

2. Any military or civilian authorities who, in time of armed conflict, assume responsibilities in respect of the application of the Conventions and this Protocol shall be fully acquainted with the text thereof.

*Article 84 — Rules of application*

The High Contracting Parties shall communicate to one another, as soon as possible, through the depositary and, as appropriate, through the Protecting Powers, their official translations of this Protocol, as well as the laws and regulations which they may adopt to ensure its application. 5

**SECTION II — REPRESSION OF BREACHES OF THE CONVENTIONS AND OF THIS PROTOCOL** 10

*Article 85 — Repression of breaches of this Protocol*

1. The provisions of the Conventions relating to the repression of breaches and grave breaches, supplemented by this Section, shall apply to the repression of breaches and grave breaches of this Protocol.
2. Acts described as grave breaches in the Conventions are grave breaches of this Protocol if committed against persons in the power of an adverse Party protected by Articles 44, 45 and 73 of this Protocol, or against the wounded, sick and shipwrecked of the adverse Party who are protected by this Protocol, or against those medical or religious personnel, medical units or medical transports which are under the control of the adverse Party and are protected by this Protocol. 15 20
3. In addition to the grave breaches defined in Article 11, the following acts shall be regarded as grave breaches of this Protocol, when committed wilfully, in violation of the relevant provisions of this Protocol, and causing death or serious injury to body or health:
  - (a) making the civilian population or individual civilians the object of attack; 25
  - (b) launching an indiscriminate attack affecting the civilian population or civilian objects in the knowledge that such attack will cause excessive loss of life, injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects, as defined in Article 57, paragraph 2 (a)(iii);
  - (c) launching an attack against works or installations containing dangerous forces 30 in the knowledge that such attack will cause excessive loss of life, injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects, as defined in Article 57, paragraph 2(a)(iii);
  - (d) making non-defended localities and demilitarized zones the object of attack;
  - (e) making a person the object of attack in the knowledge that he is *hors de* 35 *combat*;
  - (f) the perfidious use, in violation of Article 37, of the distinctive emblem of the red cross, red crescent or red lion and sun or of other protective signs recognized by the Conventions or this Protocol.
4. In addition to the grave breaches defined in the preceding paragraphs and in the Conventions, the following shall be regarded as grave breaches of this Protocol, when committed wilfully and in violation of the Conventions or the Protocol: 40
  - (a) the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies, or the deportation or transfer of all or parts of the population of the occupied territory within or outside this territory, in 45 violation of Article 49 of the Fourth Convention;

- (b) unjustifiable delay in the repatriation of prisoners of war or civilians;
  - (c) practices of apartheid and other inhuman and degrading practices involving outrages upon personal dignity, based on racial discrimination;
  - (d) making the clearly-recognized historic monuments, works of art or places of worship which constitute the cultural or spiritual heritage of peoples and to which special protection has been given by special arrangement, for example, within the framework of a competent international organization, the object of attack, causing as a result extensive destruction thereof, where there is no evidence of the violation by the adverse Party of Article 53, sub-paragraph (b), and when such historic monuments, works of art and places of worship are not located in the immediate proximity of military objectives;
  - (e) depriving a person protected by the Conventions or referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article of the rights of fair and regular trial.
5. Without prejudice to the application of the Conventions and of this Protocol, grave breaches of these instruments shall be regarded as war crimes.

*Article 86 — Failure to act*

- 1. The High Contracting Parties and the Parties to the conflict shall repress grave breaches, and take measures necessary to suppress all other breaches, of the Conventions or of this Protocol which result from a failure to act when under a duty to do so.
- 2. The fact that a breach of the Conventions or of this Protocol was committed by a subordinate does not absolve his superiors from penal or disciplinary responsibility, as the case may be, if they knew, or had information which should have enabled them to conclude in the circumstances at the time, that he was committing or was going to commit such a breach and if they did not take all feasible measures within their power to prevent or repress the breach.

*Article 87 — Duty of commanders*

- 1. The High Contracting Parties and the Parties to the conflict shall require military commanders, with respect to members of the armed forces under their command and other persons under their control, to prevent and, where necessary, to suppress and to report to competent authorities breaches of the Conventions and of this Protocol.
- 2. In order to prevent and suppress breaches, High Contracting Parties and Parties to the conflict shall require that, commensurate with their level of responsibility, commanders ensure that members of the armed forces under their command are aware of their obligations under the Conventions and this Protocol.
- 3. The High Contracting Parties and Parties to the conflict shall require any commander who is aware that subordinates or other persons under his control are going to commit or have committed a breach of the Conventions or of this Protocol, to initiate such steps as are necessary to prevent such violations of the Conventions or this Protocol, and, where appropriate, to initiate disciplinary or penal action against violators thereof.

*Article 88 — Mutual assistance in criminal matters*

- 1. The High Contracting Parties shall afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connexion with criminal proceedings brought in respect of grave breaches of the Conventions or of this Protocol.
- 2. Subject to the rights and obligations established in the Conventions and in Article 85, paragraph 1, of this Protocol, and when circumstances permit, the High Contracting Parties shall co-operate in the matter of extradition. They shall give

due consideration to the request of the State in whose territory the alleged offence has occurred.

3. The law of the High Contracting Party requested shall apply in all cases. The provisions of the preceding paragraphs shall not, however, affect the obligations arising from the provisions of any other treaty of a bilateral or multilateral nature which governs or will govern the whole or part of the subject of mutual assistance in criminal matters. 5

*Article 89 — Co-operation*

In situations of serious violations of the Conventions or of this Protocol, the High Contracting Parties undertake to act jointly or individually, in co-operation with the United Nations and in conformity with the United Nations Charter. 10

*Article 90 — International Fact-Finding Commission*

1. (a) An International Fact-Finding Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) consisting of fifteen members of high moral standing and acknowledged impartiality shall be established. 15
- (b) When not less than twenty High Contracting Parties have agreed to accept the competence of the Commission pursuant to paragraph 2, the depositary shall then, and at intervals of five years thereafter, convene a meeting of representatives of those High Contracting Parties for the purpose of electing the members of the Commission. At the meeting, the representatives shall elect the members of the Commission by secret ballot from a list of persons to which each of those High Contracting Parties may nominate one person. 20
- (c) The members of the Commission shall serve in their personal capacity and shall hold office until the election of new members at the ensuing meeting.
- (d) At the election, the High Contracting Parties shall ensure that the persons to be elected to the Commission individually possess the qualifications required and that, in the Commission as a whole, equitable geographical representation is assured. 25
- (e) In the case of a casual vacancy, the Commission itself shall fill the vacancy, having due regard to the provisions of the preceding sub-paragraphs. 30
- (f) The depositary shall make available to the Commission the necessary administrative facilities for the performance of its functions.
2. (a) The High Contracting Parties may at the time of signing, ratifying or acceding to the Protocol, or at any other subsequent time, declare that they recognize *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the competence of the Commission to inquire into allegations by such other Party, as authorized by this Article. 35
- (b) The declarations referred to above shall be deposited with the depositary, which shall transmit copies thereof to the High Contracting Parties. 40
- (c) The Commission shall be competent to:
  - (i) inquire into any facts alleged to be a grave breach as defined in the Conventions and this Protocol or other serious violation of the Conventions or of this Protocol,
  - (ii) facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Conventions and this Protocol. 45

