

- B) THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE OF THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGAINST THE EFFECTS OF HOSTILITIES;
AND,
- C) THE PRINCIPLE THAT PROHIBITS THE EMPLOYMENT IN ARMED CONFLICTS OF WEAPONS, PROJECTILES AND MATERIAL AND METHODS OF WARFARE OF A NATURE TO CAUSE SUPERFLUOUS INJURY OR UNNECESSARY SUFFERING.

THESE PRINCIPLES CONTINUE TO BE THE CRITICAL STANDARDS BY WHICH WE MUST EVALUATE EACH PROPOSAL AND MEASURE DURING THE NEXT THREE WEEKS.

THE SECOND CONSIDERATION EMERGES FROM A REALISTIC APPRECIATION OF THE CHALLENGES FACING US AS A GLOBAL COMMUNITY. WE MUST ADMIT THAT WE LIVE IN TORTURED WORLD. WHILE THE THREAT OF GLOBAL AND NUCLEAR WAR HAS THANKFULLY GREATLY RECEDED, THE 1990'S HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY A TRAGIC INCREASE IN CONFLICTS, MOST OF AN INTERNAL NATURE, HAVING THEIR ORIGINS IN SOCIAL, ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES. THE LIST IS WELL-KNOWN TO US ALL - FROM THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA TO CAMBODIA, FROM RWANDA TO CHECHNYA. MILLIONS OF CIVILIANS, FOR THE MOST PART WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE AGED, HAVE BEEN FORCED TO FLEE THEIR HOMES AND HAVE BEEN AND ARE BEING CRUELLY EXPOSED TO HARDSHIPS, BRUTALITIES AND THE HAZARDS OF ARMED CONFLICT. THE RESULTING SUFFERING IS BEFORE US DAILY. EQUALLY DESTRUCTIVE IS THE FACT THAT LANDMINES FORM AN ENDURING OBSTACLE TO A COUNTRY'S RECONSTRUCTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. WE, ON BEHALF OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST RESPOND TO THIS REALITY - THROUGH CONTINUED EFFORTS TO PROMOTE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; BY IMPROVED CRISIS PREVENTION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION EFFORTS AND