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STATE OF SIGNATURES AND RATIFICATIONS OF THE PROTOCOLS ADDITIONAL
TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 CONCERNING THE RESPECT FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICTS

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jargalsaikhany ENKHSAIKHAN (Mongolia)

1. The item entitled "State of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the respect for human rights in armed conflicts: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 8 of Assembly resolution 32/44 of 8 December 1977.
2. On the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Assembly decided, at its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1979, to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The Sixth Committee had before it the report submitted by the Secretary-General (A/34/445) pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 32/44.
4. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 15th and 40th meetings, held on 11 October and 14 November 1979. The summary records of these meetings (A/C.6/34/SR.15 and 40) contain the views of representatives who spoke during the consideration of this item.
5. At the 40th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Sweden introduced a draft resolution (A/C.6/34/L.9) sponsored by Bangladesh, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Honduras, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden and Yugoslavia.
6. At its 40th meeting, on 14 November, the Sixth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/34/L.9 by consensus (see para. 17). A statement in this connexion was made by the representative of Israel.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

7. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

State of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols Additional
to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the respect for
human rights in armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/44 of 8 December 1977,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the state of signatures and ratifications of the two Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the respect for human rights in armed conflicts, 1/

Noting the fact that so far only a limited number of States have ratified or acceded to the two Protocols,

Convinced of the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflict and the need to secure the full observance of human rights in armed conflicts pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Mindful also of the need for continued improvement and further expansion of the body of humanitarian rules relating to armed conflict, of which the two Protocols form part,

Noting in this context the importance of the United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, the first meeting of which took place in September 1979 and the second meeting of which is scheduled to be held in 1980,

1. Reiterates its call contained in General Assembly resolution 32/44 that all States consider without delay the matter of ratifying or acceding to the two Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning respect for human rights in armed conflicts;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly annually, preferably at the beginning of each calendar year, of the state of ratifications of, and accessions to, the two Protocols with a view to enabling the Assembly to take the matter up at a later stage, if it deems it appropriate.

1/ A/34/445.