

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL III

I. Signatures of the Protocol III

The Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), done at Geneva on 8 December 2005, was recently signed by the following States:

(1) Republic of Moldova on 13 September 2006(2) Georgia on 28 September 2006

II. Ratification by the Republic of Bulgaria

On 13 September 2006, the Republic of Bulgaria deposited with the Swiss Federal Council its instrument of ratification of the Protocol III.

Pursuant to its Article 11, paragraph 2, the Protocol will enter into force for the Republic of Bulgaria six months after the deposit of the instrument, i.e. on 13 March 2007.

III. Communication from the depositary

The Protocol III will remain open for signature until 7 December 2006. The States Parties intending to sign the Protocol III are kindly asked to notify the Depositary (DFA, Treaty Section, CH-3003 Berne; Phone: +41 31 325 07 63, Fax: +41 31 325 07 29, E-Mail: dv-staatsvertraege@eda.admin.ch) and to submit in advance for control purposes the necessary specific full powers for such a signature.

For the Signatories, the Protocol III is subject to ratification. Parties to the Geneva Conventions which have not signed the Protocola can transmit to the Depositary an instrument of accession.

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as Depositary of the Geneva Conventions and according to article 15 of Protocol III.