

**Recognition of the Singapore
Red Cross Society**

Geneva, 30 September 1973

Circular No. 492

*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 Singapore Red Cross Society.

The new Society formally applied for recognition by the International Committee on 31 August 1973. Its request was supported by various documents including its Statutes, the Singapore Government Act recognizing the Singapore 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. Nevertheless, the Society must still try to obtain from the authorities an amendment of the Government Act, which would change 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 120 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

The Singapore Red Cross, which was visited on many occasions by 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 Singapore acceded to the 1949 Geneva Conventions on 27 April 1973.

His Excellency Dr. B. H. Sheares, President of the Republic of Singapore, is Patron of the Society, which is directed by a Council under the chairmanship of Dr. W. R. Rasanayagam. The Society's headquarters is at Singapore *.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Singapore 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: Singapore Red Cross Society, 15 Penang Lane, Singapore 9.