.
2. Continuing to exert endeavours to incorporate information on international humanitarian law into the textbooks of the faculties of law, political science and international relations of Government and private universities and further education levels; evaluating that experience.
3. Inviting a number of media experts to formulate a programme of work for the media for the optimum propagation of international humanitarian law.

The activities undertaken by the Committee:

- At the national level: activating measures for the implementation of international humanitarian law.
- At the regional level: partnering with regional groups active in the sphere of international humanitarian law.
- With regard to training:
  - Regular courses for the training of police officer and army trainers on the implementation of international humanitarian law.
  - Training courses for judges, members of the People's Assembly, doctors, heads of department in faculties of law and certain media personnel.
  - Workshops on international humanitarian law for diplomats and the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, run in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross.

B. Ratification of international humanitarian law-related instruments.

- In 1953, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic ratified the four Geneva Conventions.
- In 1983, it ratified the First Additional Protocol of 1977 and is continuing to study the extent to which it may accede to the provisions of the Second Additional Protocol.