

Resolution of the Council of Delegates 1985

1

Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions

The Council of Delegates,

Mindful of the decisive contribution made by the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 to the development of international humanitarian law and, in particular, to the protection of the civilian population against the harmful effects of armed conflicts,

Noting that the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference, to be held in Geneva in October 1986, will be called upon to evaluate and report to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the community of States and world public opinion the state of ratification of, and accession to, the Protocols,

Aware that 51 States are party to Protocol I and 44 States to Protocol II,

Convinced that virtually all States not party to the Protocols intend to ratify or accede to them,

1. *Hopes* that all States which intend to ratify (or accede to) the Protocols will ratify them as they are before the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference and thereby make this Conference a momentous event in the history of international humanitarian law;
2. *Appeals* to worldwide and regional international organizations and other intergovernmental bodies concerned—such as the

Council of Europe, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States, the League of Arab States, the Commonwealth, the Association of South East Asian Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Conference on Confidence and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe—to encourage their members or participants to ratify (accede to) the Protocols *before* the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference;

3. *Invites* the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in States not party to the Protocols to do all that is in their power to speed up the requisite procedures in their respective countries with a view to ratification of, or accession to, the Protocols before the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference;
4. *Takes note* that the ICRC will present the Twenty-fifth Conference with a report on ratifications and accessions, to serve as a basis for the evaluation which the Conference will be called upon to make;
5. *Encourages* the ICRC, supported by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, to continue to work for the full acceptance of the Protocols eventually by all States, and for ratification or accession by most of them between now and the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross.

Decisions of the Council of Delegates 1985

1

Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace

The Council of Delegates,

Recalling the first World Red Cross Conference on Peace (Belgrade, 1975) and the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace which resulted from it and which was adopted by consensus by the 1977 Council of Delegates,

Noting with satisfaction the success of the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace (Aaland-Stockholm, 1984), and stressing the importance of the fundamental guidelines which the Movement adopted by consensus at that Conference,

Mindful of the second operative part of Decision 1 of the 1983 Council of Delegates relative to the future of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, which stipulates that:

“The Commission on the Red Cross and Peace shall continue with unchanged composition until the Council of Delegates in 1985, on which date it shall submit by consensus all proposals concerning its future, its terms of reference and its composition, taking into account the results of the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace”,

Recalling Resolutions 1, 2 and 4 of the 1983 Council of Delegates,

1. *Renews* the mandate of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace for a period of four years, as supplemented below;
2. *Changes* the name of the Commission to “Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace”;
3. *Will elect*, during its 1986 meeting, the Commission in its new composition on the basis of proposals from the present Commission. The Commission, which will continue to take decisions by consensus, shall be composed of twelve National Societies, chosen on a fair geographic basis and including six National Societies members of the present Commission and of the ICRC, the League and the Henry Dunant Institute. The Commission will continue to be chaired by the ICRC;
4. *Requests* the Commission to continue to study the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace and of the final document of the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace, and to propose to the National Societies and the competent bodies of the ICRC and the League and to the Henry Dunant Institute, the measures necessary to achieve the objectives and carry out the tasks arising from these texts;

5. *Requests* the Commission to undertake a joint study of the third and fourth paragraphs of the Preamble to the 1983 Council of Delegates Resolution 4 on the Red Cross and Human Rights;
6. *Invites* the Commission to consider to this effect:
 - a. Developing, and co-ordinating the implementation of a four-year plan relative to the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace, to the final document of the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace, and to Resolutions 1 and 2 of the 1983 Council of Delegates;
 - b. Establishing a group of experts on human rights made up of representatives of the Commission and of other National Societies. This group of experts might undertake the joint study mentioned in point 5 above and present a report on the Movement's activities to the Commission, with reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the two UN Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and on Civil and Political Rights, as well as to other international legal instruments;
7. *Requests* the Commission to submit an interim report to the 1987 Council of Delegates, and a final report to the 1989 Council of Delegates, with proposals relative to its possible future, its mandate and its duration, for acceptance by consensus by the 1989 Council of Delegates.

2

World Red Cross and Red Crescent Peace Day

The Council of Delegates,

Having studied the working document drawn up by the ICRC and the Secretariat of the League on the basis of replies received from the National Societies,

Requests the Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace to examine the appropriateness of establishing a World Red Cross and Red Crescent Peace Day and to report in due course to the Council of Delegates.

3

**Reactivation of the Plan for Red Cross and
Red Crescent Action in the Struggle Against
Racism and Racial Discrimination**

The Council of Delegates,

Recalling the existence of the Plan for Red Cross and Red Crescent Action in the Struggle Against Racism and Racial Discrimination adopted by the Board of Governors of the League and by the Council of Delegates in 1973,

Resolves to reactivate this Plan for Red Cross and Red Crescent Action in the Struggle Against Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Requests the Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace to co-ordinate the implementation of this Plan by the various components of the Movement, and to report in due course to the Council of Delegates.

4

Financing of the ICRC by National Societies

The Council of Delegates,

Approves the proposal put forward by Dr. Guillermo Rueda Montana, Chairman of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross, requesting the ICRC to set, in respect of the 1986 voluntary contributions by National Societies, a percentage representing a total amount which does not exceed the amount requested for 1985,

Proposes that the percentage of the financing of the ICRC by National Societies be re-examined at the Twenty-fifth International Conference.

5

Location and date of the next Council of Delegates

The next Council of Delegates will take place in Geneva in October 1986, prior to the opening of the International Conference of the Red Cross.