

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

p.o.411.61.(8).

Communication to the Governments of the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs has the honour to communicate to the Governments of the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions the following:

On 26 April 1993, the Swiss Federal Council decided to grant the 15 members of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, established pursuant to article 90 of the Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the privileges and immunities provided for in the United Nations Convention of 8 December 1969 concerning special missions, which will be applied by analogy. An exception will be made for the fiscal privileges contained in article 33 of said Convention.

The Swiss Federal Council, in its capacity as the depositary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols, takes this opportunity to remind the States Parties to the Additional Protocol I having made the declaration according to its article 90, of their obligation, implied in that provision, to accord Commission members performing official functions on their territory the privileges and immunities necessary to fulfill their statutory tasks.

Berne, 14 May 1993