

Translated from Arabic

The Lebanese Republic

Ministry of Justice

Department of Consultation and Legislation

Ref. of the original: 176/1/2008

No. of advisory: 344/2008

Advisory

Subject: The status of the two protocols additional to the 1949 Geneva Convention relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts

- Authority: 1. Deposition No. 1298/3 of the General Director of the Ministry of Justice dated 22 May 2008.
2. Letter No. 12103/2006 dated 20 May 2008 from the Minister of the Interior and Municipalities.

The Department of Consultation and Legislation of the Ministry of Justice

Having reviewed the complete file,

States that, in his letter, the Minister of the Interior and Municipalities proposes and requests as follows,

Therefore

Whereas the Department has received a letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants in which it is requested to give its opinion on the request made by the Secretariat of the United Nations to be provided with any information concerning the two protocols additional to the 1949 Geneva Convention relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts,

Whereas the Department, preparatory to its response to the above-mentioned request, referred that request to the Public Prosecutor's Office and the General Directorate of the Internal Security Forces for any relevant information,

Whereas the Public Prosecutor's Office responded to the effect that reporting on the status of the two aforementioned protocols did not pose any legal problems that came within its remit. However, it had no information on the application of the two protocols,

Whereas the Ministry of the Interior and Municipalities responded by providing a copy of two studies from the General Directorate of the Internal Security Forces and the General Directorate of General Security concerning the application of international humanitarian law,

Whereas the first of those studies contains the following proposals:

- A national committee for international humanitarian law should be established with responsibility for closing loopholes in the law, in keeping with the provisions of international humanitarian law
- Efforts to apply that law should be intensified by publicizing its provisions in academic curriculums and among such representatives of Government parties responsible for its application as the armed forces and the police force
- Cooperation between Lebanon and the International Committee of the Red Cross should be strengthened; efforts should be exerted to establish and activate national structures consistent with the legislative development of the bases of international humanitarian law,

Whereas the memorandum from the General Directorate of the Internal Security Forces also referred to the fact that the Security Forces Institute had adopted the aforementioned law in a number of courses it taught,

Whereas the memorandum from the General Directorate of General Security indicated that it intended in future to include the subject of international humanitarian law in the military training programme for all ranks, and was contributing to the efforts exerted to apply its provisions,

Whereas it should also be noted, in conclusion, that law No. 613 of 28 February 1997 authorized the Government of Lebanon to become a signatory to the two above-mentioned additional protocols,

Whereas the foregoing constitutes an outcome in respect of the aforementioned request that may be conveyed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants,

The Department gives the advisory in the form set forth above.

Beirut, 16 June 2008

(Signed) Qadi [Judge] Shukri **Sader**
Director of the Department of Consultation
and Legislation
Ministry of Justice

(Signed) Qadi [Judge] Maya **Kanaan**

This advisory is submitted to the General Director of the Ministry of Justice for the appropriate action.

Beirut, 16 June 2008

(Signed) Qadi [Judge] Shukri **Sader**
Director of the Department of Consultation
and Legislation
Ministry of Justice

[Stamp on right] Approved

No. 344/2008

Beirut, 30 June 2008

(Signed) Omar **el-Natour**
General Director of the Ministry of Justice