- (d) In other situations, the Commission shall institute an inquiry at the request of a Party to the conflict only with the consent of the other Party or Parties concerned.
- (e) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the provisions of Article 52 of the First Convention, Article 53 of the Second Convention, Article 132 or the Third Convention and Article 149 of the Fourth Convention shall continue to apply to any alleged violation of the Conventions and shall extend to any alleged violation of this Protocol. 5
- 3. (a) Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties concerned, all inquiries shall be undertaken by a Chamber consisting of seven members appointed as follows: 10
  - (i) five members of the Commission, not nationals of any Party to the conflict, appointed by the President of the Commission on the basis of equitable representation of the geographical areas, after consultation with the Parties to the conflict;
  - (ii) two *ad hoc* members, not nationals of any Party to the conflict, one to be appointed by each side. 15
- (b) Upon receipt of the request for an inquiry, the President of the Commission shall specify an appropriate time limit for setting up a Chamber. If any *ad hoc* member has not been appointed within the time limit, the President shall immediately appoint such additional member or members of the Commission as may be necessary to complete the membership of the Chamber. 20
- 4. (a) The Chamber set up under paragraph 3 to undertake an enquiry shall invite the Parties to the conflict to assist it and to present evidence. The Chamber may also seek such other evidence as it deems appropriate and may carry out an investigation of the situation *in loco*. 25
- (b) All evidence shall be fully disclosed to the Parties, which shall have the right to comment on it to the Commission.
- (c) Each Party shall have the right to challenge such evidence.
- 5. (a) The Commission shall submit to the Parties a report on the findings of fact of the Chamber, with such recommendations as it may deem appropriate. 30
- (b) If the Chamber is unable to secure sufficient evidence for factual and impartial findings, the Commission shall state the reasons for that inability.
- (c) The Commission shall not report its findings publicly, unless all the Parties to the conflict have requested the Commission to do so.
- 6. The Commission shall establish its own rules, including rules for the presidency or the Commission and the presidency of the Chamber. Those rules shall ensure that the functions of the President of the Commission are exercised at all times and that, in the case of an inquiry, they are exercised by a person who is not a national of a Party to the conflict. 35
- 7. The administrative expenses of the Commission shall be met by contributions from the High Contracting Parties which made declarations under paragraph 2, and by voluntary contributions. The Party or Parties to the conflict requesting an inquiry shall advance the necessary funds for expenses incurred by a Chamber and shall be reimbursed by the Party or Parties against which the allegations are made to the extent of fifty per cent of the costs of the Chamber. Where there are counter-allegations before the Chamber each side shall advance fifty per cent of the necessary funds. 40 45



*Article 91 — Responsibility*

A Party to the conflict which violates the provisions of the Conventions or of this Protocol shall, if the case demands, be liable to pay compensation. It shall be responsible for all acts committed by persons forming part of its armed forces.

5

PART VI

FINAL PROVISIONS

*Article 92 — Signature*

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the Parties to the Conventions six months after the signing of the Final Act and will remain open for a period of twelve months. 10

*Article 93 — Ratification*

This Protocol shall be ratified as soon as possible. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Swiss Federal Council, depositary of the Conventions.

*Article 94 — Accession*

15

This Protocol shall be open for accession by any Party to the Conventions which has not signed it. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the depositary.

*Article 95 — Entry into force*

1. This Protocol shall enter into force six months after two instruments of ratification or accession have been deposited. 20
2. For each Party to the Conventions thereafter ratifying or acceding to this Protocol, it shall enter into force six months after the deposit by such Party of its instrument of ratification or accession.

*Article 96 — Treaty relations upon entry into force of this Protocol*

25

1. When the Parties to the Conventions are also Parties to this Protocol, the Conventions shall apply as supplemented by this Protocol.
2. When one of the Parties to the conflict is not bound by this Protocol, the Parties to the Protocol shall remain bound by it in their mutual relations. They shall furthermore be bound by this Protocol in relation to each of the Parties which are not bound by it, if the latter accepts and applies the provisions thereof. 30
3. The authority representing a people engaged against a High Contracting Party in an armed conflict of the type referred to in Article 1, paragraph 4, may undertake to apply the Conventions and this Protocol in relation to that conflict by means of a unilateral declaration addressed to the depositary. Such declaration shall, upon its receipt by the depositary, have in relation to that conflict the following effects: 35
  - (a) the Conventions and this Protocol are brought into force for the said authority as a Party to the conflict with immediate effect;
  - (b) the said authority assumes the same rights and obligations as those which have been assumed by a High Contracting Party to the Conventions and this Protocol; and 40
  - (c) the Conventions and this Protocol are equally binding upon all Parties to the conflict.

*Article 97 — Amendment*

1. Any High Contracting Party may propose amendments to this Protocol. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the depositary, which shall decide, after consultation with all the High Contracting Parties and the International Committee of the Red Cross, whether a conference should be convened to consider the proposed amendment. 5
2. The depositary shall invite to that conference all the High Contracting Parties as well as the Parties to the Conventions, whether or not they are signatories or this Protocol.

