

Recognition of the Red Cross Society of the Congo (Léopoldville)

GENEVA, JULY 4, 1963

Circular No. 445

*To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross
(Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun) Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you of the official recognition on July 4, 1963, of the Red Cross Society of the Congo (Léopoldville) by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

This Society applied for recognition by letter dated June 14, 1963. The application was accompanied by the Decree promulgated on March 1, 1961, by the President of the Republic of the Congo which accorded the Society recognition, together with the text of the Society's Statutes and a report of its activities.

The study of these documents has shown that the ten conditions for recognition of a new Society have been fulfilled. The documents have also been examined in conjunction with the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure, therefore, in announcing the recognition of this Society, which brings the number of member Societies of the International Red Cross to ninety-three. The Red Cross of the Congo thus becomes the fifteenth National Society to receive recognition on the African continent.

The work of the Red Cross of the Congo had been carried out by the Belgian Red Cross with devotion and competence until June 31, 1960, when the powers and the property of the Congo Branch of that Society were transferred to the new National Society. It is

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recognized as an auxiliary to the public authorities. It possesses branches in the main centres of the country. The Society, which continues the principal tasks begun by the Belgian Red Cross, controls several medical establishments, a leper-hospital, pediatric and blood transfusion centres. It gives training to first-aid workers and brings assistance to the victims of events of every description. The Junior Red Cross is in particular in an advanced state of development.

The Republic of the Congo acceded on February 24, 1961, to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

The President of the Society is Mr. Albert Koka and its Secretary-General is Mr. Mamboulou. Its headquarters are at Léopoldville.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has great pleasure in admitting this new Society into the International Red Cross, accrediting it by this notice to all other National Societies and recommends it to their kind attention. It expresses its best wishes for the Society's future and the success of its charitable work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Léopold Boissier, *President*
