

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Retirement of Mr. Pictet and appointment of Mr. Pestalozzi

Upon reaching retirement age, Mr. Jean Pictet, former Director General and, at present, Vice-President of the ICRC, will relinquish his post on 30 June, after forty-two years of service. The ICRC has expressed its deep gratitude to Mr. Pictet for his invaluable services during the distinguished career that he dedicated entirely to the Red Cross. Mr. Pictet will remain a member of the ICRC, thus continuing to participate in the work of the institution.

The ICRC Assembly has designated Mr. Richard Pestalozzi, who is now Special Assistant to the President, to succeed Mr. Pictet as Vice-President as of 1 July.

Recognition of the Swaziland Red Cross Society

GENEVA, 20 April 1979

Circular No. 513

*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 4 April 1979, officially recognized the Swaziland Red Cross Society.

Founded as a branch of the British Red Cross in 1932, this new Society officially applied for recognition by the International Committee on 1 August 1978. Its request was supported by a report on its activities, the text of its Statutes, and a copy of the "Baphalali Swaziland Red

Cross Society Act, 1969” recognizing it as the only National Red Cross Society and as an auxiliary to the public authorities.

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.

This recognition, which the International Committee is pleased to announce, brings to 126 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

The Swaziland Red Cross Society, which was visited in 1978 and other years by representatives of the International Committee and of the League, is active throughout the country. The Society, whose force lies in the goodwill of its voluntary workers, undertakes various medico-social activities: it provides medical assistance to mothers and infants, trains nursing assistants and voluntary workers, gives first-aid courses, and materially assists a number of elderly, handicapped and needy people.

The Government of Swaziland acceded to the 1949 Geneva Conventions on 28 June 1973, with effect from 28 December 1973.

The Society is presided over by Dr. A. M. Nxumalo. Its headquarters is at Mbabane. ¹

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Swaziland Red Cross Society 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

Alexandre HAY

President

¹ The new Society's address is: Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 377, Mbabane, Swaziland.