*Article 98 — Revision of Annex I*

10

1. Not later than four years after the entry into force of this Protocol and thereafter at intervals of not less than four years, the International Committee of the Red Cross shall consult the High Contracting Parties concerning Annex I to this Protocol and, if it considers it necessary, may propose a meeting of technical experts to review Annex I and to propose such amendments to it as may appear to be desirable. 15  
Unless, within six months of the communication of a proposal for such a meeting to the High Contracting Parties, one third of them object, the International Committee of the Red Cross shall convene the meeting, inviting also observers of appropriate international organizations. Such a meeting shall also be convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross at any time at the request of one third of the High Contracting Parties. 20
2. The depositary shall convene a conference of the High Contracting Parties and the Parties to the Conventions to consider amendments proposed by the meeting of technical experts if, after that meeting, the International Committee of the Red Cross or one third of the High Contracting Parties so request. 25
3. Amendments to Annex I may be adopted at such a conference by a two-thirds majority of the High Contracting Parties present and voting.
4. The depositary shall communicate any amendment so adopted to the High Contracting Parties and to the Parties to the Conventions. The amendment shall be considered to have been accepted at the end of a period of one year after it has been so communicated, unless within that period a declaration of non-acceptance of the amendment has been communicated to the depositary by not less than one third of the High Contracting Parties. 30
5. An amendment considered to have been accepted in accordance with paragraph 4 shall enter into force three months after its acceptance for all High Contracting Parties other than those which have made a declaration of non-acceptance in accordance with that paragraph. Any Party making such a declaration may at any time withdraw it and the amendment shall then enter into force for that Party three months thereafter. 35
6. The depositary shall notify the High Contracting Parties and the Parties to the Conventions of the entry into force of any amendment, of the Parties bound thereby, of the date of its entry into force in relation to each Party, of declarations of non-acceptance made in accordance with paragraph 4, and of withdrawals of such declarations. 40

*Article 99 — Denunciation*

45

1. In case a High Contracting Party should denounce this Protocol, the denunciation shall only take effect one year after receipt of the instrument of denunciation. If, however, on the expiry of that year the denouncing Party is engaged in one of the situations referred to in Article I, the denunciation shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict or occupation and not, in any case, before operations connected with the final release, repatriation or re-establishment of the persons protected by the Convention or this Protocol have been terminated. 50

2. The denunciation shall be notified in writing to the depositary, which shall transmit it to all the High Contracting Parties.
3. The denunciation shall have effect only in respect of the denouncing Party.
4. Any denunciation under paragraph 1 shall not affect the obligations already incurred, by reason of the armed conflict, under this Protocol by such denouncing Party in respect of any act committed before this denunciation becomes effective. 5

*Article 100 — Notifications*

The depositary shall inform the High Contracting Parties as well as the Parties to the Conventions, whether or not they are signatories of this Protocol, of:

- (a) signatures affixed to this Protocol and the deposit of instruments of ratification and accession under Articles 93 and 94; 10
- (b) the date of entry into force of this Protocol under Article 95;
- (c) communications and declarations received under Articles 84, 90 and 97;
- (d) declarations received under Article 96, paragraph 3, which shall be communicated by the quickest methods; and 15
- (e) denunciations under Article 99.

*Article 101 — Registration*

1. After its entry into force, this Protocol shall be transmitted by the depositary to the Secretariat of the United Nations for registration and publication, in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. 20
2. The depositary shall also inform the Secretariat of the United Nations of all ratifications, accessions and denunciations received by it with respect to this Protocol.

*Article 102 — Authentic texts*

The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the depositary, which shall transmit certified true copies thereof to all the Parties to the Conventions. 25

## ANNEX I REGULATIONS CONCERNING IDENTIFICATION

### *Article 1 — General provisions*

1. The regulations concerning identification in this Annex implement the relevant provisions of the Geneva Conventions and the Protocol; they are intended to facilitate the identification of personnel, material, units, transports and installations protected under the Geneva Conventions and the Protocol. 5
2. These rules do not in and of themselves establish the right to protection. This right is governed by the relevant articles in the Conventions and the Protocol.
3. The competent authorities may, subject to the relevant provisions of the Geneva Conventions and the Protocol, at all times regulate the use, display, illumination and detectability of the distinctive emblems and signals. 10
4. The High Contracting Parties and in particular the Parties to the conflict are invited at all times to agree upon additional or other signals, means or systems which enhance the possibility of identification and take full advantage of technological developments in this field. 15

### *CHAPTER I — IDENTITY CARDS*

#### *Article 2 — Identity card for permanent civilian medical and religious personnel*

1. The identity card for permanent civilian medical and religious personnel referred to in Article 18, paragraph 3, of the Protocol should: 20
  - (a) bear the distinctive emblem and be of such size that it can be carried in the pocket;
  - (b) be as durable as practicable;
  - (c) be worded in the national or official language and, in addition and when appropriate, in the local language of the region concerned; 25
  - (d) mention the name, the date of birth (or, if that date is not available, the age at the time of issue) and the identity number, if any, of the holder;
  - (e) state in what capacity the holder is entitled to the protection of the Conventions and of the Protocol; 30
  - (f) bear the photograph of the holder as well as his signature or his thumbprint, or both;
  - (g) bear the stamp and signature of the competent authority;
  - (h) state the date of issue and date of expiry of the card;
  - (i) indicate, whenever possible, the holder's blood group, on the reverse side of the card. 35
2. The identity card shall be uniform throughout the territory of each High Contracting Party and, as far as possible, of the same type for all Parties to the conflict. The Parties to the conflict may be guided by the single-language model shown in Figure 1. At the outbreak of hostilities, they shall transmit to each other a specimen of the model they are using, if such model differs from that shown in Figure 1. The identity card shall be made out, if possible, in duplicate, one copy being kept by the issuing authority, which should maintain control of the cards which it has issued. 40



3. In no circumstances may permanent civilian medical and religious personnel be deprived of their identity cards. In the event of the loss of a card, they shall be entitled to obtain a duplicate copy.

*Article 3 — Identity card for temporary civilian medical and religious personnel*

1. The identity card for temporary civilian medical and religious personnel should, 5  
whenever possible, be similar to that provided for in Article 1 of these Regulations.  
The Parties to the conflict may be guided by the model shown in Figure 1.
2. When circumstances preclude the provision to temporary civilian medical and 10  
religious personnel of identity cards similar to those described in Article 3 of these  
Regulations, the said personnel may be provided with a certificate signed by the  
competent authority certifying that the person to whom it is issued is assigned to  
duty as temporary personnel and stating, if possible, the duration of such  
assignment and his right to wear the distinctive emblem. The certificate should  
mention the holder's name and date of birth (or, if that is not available, his age at  
the time when the certificate was issued), his function and identity number, if any. 15  
It shall bear his signature or his thumbprint, or both.

FRONT



	(space reserved for the name of the country and authority issuing this card)	
<b>IDENTITY CARD</b>		
for <b>PERMANENT</b> civilian medical personnel <b>TEMPORARY</b> religious		
Name . . . . .		
Date of birth (or age) . . . . .		
Identity No. (if any) . . . . .		
The holder of this card is protected by the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and by the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I) in his capacity as . . . . .		
Date of issue . . . . .	No. of card . . . . .	
Signature of issuing authority		
Date of expiry . . . . .		

