

## Resolution of the Organization of African Unity relating to the ICRC

*The ICRC was invited to attend the Forty-fourth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and the Twenty-second Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 30 July 1986. A delegation led by Maurice Aubert, ICRC Vice-President, represented the International Committee.*

*It was with great satisfaction that the ICRC read Resolution CM/Res. 1059 (XLIV) "On the International Committee of the Red Cross" which was adopted by the OAU. This resolution, which expresses the desire of Heads of State and Government to promote respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, is especially welcome at a time when the ICRC needs the unconditional support of the international community to carry out its work.*

*The resolution, the text of which follows, calls on Member States to make the public more familiar with the activities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.*

### ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

#### RESOLUTION CM/RES. 1059 (XLIV) ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Forty-fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 21 to 26 July, 1986,

*Recalling* that the mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross is to protect and assist the victims of armed conflicts, on the basis of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols,

*Paying tribute* to the principles which are the basis of its work and of the entire Red Cross Movement, especially humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence and universality,

*Recalling* the desire expressed by the Heads of State and Government of Africa to promote throughout the world and, in Southern Africa in particular, the respect of the rules of International Humanitarian Law and the universally recognized humanitarian principles,

*Stressing* the ICRC's particularly great efforts in recent years to assist Africa which make this continent the main beneficiary of ICRC operations,

*Considering* that the work of the ICRC deserves the widest and most committed support of the international community and regional organizations,

*Recalling* that the financing of ICRC activities depends mainly on voluntary contributions by governments,

1. EXPRESSES once again its gratitude to and its support for the ICRC in the humanitarian work it is accomplishing in the world;
2. INVITES Member States to help the ICRC in its work, by granting it all the facilities necessary to carry out its mandate as laid down in the Geneva Conventions;
3. INVITES Member States to support the activities of the ICRC to the fullest extent they can and by annual financial contributions;
4. INVITES Member States, in cooperation with their National Societies, to support efforts to make public opinion more familiar with all the activities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;
5. APPEALS to Member States to ratify, if they have not already done so, or accede to the two Protocols additional to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.