In response to the note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 21 January 2015 on the status of the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, Belgium wishes to refer, firstly, to its previous contributions transmitted in 2010, 2012 and 2014, which complement the comprehensive report issued in 2008 (A/63/118).

The most significant legislative developments since 2014 are as follows:

- On 12 May 2015, Belgium ratified the Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the adoption of an additional distinctive emblem (Protocol III), adopted on 8 December 2005;
- On 22 June 2016, a royal decree amending the royal decree of 6 December 2000 on the reorganization of the Interministerial Commission on Humanitarian Law was adopted in order to specify the composition of the Commission, enhance its functioning and publicize its work with a view to increasing its effectiveness and visibility. Among other amendments, the royal decree of 22 June 2016 specifies that the Interministerial Commission shall function as the national advisory committee for the protection of cultural property, within the meaning of resolution II adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, held in The Hague in 1954.

With regard to its cooperation with international criminal courts, on 10 April 2014, Belgium concluded a new bilateral cooperation agreement with the International Criminal Court on the provisional release of detainees.

Belgium has also organized several national and international events on subjects relating to international humanitarian law, including:

- The International Conference on Genocide Prevention, held in Brussels on 31 March and 1 April 2014;
- Ahslewaperticipoants discussed

the national legislative framework for the protection of health-care provision in situations of armed conflict and other emergency situations;

- A seminar on fact-

The Belgian authorities have continued to work with the Belgian Red Cross, their partner in the humanitarian field, to enhance the dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law. Thus, in addition to the dissemination activities that the Belgian Red Cross has carried out individually among both specialized audiences and the general public, it collaborated with the authorities on the following initiatives during the reporting period:

- Participation in field exercises organized by the Belgian military on 1 April 2015, 10 September 2015