Fig. 1: Model of identity card (format: 74 mm x 105 mm)

REVERSE SIDE

Height . . . . .	Eyes . . . . .	Hair . . . . .
Other distinguishing marks or information: . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .		
<b>PHOTO OF HOLDER</b>		
Stamp		Signature of holder or thumbprint or both

## CHAPTER II — THE DISTINCTIVE EMBLEM

### Article 4 — Shape

The distinctive emblem (red on a white ground) shall be as large as appropriate under the circumstances. For the shapes of the cross, the crescent or the lion and sun, the High Contracting Parties may be guided by the models shown in Figure 2. 5

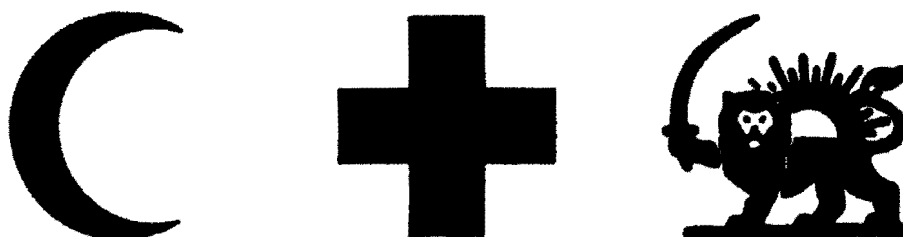


Fig. 2: Distinctive emblems in red on a white ground

### Article 5 — Use

1. The distinctive emblem shall, whenever possible, be displayed on a flat surface, on flags or in any other way appropriate to the lay of the land, so that it is visible from as many directions and from as far away as possible, and in particular from the air. 10
2. At night or when visibility is reduced, the distinctive emblem may be lighted or illuminated.
3. The distinctive emblem may be made of materials which make it recognizable by technical means of detection. The red part should be painted on top of black primer paint in order to facilitate its identification, in particular by infrared instruments. 15
4. Medical and religious personnel carrying out their duties in the battle area shall, as far as possible, wear headgear and clothing bearing the distinctive emblem.

## CHAPTER III — DISTINCTIVE SIGNALS

### Article 6 — Use

20

1. All distinctive signals specified in this Chapter may be used by medical units or transports.
2. These signals, at the exclusive disposal of medical units and transports, shall not be used for any other purpose, the use of the light signal being reserved (see paragraph 3 below). 25
3. In the absence of a special agreement between the Parties to the conflict reserving the use of flashing blue lights for the identification of medical vehicles, ships and craft, the use of such signals for other vehicles, ships and craft is not prohibited.
4. Temporary medical aircraft which cannot, either for lack of time or because of their characteristics, be marked with the distinctive emblem, may use the distinctive 30 signals authorized in this Chapter.

*Article 7 — Light signal*

1. The light signal, consisting of a flashing blue light as defined in the Airworthiness Technical Manual of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Doc. 9051, is established for the use of medical aircraft to signal their identity. No other aircraft shall use this signal. Medical aircraft using the flashing blue light should exhibit such lights as may be necessary to make the light signal visible from as many directions as possible. 5
2. In accordance with the provisions of Chapter XIV, para. 4 of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) International Code of Signals, vessels protected by the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Protocol should exhibit one or more flashing blue lights visible from any direction. 10
3. Medical vehicles should exhibit one or more flashing blue lights visible from as far away as possible. The High Contracting Parties and, in particular, the Parties to the conflict which use lights of other colours should give notification of this.
4. The recommended blue colour is obtained when its chromaticity is within the boundaries of the International Commission on Illumination (ICI) chromaticity diagram defined by the following equations: 15

green boundary	$y = 0.065 + 0.805 x$	
white boundary	$y = 0.400 - x$	
purple boundary	$x = 0.133 + 0.600 y$	20

The recommended flashing rate of the blue light is between sixty and one hundred flashes per minute.

*Article 8 — Radio signal*

1. The radio signal shall consist of the urgency signal and the distinctive signal as described in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulations (RR Articles 40 and N 40). 25
2. The radio message preceded by the urgency and distinctive signals mentioned in paragraph 1 shall be transmitted in English at appropriate intervals on a frequency or frequencies specified for this purpose in the Radio Regulations, and shall convey the following data relating to the medical transports concerned: 30
  - (a) call sign or other recognized means of identification;
  - (b) position;
  - (c) number and type of vehicles;
  - (d) intended route;
  - (e) estimated time *en route* and of departure and arrival, as appropriate; 35
  - (f) any other information, such as flight altitude, guarded radio frequencies, languages used and secondary surveillance radar modes and codes.
3. In order to facilitate the communications referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, as well as the communications referred to in Articles 22, 23 and 25 to 31 of the Protocol, the High Contracting Parties, the Parties to a conflict, or one of the Parties to a conflict, acting in agreement or alone, may designate, in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations in the Radio Regulations annexed to the International Telecommunication Convention, and publish selected national frequencies to be used by them for such communications. The International Telecommunication Union shall be notified of these frequencies in accordance with procedures approved by a World Administrative Radio Conference. 40 45



*Article 9 — Electronic identification*

1. The Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) system, as specified in Annex 10 to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944, as amended from time to time, may be used to identify and to follow the course of medical aircraft. The SSR mode and code to be reserved for the exclusive use of medical aircraft shall be established by the High Contracting Parties, the Parties to a conflict, or one of the Parties to a conflict, acting in agreement or alone, in accordance with procedures to be recommended by the International Civil Aviation Organization. 5

2. Protected medical transports may, for their identification and location, use standard aeronautical radar transponders and/or maritime search and rescue radar transponders. 10

It should be possible for protected medical transports to be identified by other vessels or aircraft equipped with secondary surveillance radar by means of a code transmitted by a radar transponder, e.g. in mode 3/A, fitted on the medical transports. 15

The code transmitted by the medical transport transponder should be assigned to that transport by the competent authorities and notified to all the Parties to the conflict.

3. It should be possible for medical transports to be identified by submarines by the appropriate underwater acoustic signals transmitted by the medical transports. 20

The underwater acoustic signal shall consist of the call sign (or any other recognized means of identification of medical transport) of the ship preceded by the single group YYY transmitted in morse on an appropriate acoustic frequency, e.g. 5 kHz. 25

Parties to a conflict wishing to use the underwater acoustic identification signal described above shall inform the Parties concerned of the signal as soon as possible, and shall, when notifying the use of their hospital ships, confirm the frequency to be employed.

