



FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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P.242.512-MALI/MAURI/TIMOR

GEN 2 / 03

Notification
to the Governments of the States parties
to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949
for the Protection of War Victims

CONVENTIONS

I. Accession by the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

On 8 May 2003, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste deposited with the Swiss Federal Council its instrument of accession to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims.

According to their final provisions, the Conventions will enter into force for the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste six months after the deposit of the instrument of accession, i.e. on 8 November 2003.

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS I AND II

II. Declaration of the Republic of Mauritius

On 27 June 2003, the Republic of Mauritius deposited with the Swiss Federal Council the following declaration regarding the declaration formulated by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland on 2 July 2002 (notification GEN 2/02 of 1st november 2002)(original version):

"The Government of the Republic of Mauritius has the honour to declare that it objects to the inclusion of the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory" in the list of territories mentioned in the Declaration deposited by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with the Swiss Federal Council on 2 July 2002 concerning the applicability of the Protocols I and II Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, adopted at Geneva on 8 June 1977, and therefore rejects the said Declaration in so far as it purports to extend the ratification by the UK Government of the said Protocols to the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory".

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius does not recognise the competence of the British Government to adhere to any international instrument on behalf of the Chagos Archipelago, which forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius wishes to reassert the unequivocal sovereignty of Mauritius over the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia."

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I

III. Declaration by the Republic of Mali

On 9 May 2003, the Republic of Mali deposited with the Swiss Federal Council the following declaration (original version):

"Le Gouvernement de la République du Mali déclare reconnaître de plein droit et sans accord spécial, à l'égard de toute autre Haute Partie Contractante qui accepte la même obligation, la compétence de la Commission internationale d'établissement des faits pour enquêter sur les allégations d'une telle autre Partie, comme l'y autorise l'article 90 du Protocole I Additionnel aux Conventions de Genève du 12 août 1949."

The present notification is made by the Swiss Federal Council in its capacity as depositary of the Conventions and Protocols.

Berne, 28 July 2003

