

# Statement of Portugal

at the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of Sixth Committee of the General Assembly

Agenda Item 81

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

*Check again st delivery*

Mr. Chairman,

Portugal aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union on this agenda item and would like to convey the following remarks in its national capacity.

As we celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their adoption, the 1977 Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 remain fundamental cornerstones in the codification of the protection of victims of international and non -

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation thanks the Secretary-General for his report on the status of the 1977 Additional



Furthermore, and as reported to the Secretary-General, Portugal has created a National Committee on International Humanitarian Law, in December 2021. In doing so, we have fulfilled a specific pledge made by Portugal and the Portuguese Red Cross at the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

This national committee has a broad mandate and will certainly prove a very useful mechanism for Portugal to disseminate and implement relevant international legal obligations relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict.

Portugal looks forward to engaging with other Member States, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other relevant humanitarian stakeholders, in enhancing international and regional cooperation on these matters.

Mr. Chairman,

My tribute to the victims of armed conflict, as well as to all professional and volunteer humanitarians, whose work embodies the Fundamental Principles of Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity, and Universality.

As we speak, millions are directly and indirectly affected by armed conflicts. The scourge of a full-fledged war has retur] TJ ] TJ ] TJ ] TJ ] TJ ] TJ ] TJ ]dT32 841C 94.944 518.95 445