4. Parties to a conflict may, by special agreement between them, establish for their use a similar electronic system for the identification of medical vehicles, and medical ships and craft. 30

*CHAPTER IV — COMMUNICATIONS*

*Article 10 — Radiocommunications* 35

1. The urgency signal and the distinctive signal provided for in Article 8 may precede appropriate radiocommunications by medical units and transports in the application of the procedures carried out under Articles 22, 23 and 25 to 31 of the Protocol.
2. The medical transports referred to in Articles 40 (Section II, No. 3209) and N 40 (Section III, No. 3214) of the ITU Radio Regulations may also transmit their communications by satellite systems, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 37, N 37 and 59 of the ITU Radio Regulations for the Mobile-Satellite Services. 40

*Article 11 — Use of international codes*

Medical units and transports may also use the codes and signals laid down by the International Telecommunication Union, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization. These codes and signals shall be used in accordance with the standards, practices and procedures established by these Organizations. 45

*Article 12 — Other means of communication*

When two-way radiocommunication is not possible, the signals provided for in the International Code of Signals adopted by the International Maritime Organization or in the appropriate Annex to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944, as amended from time to time, may be used. 5

*Article 13 — Flight plans*

The agreements and notifications relating to flight plans provided for in Article 29 of the Protocol shall as far as possible be formulated in accordance with procedures laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

*Article 14 — Signals and procedures for the interception of medical aircraft* 10



If an intercepting aircraft is used to verify the identity of a medical aircraft in flight or to require it to land in accordance with Articles 30 and 31 of the Protocol, the standard visual and radio interception procedures prescribed by Annex 2 to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944, as amended from time to time, should be used by the intercepting and the medical aircraft. 15

**CHAPTER V — CIVIL DEFENCE**

*Article 15 — Identity card*

1. The identity card of the civil defence personnel provided for in Article 66, paragraph 3, of the Protocol is governed by the relevant provisions of Article 2 of these Regulations. 20
2. The identity card for civil defence personnel may follow the model shown in Figure 3.

FRONT

 (space reserved for the name of the country and authority issuing this card) 	
<b>IDENTITY CARD</b> for civil defence personnel	
Name . . . . .	
Date of birth (or age) . . . . .	
Identity No. (if any) . . . . .	
The holder of this card is protected by the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and by the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I) in his capacity as . . . . .	
Date of issue . . . . .	No. of card . . . . .
Signature of issuing authority	
Date of expiry . . . . .	

REVERSE SIDE

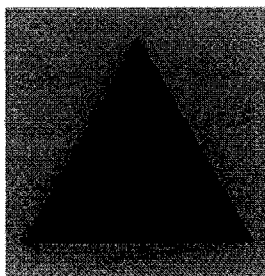
Height . . . . .	Eyes . . . . .	Hair . . . . .
Other distinguishing marks or information: . . . . . . . . . .		
Weapons . . . . .		
<b>PHOTO OF HOLDER</b>		
Stamp		Signature of holder or thumbprint or both

Fig. 3: Model of identity card for civil defence personnel (format: 74 mm x 105 mm)

3. If civil defence personnel are permitted to carry light individual weapons, an entry to that effect should be made on the card mentioned.

*Article 16 — International distinctive sign*

1. The international distinctive sign of civil defence provided for in Article 66, paragraph 4, of the Protocol is an equilateral blue triangle on an orange ground. A model is shown in Figure 4: 5



*Fig. 4: Blue triangle on an orange ground.*

2. It is recommended that:
  - (a) if the blue triangle is on a flag or armlet or tabard, the ground to the triangle be the orange flag, armlet or tabard; 10
  - (b) one of the angles of the triangle be pointed vertically upwards;
  - (c) no angle of the triangle touch the edge of the orange ground.
3. The international distinctive sign shall be as large as appropriate under the circumstances. The distinctive sign shall, whenever possible, be displayed on flat surfaces or on flags visible from as many directions and from as far away as possible. Subject to the instructions of the competent authority, civil defence personnel shall, as far as possible, wear headgear and clothing bearing the international distinctive sign. At night or when visibility is reduced, the sign may be lighted or illuminated; it may also be made of materials rendering it recognizable by technical means of detection. 15 20

**CHAPTER VI — WORKS AND INSTALLATIONS CONTAINING DANGEROUS FORCES**

*Article 17 — International special sign* 25

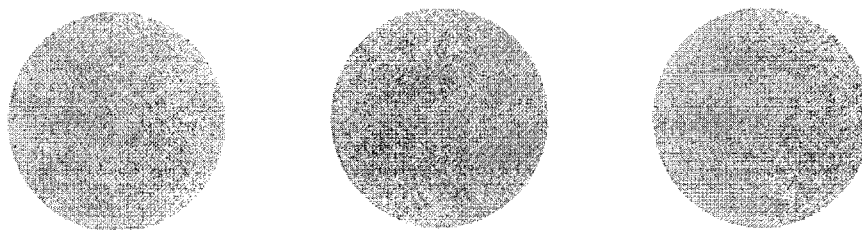
1. The international special sign for works and installations containing dangerous forces, as provided for in Article 56, paragraph 7, of the Protocol, shall be a group of three bright orange circles of equal size, placed on the same axis, the distance between each circle being one radius, in accordance with Figure 5 illustrated below. 30
2. The sign shall be as large as appropriate under the circumstances. When displayed over an extended surface it may be repeated as often as appropriate under the



circumstances. It shall, whenever possible, be displayed on flat surfaces or on flags so as to be visible from as many directions and from as far away as possible.

3. On a flag, the distance between the outer limits of the sign and the adjacent sides of the flag shall be one radius of a circle. The flag shall be rectangular and shall have a white ground.
4. At night or when visibility is reduced, the sign may be lighted or illuminated. It may also be made of materials rendering it recognizable by technical means of detection.

5



*Fig. 5: International special sign for works and installations containing dangerous forces*

