



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

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***I. Communication by Spain***

In its capacity as depositary and pursuant to Articles 48/49/128/145 of the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, the Swiss Federal Council has the honour to inform the Governments of the States parties of the following communication by Spain, received on 4 May 2004 (original Spanish version):

*"... España ha modificado parcialmente la normativa sobre uniformidad de los Capellanes del Servicio de Asistencia Religiosa de las Fuerzas Armadas (SARFAS). Entre las modificaciones introducidas se encuentra una que constituye un supuesto concreto de adopción de medidas nacionales de aplicación de las normas del Derecho Internacional Humanitario. Se trata de los Capellanes del Arzobispado Castrense que participen con la unidad de su destino o comisión en operaciones que puedan implicar el uso de la fuerza, disponiéndose entonces el uso sobre el uniforme de campaña del signo distintivo internacional del personal religioso, consistente en una cruz roja sobre fondo blanco, establecido para la protección de los capellanes agregados a las Fuerzas Armadas en los Convenios de Ginebra de 12 de agosto de 1949 y en sus Protocolos Adicionales de 8 de junio de 1977 ..."*

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I

***II. Declaration by the Republic of Korea***

On 16 April 2004, the Republic of Korea deposited with the Swiss Federal Council the following declaration (English translation of the Korean original version):

*"The Government of the Republic of Korea recognizes ipso facto and without special agreement, in relation to any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission to enquire into allegations by such other Party, as authorized by Article 90 of Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949".*

### **III. Declaration by Burkina Faso**

On 24 May 2004, Burkina Faso deposited with the Swiss Federal Council the following declaration (original French version):

*"Le Gouvernement du Burkina Faso ... déclare reconnaître de plein droit et sans accord spécial, à l'égard de toute autre Haute Partie Contractante qui accepte la même obligation, la compétence de la Commission internationale d'établissement des faits pour enquêter sur les allégations d'une telle Partie, comme l'y autorise l'article 90 du Protocole I additionnel aux Conventions de Genève de 1949".*

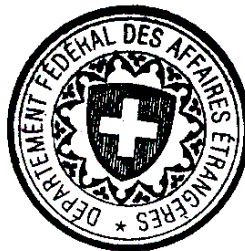
ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS I and II

### **IV. Procès-verbal of rectification of the English texts**

Following the depositary's notification from 28 January 2004, against which no objection was formulated, and in conformity with Article 102 of Protocol I and Article 28 of Protocol II, a procès-verbal, established on 26 May 2004, of rectification of the authentic English text of Protocol I and II and of the certified copy of Annex I to Protocol I (as amended in 1993), is transmitted herewith.

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as depositary of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

Enclosure mentioned



Berne, 26 May 2004