

Recognition of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society

Geneva, 30 September 1973

Circular No. 491

*to the Central Committees of the National Red Cross,
Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you that the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 20 September 1973, officially recognized the Bangladesh Red Cross Society.

The new Society formally applied for recognition by the International Committee on 7 May 1973. Its request was supported by various documents including its rules, the Bangladesh President's order recognizing the Bangladesh Red Cross as a National Society auxiliary to the public authorities, and a report on the Society's activities.

These documents, which were examined jointly by the International Committee and the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, showed that the ten qualifying conditions for recognition of a new National Society had been fulfilled, due consideration having been taken of a letter from the Society in which it committed itself to modify the process for the designation of some of its leaders, that would more effectively guarantee its autonomy.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

This recognition, which the International Committee is pleased to announce, brings to 119 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

The Bangladesh Red Cross, which since 1972 is in permanent contact with representatives of the International Committee and of the League of Red Cross Societies, is active throughout the territory. It is concerned, in case of conflict, with assistance to military and civilian wounded and sick and to prisoners of war. In peacetime, it goes to the aid of victims of natural disasters, alleviates suffering, and takes part in health improvement schemes, including those adopted for the prevention of disease.

The Government of Bangladesh acceded to the 1949 Geneva Conventions on 4 April 1972.

His Excellency Justice Abu Sayeed Choudhury, Head of the State, is President of the Society, which is directed by a General Body under the chairmanship of Mr. Gazi Golam Mostafa. The Society's headquarters is at Dacca.*

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Bangladesh Red Cross to membership of the International Red Cross, in accrediting it and commending it, by this circular, to all other National Societies, and in expressing sincere good wishes for its future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Eric MARTIN

President

* The new Society's address is: Bangladesh Red Cross Society, Amin Court Building, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dacca 2