**ANNEX II**

**IDENTITY CARD FOR JOURNALISTS  
ON DANGEROUS PROFESSIONAL MISSIONS**

FRONT

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE</b></p> <p>This identity card is issued to journalists on dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflicts. The holder is entitled to be treated as a civilian under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and their Additional Protocol I. The card must be carried at all times by the bearer. If he is detained, he shall at once hand it to the Detaining Authorities, to assist in his identification.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ملحوظة</b></p> <p>تصرف هذه البطاقة للصحفيين المكلفين بمهام مهنية خطيرة في مناطق المارعات المسلحة وبحق لصاحبها أن يعامل معاملة الشخص المدني وفقاً لاتفاقيات جنيف المؤرخة ١٢ آب / أغسطس ١٩٤٩ ولحقها ( بروتوكولها ) الإضافي الأول. ويجب أن يحتفظ صاحب البطاقة بها دوماً وإذا اعتقل فيجب أن يسلمها فوراً إلى سلطة الاعتقال لتساعد على تحديد هويته.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTA</b></p> <p>La presente tarjeta de identidad se expide a los periodistas en misión profesional peligrosa en zonas de conflictos armados. Su titular tiene derecho a ser tratado como persona civil conforme a los Convenios de Ginebra del 12 de agosto de 1949 y su Protocolo adicional I. El titular debe llevar la tarjeta consigo, en todo momento. En caso de ser detenido, la entregará inmediatamente a las autoridades que lo detengan a fin de facilitar su identificación.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AVIS</b></p> <p>La presente carte d'identité est délivrée aux journalistes en mission professionnelle périlleuse dans des zones de conflit armé. Le porteur a le droit d'être traité comme une personne civile aux termes des Conventions de Genève du 12 août 1949 et de leur Protocole additionnel I. La carte doit être portée en tout temps par son titulaire. Si celui-ci est arrêté, il la remettra immédiatement aux autorités qui le retiennent afin qu'elles puissent l'identifier.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ПРИМЕЧАНИЕ</b></p> <p>Настоящее удостоверение выдается журналистам, находящимся в опасных профессиональных командировках в районах вооруженного конфликта. Его обладатель имеет право на обращение с ним как с гражданским лицом и соответствии с Женевскими Конвенциями от 12 августа 1949 г. и Дополнительным Протоколом I к ним. Владелец настоящего удостоверения должен постоянно иметь его при себе. В случае задержания он немедленно вручает его задерживающим властям для содействия установлению его личности.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">(Name of country issuing this card) ( اسم القطر الصادر لهذه البطاقة ) (Nombre del país que expide esta tarjeta) (Nom du pays qui a délivré cette carte) (Название страны, выдавшей настоящее удостоверение)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IDENTITY CARD FOR JOURNALISTS ON DANGEROUS PROFESSIONAL MISSIONS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">بطاقة الهوية الخاصة بالصحفيين المكلفين بمهام مهنية خطيرة</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TARJETA DE IDENTIDAD DE PERIODISTA EN MISION PELIGROSA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CARTE D'IDENTITÉ DE JOURNALISTE EN MISSION PÉRILLEUSE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>УДОСТОВЕРЕНИЕ ЖУРНАЛИСТА, НАХОДЯЩЕГОСЯ В ОПАСНОЙ КОМАНДИРОВКЕ</b></p>
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REVERSE SIDE

Issued by (competent authority) (صورت من (السلطة المختصة) Expedida por (autoridad competente) Délivré par (autorité compétente) Выдано (компетентным властям)		Height القبول Estatura Ojos Taille Yeux Рост Глаза	Eyes القبول Ojos Yeux Глаза
Photograph of bearer صورة صاحب البطاقة Fotografía del titular Photographie du porteur Фотография предъявителя	Place Lugar Lieu Место Date تاريخ Fecha Дата	Weight الوزن Peso Poids Вес	Hair الشعر Cabello Cheveux Волосы
(Official seal imprint) (القنصل الرسمي) (Sello oficial) (Timbre de l'autorité délivrant la carte) (Официальная печать)		Blood type دماء Grupo sanguíneo Factor Rh Groupe sanguin Rh-фактор	Rh factor عامل دم Factor Rh Rh-фактор
(Signature of bearer) (توقيع صاحب البطاقة) (Firma del titular) (Signature du porteur) (Подпись владельца)		Religion (optional) ديانة (اختياري) Religión (optativo) Religion (facultatif) Религия (факультативно)	Religion (optional) ديانة (اختياري) Religión (optativo) Religion (facultatif) Религия (факультативно)
Name اسم العائلة Apellidos Nom Фамилия First names اسم Nombre Prénoms Имя, Отчество Place & date of birth مكان وتاريخ الميلاد Lugar y fecha de nacimiento Lieu & date de naissance Дата и место рождения Correspondent of مرسل Correspondant de Correspondant de Корреспондент Specific occupation المهنة Catégorie professionnelle Catégorie professionnelle Под занятием Valid for صالح لـ Válido por Dure de validité Действительно		Fingerprint (optional) قبعة (اختياري) Huellas dactilares (optativo) Empreintes digitales (facultatif) Отпечатки пальцев (факультативно)	Fingerprint (optional) قبعة (اختياري) Huellas dactilares (optativo) Empreintes digitales (facultatif) Отпечатки пальцев (факультативно)
Special marks of identification العلامات المميزة للبطاقة Señas particulares Signes particuliers Особые приметы		(Left forefinger) (اليد اليسرى) (Dedo índice izquierdo) (Index gauche) (Палец указательный левый)	(Right forefinger) (اليد اليمنى) (Dedo índice derecho) (Index droit) (Палец указательный правый)



## SCHEDULE 6

### PROTOCOL II

PROTOCOL ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF  
12 AUGUST 1949, AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF  
NON-INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS (PROTOCOL II), 5  
OF 8 JUNE 1977

### PREAMBLE

*The High Contracting Parties,*

*Recalling* that the humanitarian principles enshrined in Article 3 common to the  
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, constitute the foundation of respect for the 10  
human person in cases of armed conflict not of an international character,

*Recalling* furthermore that international instruments relating to human rights offer  
a basic protection to the human person,

*Emphasizing* the need to ensure a better protection for the victims of those armed  
conflicts, 15

*Recalling* that, in cases not covered by the law in force, the human person remains  
under the protection of the principles of humanity and the dictates of the public  
conscience,

*Have agreed* on the following:

### PART I 20 SCOPE OF THIS PROTOCOL

#### *Article 1 — Material field of application*

1. This Protocol, which develops and supplements Article 3 common to the Geneva  
Conventions of 12 August 1949 without modifying its existing conditions of 25  
application, shall apply to all armed conflicts which are not covered by Article 1 of  
the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating  
to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I) and  
which take place in the territory of a High Contracting Party between its armed  
forces and dissident armed forces or other organized armed groups which, under  
responsible command, exercise such control over a part of its territory as to enable 30  
them to carry out sustained and concerted military operations and to implement this  
Protocol.
2. This Protocol shall not apply to situations of internal disturbances and tensions,  
such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence and other acts of a similar 35  
nature, as not being armed conflicts.

#### *Article 2 — Personal field of application*

1. This Protocol shall be applied without any adverse distinction founded on race,  
colour, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or  
social origin, wealth, birth or other status, or on any other similar criteria  
(hereinafter referred to as “adverse distinction”) to all persons affected by an 40  
armed conflict as defined in Article 1.
2. At the end of the armed conflict, all the persons who have been deprived of their  
liberty or whose liberty has been restricted for reasons related to such conflict, as  
well as those deprived of their liberty or whose liberty is restricted after the conflict  
for the same reasons, shall enjoy the protection of Articles 5 and 6 until the end of 45  
such deprivation or restriction of liberty.

