



**STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

delivered by  
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**Agenda item 83: Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts  
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We thank the Secretary General for his report. The Philippines was among the Member States that submitted information on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level.

The Philippines is strongly committed to promoting and supporting international humanitarian law. It is party to all four (4) Geneva Conventions and all three (3) Additional Protocols. In this regard we call on all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols as well.

As indicated in our submission, to implement Protocol II we enacted in 2019 Republic Act No. 11188, the Special Protection of Children in Situations of Armed Conflict Act, which declares children as 'Zones of Peace' and mandates the government to provide them protection. We also have Republic Act No. 10821, the Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act, enacted in 2016.

For Protocols I and III we have had since 2009 Republic Act No. 9851, or the Philippine Act on Crimes against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide and Other Crimes against Humanity, which incorporates many of the obligations of international humanitarian law into domestic law. For Protocol III, we also enacted in 2013 Republic Act No. 10530, the Red Cross and Other Emblems Act.

In line with our commitment to the international treaty framework humanitarian law the Philippines ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions last year. We have also been party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict since 2003.

Our commitment goes beyond this and into full implementation. Working with the International Committee of the Red Cross, we have taken practical measures such as incorporating international humanitarian law into the doctrine, field training and rules of

engagement of our armed forces and law enforcement personnel. Even the simple annual commemoration of an International Humanitarian Law Day has shown to be effective in disseminating and reminding us of the importance of our obligations in this regard.

Thank you.