

Zeitschrift: Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross
Herausgeber: International Committee of the Red Cross
Band: - (2001)

Endseiten

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Notes

Palestine

On 21 June 1989, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs received a letter from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva informing the Swiss Federal Council "that the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, entrusted with the functions of the Government of the State of Palestine by decision of the Palestine National Council, decided, on 4 May 1989, to adhere to the Four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the two Protocols additional thereto".

On 13 September 1989, the Swiss Federal Council informed the States that it was not in a position to decide whether the letter constituted an instrument of accession, "due to the uncertainty within the international community as to the existence or non-existence of a State of Palestine".

1. Djibouti's declaration of succession in respect of the First Convention was dated 26 January 1978.
2. On accession to Protocol II, France made a communication concerning Protocol I.
3. Entry into force on 7 December 1978.
4. Entry into force on 7 December 1978.
5. Entered into force on 23 September 1966, the Republic of Korea having invoked Art. 62/61/141/157 common respectively to the First, Second, Third and Fourth Conventions (immediate effect).
6. An instrument of accession to the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols was deposited by the United Nations Council for Namibia on 18 October 1983. In an instrument deposited on 22 August 1991, Namibia declared its succession to the Geneva Conventions, which were previously applicable pursuant to South Africa's accession on 31 March 1952.
7. The First Geneva Convention was ratified on 7 March 1951.
8. Accession to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 23 February 1959 (Ceylon had signed only the First, Second and Third Conventions).
9. Entry into force on 21 October 1950.
10. Accession to the First Geneva Convention on 17 May 1963.

MISSION

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance.

It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of armed conflict.

It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the core of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



Notes



June 1989, the Swiss Federal Council of Foreign Affairs received a letter from the Permanent Observer of the United Nations Office of Information for the Swiss Federal Diet and its Executive Committee of the Swiss Liberal Organization, as well as the Directors of the League of the State of Poland by the Swiss Federal Council, decided in 1989 to apply to the First Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and its Protocols additional thereto.

In October 1989, the Swiss Federal Council informed the State that it was not able to decide whether or not it was an instrument of accession, the instrument within the international law of the League of Nations or of a State of Poland.

- 1. Circumstances of accession to the First Geneva Convention were published on 29 January 1972.
- 2. On accession to Protocol II, France made a declaration concerning Protocol I.
- 3. Entry into force on 7 December 1979.
- 4. Entry into force on 7 December 1979.
- 5. Entry into force on 20 September 1986, the Republic of Poland having applied Art. 82/83/141/167, with minor exceptions to the First Geneva Convention and its Protocols additional thereto.
- 6. An instrument of accession to the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols was deposited by the United Nations Office of Geneva on 16 October 1989, in an instrument deposited on 27 August 1987. Poland declared its accession to the Geneva Conventions, which were previously applied pursuant to Czechoslovak's accession on 31 March 1962.
- 7. The First Geneva Convention was ratified on 7 March 1951.
- 8. Accession to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 23 February 1989 (only for the signed First, second and third Conventions).
- 9. Entry into force on 21 October 1980.
- 10. Accession to the First Geneva Convention on 17 May 1950.

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ICRC ANNUAL REPORT 2001



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0815/002 06/2002 3.000