*Article 3 — Non-intervention*

1. Nothing in this Protocol shall be invoked for the purpose of affecting the sovereignty of a State or the responsibility of the government, by all legitimate means, to maintain or re-establish law and order in the State or to defend the national unity and territorial integrity of the State. 5
2. Nothing in this Protocol shall be invoked as a justification for intervening, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the armed conflict or in the internal or external affairs of the High Contracting Party in the territory of which that conflict occurs.

PART II  
HUMANE TREATMENT 10

*Article 4 — Fundamental guarantees*

1. All persons who do not take a direct part or who have ceased to take part in hostilities, whether or not their liberty has been restricted, are entitled to respect for their person, honour and convictions and religious practices. They shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction. It is prohibited to order that there shall be no survivors. 15
2. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the following acts against the persons referred to in paragraph 1 are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever: 20
  - (a) violence to the life, health and physical or mental well-being of persons, in particular murder as well as cruel treatment such as torture, mutilation or any form of corporal punishment;
  - (b) collective punishments;
  - (c) taking of hostages; 25
  - (d) acts of terrorism;
  - (e) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment, rape, enforced prostitution and any form of indecent assault;
  - (f) slavery and the slave trade in all their forms;
  - (g) pillage; 30
  - (h) threats to commit any or the foregoing acts.
3. Children shall be provided with the care and aid they require, and in particular:
  - (a) they shall receive an education, including religious and moral education, in keeping with the wishes of their parents, or in the absence of parents, of those responsible for their care; 35
  - (b) all appropriate steps shall be taken to facilitate the reunion of families temporarily separated;
  - (c) children who have not attained the age of fifteen years shall neither be recruited in the armed forces or groups nor allowed to take part in hostilities;
  - (d) the special protection provided by this Article to children who have not attained the age of fifteen years shall remain applicable to them if they take a direct part in hostilities despite the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) and are captured; 40

- (e) measures shall be taken, if necessary, and whenever possible with the consent of their parents or persons who by law or custom are primarily responsible for their care, to remove children temporarily from the area in which hostilities are taking place to a safer area within the country and ensure that they are accompanied by persons responsible for their safety and well-being. 5

*Article 5 — Persons whose liberty has been restricted*

1. In addition to the provisions of Article 4, the following provisions shall be respected as a minimum with regard to persons deprived of their liberty for reasons related to the armed conflict, whether they are interned or detained:
  - (a) the wounded and the sick shall be treated in accordance with Article 7; 10
  - (b) the persons referred to in this paragraph shall, to the same extent as the local civilian population, be provided with food and drinking water and be afforded safeguards as regards health and hygiene and protection against the rigours of the climate and the dangers of the armed conflict;
  - (c) they shall be allowed to receive individual or collective relief; 15
  - (d) they shall be allowed to practise their religion and, if requested and appropriate, to receive spiritual assistance from persons, such as chaplains, performing religious functions;
  - (e) they shall, if made to work, have the benefit of working conditions and safeguards similar to those enjoyed by the local civilian population. 20
2. Those who are responsible for the internment or detention of the persons referred to in paragraph 1 shall also, within the limits of their capabilities, respect the following provisions relating to such persons:
  - (a) except when men and women of a family are accommodated together, women shall be held in quarters separated from those of men and shall be under the immediate supervision of women; 25
  - (b) they shall be allowed to send and receive letters and cards, the number of which may be limited by competent authority if it deems necessary;
  - (c) places of internment and detention shall not be located close to the combat zone. The persons referred to in paragraph 1 shall be evacuated when the places where they are interned or detained become particularly exposed to danger arising out of the armed conflict, if their evacuation can be carried out under adequate conditions of safety; 30
  - (d) they shall have the benefit of medical examinations;
  - (e) their physical or mental health and integrity shall not be endangered by any unjustified act or omission. Accordingly, it is prohibited to subject the persons described in this Article to any medical procedure which is not indicated by the state of health of the person concerned, and which is not consistent with the generally accepted medical standards applied to free persons under similar medical circumstances. 35 40
3. Persons who are not covered by paragraph 1 but whose liberty has been restricted in any way whatsoever for reasons related to the armed conflict shall be treated humanely in accordance with Article 4 and with paragraphs 1(a), (c) and (d), and 2(b) of this Article.
4. If it is decided to release persons deprived of their liberty, necessary measures to ensure their safety shall be taken by those so deciding. 45

*Article 6 — Penal prosecutions*

1. This Article applies to the prosecution and punishment of criminal offences related to the armed conflict.
2. No sentence shall be passed and no penalty shall be executed on a person found guilty of an offence except pursuant to a conviction pronounced by a court offering the essential guarantees of independence and impartiality. In particular:
  - (a) the procedure shall provide for an accused to be informed without delay of the particulars of the offence alleged against him and shall afford the accused before and during his trial all necessary rights and means of defence;
  - (b) no one shall be convicted of an offence except on the basis of individual penal responsibility;
  - (c) no one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence, under the law, at the time when it was committed; nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than that which was applicable at the time when the criminal offence was committed; if, after the commission of the offence, provision is made by law for the imposition of a lighter penalty, the offender shall benefit thereby;
  - (d) anyone charged with an offence is presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law;
  - (e) anyone charged with an offence shall have the right to be tried in his presence;
  - (f) no one shall be compelled to testify against himself or to confess guilt.
3. A convicted person shall be advised on conviction of his judicial and other remedies and of the time-limits within which they may be exercised.
4. The death penalty shall not be pronounced on persons who were under the age of eighteen years at the time of the offence and shall not be carried out on pregnant women or mothers of young children.
5. At the end of hostilities, the authorities in power shall endeavour to grant the broadest possible amnesty to persons who have participated in the armed conflict, or those deprived of their liberty for reasons related to the armed conflict, whether they are interned or detained.

PART III  
WOUNDED, SICK AND SHIPWRECKED

*Article 7 — Protection and care*

1. All the wounded, sick and shipwrecked, whether or not they have taken part in the armed conflict, shall be respected and protected.
2. In all circumstances they shall be treated humanely and shall receive to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required by their condition. There shall be no distinction among them founded on any grounds other than medical ones.

*Article 8 — Search*

Whenever circumstances permit and particularly after an engagement, all possible measures shall be taken, without delay, to search for and collect the wounded, sick and shipwrecked, to protect them against pillage and ill-treatment, to ensure their adequate care, and to search for the dead, prevent their being despoiled, and decently dispose of them.

