Amendment to Article 1 of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of
Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have
Indiscriminate Effects

The following decision to amend Article 1 of the Convention in order to expand the scope of its
application to non-international armed conflicts was made by the States Parties at the Second Review
Conference held from 11 to 21 December 2001. This decision appears in the Final Declaration of the
Second Review Conference, as contained in document CCW/CONF.II/2.

“Decide to amend Article 1 of the Convention to read as follows:

1. This Convention and its annexed Protocols shall apply in the situations referred to in Article 2
common to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims, including any
situation described in paragraph 4 of Article I of Additional Protocol I to these Conventions.

2. This Convention and its annexed Protocols shall also apply, in addition to situations referred to in
paragraph 1 of this Article, to situations referred to in Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions of
12 August 1949. This Convention and its annexed Protocols shall not apply to situations of internal
disturbances and tensions, such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence and other acts of a similar
nature, as not being armed conflicts.

3. In case of armed conflicts not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the
High Contracting Parties, each party in the conflict shall be bound to apply the prohibitions and
restrictions of this Convention and its annexed Protocols.

4. Nothing in this Convention or its annexed Protocols shall be invoked for the purpose of affecting
the sovereignty of a State or the responsibility of the Government, by all legitimate means, to maintain or
re-establish law and order in the State or to defend the national unity and territorial integrity of the State.

5. Nothing in this Convention or its annexed Protocols shall be invoked as a justification for
intervening, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the armed conflict or in the internal or
external affairs of the High Contracting Party in the territory of which that conflict occurs.

6. The application of the provisions of this Convention and its annexed Protocols to parties to a
conflict, which are not High Contracting Parties that have accepted this Convention or its annexed
Protocols, shall not change their legal status or the legal status of a disputed territory, either explicitly or
implicitly.

7. The provisions of Paragraphs 2-6 of this Article shall not prejudice additional Protocols adopted
after 1 January 2002, which may apply, exclude or modify the scope of their application in relation to this
Article.”