



Mr. Chair,

Romania welcomes the resumption by the Sixth Committee of the discussions on the Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

Respecting International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is both a moral and strategic imperative. In today's world faced with an unprecedented number of conflicts, the significance of this set of norms aimed at limiting the effects of war and protecting civilians is greater than ever.

Romania is of the view that the four Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, as well as other relevant international treaties have stood the test of time and must continue to regulate the conduct of hostilities.

In accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, States are under obligation to "respect and ensure respect" for these Conventions in all circumstances. Such efforts are to be carried out both in wartime, by ensuring that parties to an armed conflict comply with the law, and in peacetime, by undertaking preventive measures and dissemination activities.

Romania is committed to further work towards consolidating respect for IHL at the international and

and global arena. We encourage other states to follow suit and prepare such reports and we stand ready to share our own experience.

Mister Chair,

Romania is an active and steadfast supporter of the mandate and well-functioning of the International Criminal Court, whose activity represents an essential contribution in the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole.

We have responded positively to the ICC Prosecutor's appeal made earlier this year for additional financial resources and we are involved in the selection process of experts who could be seconded within the Office of the Prosecutor, thus helping in the fields identified as a priority by his Office.

We continue to extend our support to the ongoing review efforts and we stand ready to contribute to this complex process from our position as a member of the Bureau and as one of the focal points for non-cooperation.

As a reflection of the importance and continued relevance of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, earlier this year Romania has ratified all the amendments to Article 8 of the Statute.

Both the publication of our national report of the implementation of IHL at the domestic level, as well as the ratification of the amendments to Article 8 of the Rome Statute by Romania, are measures reflected in the Report of the Secretary-General on the agenda item under debate. We express our gratitude to the ICRC for including these updates in their submission.

