

# **New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations**



## **Te M ngai o Aotearoa**

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### **Sixth Committee**

#### **Agenda item 80**

**Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts**

**Statement on behalf of CANZ**

**by**

**Ms Alice Revell**

**Second Secretary/ Legal Adviser**

**22 October 2012**

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munitions and the provision of assistance for victims and their communities. For these reasons, CANZ encourages all States to become Parties to the Convention.

Australia, Canada, and New Zealand continue to provide technical and financial assistance to help other States implement their obligations under international law mitigating the effects of conflict and restoring peace and security. CANZ has supported post-conflict justice mechanisms including in Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, and Timor Leste. CANZ remains committed to strengthening the existing body of IHL and ensuring that it is complied with.

Mr Chair

CANZ particularly wishes to acknowledge, as we have in previous statements, the central role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The ICRC provides invaluable humanitarian assistance to those affected by conflict and armed violence, ensuring they are provided the protections to which they are entitled.

The ICRC continues to play an invaluable role in promoting understanding of the rules of IHL. IHL can only meet its objective of protecting victims of armed conflict when it is respected and when there is political will to act consistently with those obligations. CANZ welcomes and encourages States' close collaboration with the ICRC on achieving this and tackling future challenges in the field of armed conflict law.

Thank you