



In the name of God, the most Compassionate, the most Merciful

No. 130640

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and, with reference to the latter's Note No. LA/COD/2/1 dated 17 January 2022 regarding the request to provide information and observations on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/138 of 15 December 2020 entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts", has the honour to provide the following:

- The Islamic Republic of Iran joined the 1949 Geneva Conventions (GC) in 1949. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a signatory, but not a party, to Additional Protocol I, II and III. Efforts are undertaken in order to exhaust the internal procedures to ratify those instruments within the domestic legislative authorities.
- The Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) as well as the First and Second Protocol to that Convention (1954); the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction (1972); the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (1993) as well as several international conventions prohibiting or restricting the development, stockpiling or use of various weapons, among other multilateral treaties.
- The Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran ratified the act of Criminal Procedure and Penal Act for Army in 1939, and it was amended in 2003 under the title the Act on Military Forces Crimes. A directive on the disciplinary regulations of the armed forces was adopted to ensure implementation of the GC's provisions.
- Furthermore, in order to effectively implement the Geneva Conventions of 1949, an ad hoc working group was established in the Iranian Judiciary for the codification of a draft law on the national criminalization of the most heinous international crimes, including war crimes. The said working group consists of a number of high-ranking judges, prosecutors, lawyers and prominent university professors as well as representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice. It is supposed that the draft law be ratified in the Iranian Parliament after its finalization and submission to the parliament by the Cabinet of the Ministers.
- The Islamic Republic of Iran has promoted universal adherence to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), including by consistently voting in favour of an annual UN General Assembly resolution since 2018 that calls upon all states to sign, ratify or accede to the treaty "at the earliest possible date". However, the Islamic Republic of Iran



believes that the TPNW should also be complemented by the urgent commencement of negotiations and the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, leading to the total elimination of all nuclear weapons in a verifiable and irreversible manner. The entry into force of the Treaty from 2020 is considered a successful achievement for the global movement towards nuclear disarmament.

- The Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to the activities of the ICRC as one of the most relevant organizations to uphold and facilitate the implementation of IHL, highlighting the successful implementation of the ICRC's joint projects to disseminate and enhance respect to IHL.
- Arrangements are being made to facilitate the participation of the commanders serving in the Iranian Armed Forces (IAF) in the educational programmes offered on IHL and disseminating printed ICRC materials on IHL. The ICRC invited the IAF to participate in a workshop on Partnered Military Operations (PMO) and the 14th Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations (SWIRMO).
- The Islamic Republic of Iran has endeavoured to disseminate and implement IHL and its related instruments through the activities of the Iranian National Committee on Humanitarian Law (NCHL) with the support of the ICRC. To this end, the ICRC and the NCHL are in collaboration regarding the translation of several ICRC resources to Farsi, including the updated Commentary to the first GC 1949, the updated 2020 Guidelines on the Protection of the Natural Environment in Armed Conflict and the Comprehensive Introduction to IHL.
- In addition, in order to disseminate IHL, the NCHL has published nearly 50 books, held several conferences, seminars and workshops at the national level, including seasonal schools for the IAF in cooperation with academia, and convened two international conferences on "Islam and Humanitarian Law" in cooperation with the ICRC in the city of Qom in Iran in 2006 and 2016, respectively. The NCHL also provided practical manuals on the implementation of IHL for the IAF.
- The Islamic Republic of Iran asserts that it has maintained an unrestricted respect for the rules of IHL. Some of the practices of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its implementation of IHL can be found in the customary international humanitarian law database maintained by the ICRC. While we reserve our legal position on those findings, we appreciate the efforts of the ICRC, in collaboration with Academia, to update both the commentaries on the Geneva Conventions Project and the ICRC Customary IHL on the Islamic Republic of Iran's practice.
- In addition, the ICRC facilitated the participation of the NCHL in: the 5th Universal Meeting of the National Committees and Similar Entities on IHL; the 44th Sanremo Round Table on IHL focusing on "Pandemic, armed conflict and International Humanitarian Law"; the "Voluntary reports on national implementation of IHL: sharing practical experiences and perspectives"; and the Asia Pacific Online Sessions on IHL. Moreover, the ICRC facilitated



for the NCHL to officially join the Online Community for National Committees on IHL and Similar Bodies.

- In order to promote and disseminate IHL, with the assistance of the ICRC, the Ministry of Foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran participated in: the second episode of the Asia Pacific IHL Podcast, the Asia Pacific Online Sessions on IHL, the Asia Pacific Regional Conference on IHL, the 44th Sanremo Round Table on IHL with focus on “Pandemic, armed conflict and IHL” and the side event on Voluntary Reports on the Domestic Implementation of IHL for Legal Advisers.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 1 June 2022