



PERMANENT MISSION OF SWEDEN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York

The Permanent Mission of Sweden presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to submit the following information on the status of the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/30 of 18 December 2006.

The Government of Sweden has established a committee which, *inter alia*, has the task of examining that Sweden's international commitments with regard to international humanitarian law are properly implemented. The committee is also analyzing the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law. Finally, the committee is examining if there is a need for a Swedish national manual on international humanitarian law. The committee shall propose such amendments of Swedish law that it finds necessary. The committee will present its conclusions in the fall of 2010.

In order to continue to address individual topics of international humanitarian law, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, together with the National Defence College the University of Melbourne and the Folke Bernadotte Academy, organized an international expert meeting on International Humanitarian Law and Gender in Stockholm 4-5 October 2007.

Sweden has continuously supported the international tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone and

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Secretary-General
of the United Nations

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the International Criminal Court in their efforts to end impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law, inter alia, by providing financial assistance and entering into bilateral agreements regarding enforcement of sentences and relocation of witnesses.

Sweden has set up three national bodies to promote, implement and develop international humanitarian law.

1. The Swedish Total Defence Council for International Humanitarian Law was set up in 1991 to monitor developments in humanitarian law and to take initiatives to promote the development, dissemination and application of the provisions of international humanitarian law within the Swedish total defence sector.

2. The Swedish Delegation for International Humanitarian Law Monitoring of Arms Projects monitors various types of arms projects from the perspective of international law.

3. The Delegation on Public International Law supervises developments in international law in order to decide on Swedish initiatives in this area.

The Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 5 June 2008