*Article 9 — Protection of medical and religious personnel*

1. Medical and religious personnel shall be respected and protected and shall be granted all available help for the performance of their duties. They shall not be compelled to carry out tasks which are not compatible with their humanitarian mission. 5
2. In the performance of their duties medical personnel may not be required to give priority to any person except on medical grounds.

*Article 10 — General protection of medical duties*

1. Under no circumstances shall any person be punished for having carried out medical activities compatible with medical ethics, regardless of the person 10 benefiting therefrom.
2. Persons engaged in medical activities shall neither be compelled to perform acts or to carry out work contrary to, nor be compelled to refrain from acts required by, the rules of medical ethics or other rules designed for the benefit of the wounded and sick, or this Protocol. 15
3. The professional obligations of persons engaged in medical activities regarding information which they may acquire concerning the wounded and sick under their care shall, subject to national law, be respected.
4. Subject to national law, no person engaged in medical activities may be penalized in any way for refusing or failing to give information concerning the wounded and 20 sick who are, or who have been, under his care.

*Article 11 — Protection of medical units and transports*

1. Medical units and transports shall be respected and protected at all times and shall not be the object of attack.
2. The protection to which medical units and transports are entitled shall not cease 25 unless they are used to commit hostile acts, outside their humanitarian function. Protection may, however, cease only after a warning has been given, setting, whenever appropriate, a reasonable time-limit, and after such warning has remained unheeded.

*Article 12 — The distinctive emblem* 30

Under the direction of the competent authority concerned, the distinctive emblem of the red cross, red crescent or red lion and sun on a white ground shall be displayed by medical and religious personnel and medical units, and on medical transports. It shall be respected in all circumstances. It shall not be used improperly.

PART IV 35  
CIVILIAN POPULATION

*Article 13 — Protection of the civilian population*

1. The civilian population and individual civilians shall enjoy general protection against the dangers arising from military operations. To give effect to this protection, the following rules shall be observed in all circumstances. 40
2. The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attack. Acts or threats of violence the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited.
3. Civilians shall enjoy the protection afforded by this part, unless and for such time as they take a direct part in hostilities. 45



*Article 14 — Protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population*

Starvation of civilians as a method of combat is prohibited. It is therefore prohibited to attack, destroy, remove or render useless for that purpose, objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population such as foodstuffs, agricultural areas for the production of foodstuffs, crops, livestock, drinking water installations and supplies and irrigation works. 5

*Article 15 — Protection of works and installations containing dangerous forces*

Works or installations containing dangerous forces, namely dams, dykes and nuclear electrical generating stations, shall not be made the object of attack, even where these objects are military objectives, if such attack may cause the release of dangerous forces and consequent severe losses among the civilian population. 10

*Article 16 — Protection of cultural objects and of places of worship*

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 14 May 1954, it is prohibited to commit any acts of hostility directed against historic monuments, works of art or places of worship which constitute the cultural or spiritual heritage of peoples, and to use them in support of the military effort. 15

*Article 17 — Prohibition of forced movement of civilians*

1. The displacement of the civilian population shall not be ordered for reasons related to the conflict unless the security of the civilians involved or imperative military reasons so demand. Should such displacements have to be carried out, all possible measures shall be taken in order that the civilian population may be received under satisfactory conditions of shelter, hygiene, health, safety and nutrition. 20
2. Civilians shall not be compelled to leave their own territory for reasons connected with the conflict. 25

*Article 18 — Relief societies and relief actions*

1. Relief societies located in the territory of the High Contracting Party, such as Red Cross (Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun) organizations, may offer their services for the performance of their traditional functions in relation to the victims of the armed conflict. The civilian population may, even on its own initiative, offer to collect and care for the wounded, sick and shipwrecked. 30
2. If the civilian population is suffering undue hardship owing to a lack of the supplies essential for its survival, such as foodstuffs and medical supplies, relief actions for the civilian population which are of an exclusively humanitarian and impartial nature and which are conducted without any adverse distinction shall be undertaken subject to the consent of the High Contracting Party concerned. 35

**PART V  
FINAL PROVISIONS**

*Article 19 — Dissemination*

40

This Protocol shall be disseminated as widely as possible.

*Article 20 — Signature*

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the Parties to the Conventions six months after the signing of the Final Act and will remain open for a period of twelve months. 45



*Article 21 — Ratification*

This Protocol shall be ratified as soon as possible. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Swiss Federal Council, depositary of the Conventions.

*Article 22 — Accession*

This Protocol shall be open for accession by any Party to the Conventions which has not signed it. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the depositary. 5

*Article 23 — Entry into force*

1. This Protocol shall enter into force six months after two instruments of ratification or accession have been deposited. 10
2. For each Party to the Conventions thereafter ratifying or acceding to this Protocol, it shall enter into force six months after the deposit by such Party of its instrument of ratification or accession.

*Article 24 — Amendment*

1. Any High Contracting Party may propose amendments to this Protocol. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the depositary which shall decide, after consultation with all the High Contracting Parties and the International Committee of the Red Cross, whether a conference should be convened to consider the proposed amendment. 15
2. The depositary shall invite to that conference all the High Contracting Parties as well as the Parties to the Conventions, whether or not they are signatories of this Protocol. 20

*Article 25 — Denunciation*

1. In case a High Contracting Party should denounce this Protocol, the denunciation shall only take effect six months after receipt of the instrument of denunciation. If, however, on the expiry of six months, the denouncing Party is engaged in the situation referred to in Article 1, the denunciation shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict. Persons who have been deprived of liberty, or whose liberty has been restricted, for reasons related to the conflict shall nevertheless continue to benefit from the provisions of this Protocol until their final release. 25 30
2. The denunciation shall be notified in writing to the depositary, which shall transmit it to all the High Contracting Parties.

*Article 26 — Notifications*

The depositary shall inform the High Contracting Parties as well as the Parties to the Conventions, whether or not they are signatories of this Protocol, of: 35

- (a) signatures affixed to this Protocol and the deposit of instruments of ratification and accession under Articles 21 and 22;
- (b) the date of entry into force of this Protocol under Article 23; and
- (c) communications and declarations received under Article 24.

*Article 27 — Registration*

1. After its entry into force, this Protocol shall be transmitted by the depositary to the Secretariat of the United Nations for registration and publication, in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. 40



2. The depositary shall also inform the Secretariat of the United Nations of all ratifications and accessions received by it with respect to this Protocol.

*Article 28 — Authentic texts*

The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the depositary, which shall transmit certified true copies thereof to all the Parties to the Conventions. 5