

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

The Council of Delegates, which is attended by representatives from the National Societies, the ICRC and the League, met on 22 October 1986 under the chairmanship of Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the ICRC.

The main topic discussed at the Council was the contribution of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to peace. The Council took note of the report by the Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace on its activities since the 1985 Council of Delegates and its supplementary report on its latest discussions, including in particular the Commission's proposals for its future composition. The Council decided by consensus to accept the Commission's suggestion that its membership be increased by two.

Thus the total number of members on the Commission has been raised from 15 to 17: in addition to the ICRC, the League and the Henry Dunant Institute, the two National Societies that organized the two World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conferences on Peace (Belgrade, 1975; Aaland and Stockholm, 1984), i.e. the Red Cross Societies of Yugoslavia and Sweden, have become *ex officio* members of the Commission. (Since the Finnish Red Cross was the co-organizer of the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace, it will alternate with Sweden, at the request of the Swedish Red Cross, as an *ex officio* member). In conformity with Decision No. 1 of the 1985 Council of Delegates, the term of office of six National Societies was renewed; these are the National Societies of Australia, Egypt, France, the German Democratic Republic, Indonesia and Mauritania. The six new Societies are those of Benin, Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Jordan and the Yemen Arab Republic.

The deliberations of the Council of Delegates gave rise to numerous themes for the Commission to study, in particular the establishment of a Red Cross and Red Crescent Peace Prize or Medal, the importance of educating young people to be peace orientated, the option of alternating the chairmanship of the Commission between the ICRC and the League, the possibility of convening a third World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace and, last but not least, ideas on a World Red Cross and Red Crescent Peace Day. The Commission will submit an interim report on these and other proposals to the Council of Delegates in 1987 and a final report in 1989.

The Council of Delegates also adopted three resolutions by consensus on the contribution of the Movement to peace.

When informed of the retirement of Mr. Harald Huber, Chairman of the Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace, the Council of Delegates thanked him for having greatly contributed to the Commission's success. Mr. Alexandre Hay will take Mr. Huber's place when he ceases to be President of the ICRC.

The report on the 1985-86 activities of the Henry Dunant Institute was presented by Mr. Maurice Aubert, President of the Institute and Vice-President of the ICRC. He also announced the appointment of Mr. Jean Hoefliger by the Institute's Assembly to the post of Director; at present Mr. Hoefliger is the ICRC's Delegate-General for the Middle East. Many National Societies expressed their thanks to the team which has guided the Henry Dunant Institute in recent years, and in particular to Mr. Jacques Meurant, its former Director. In addition they emphasized the significant role which the Henry Dunant Institute plays and must continue to play within the Movement as an instrument for research, training, documentation and exchanges of news and views on the activities and principles of the Movement, international humanitarian law and the development of National Societies.

The Council of Delegates adopted a resolution by consensus on the future activities of the Henry Dunant Institute.

Lastly, the ICRC's Report on Funds and Medals (award of the Florence Nightingale Medal, state of the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and the Augusta Fund, Report by the Council of the Foundation for the ICRC) was approved by the Council.
