

Recognition of the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society

Geneva, 12 December 1986

CIRCULAR NO. 540

*To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross
and Red Crescent Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you of the official recognition of the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society by the International Committee of the Red Cross. This recognition, which took effect on 1 October 1986, brings to 140 the number of National Societies members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Founded in 1949, the Society officially applied for recognition by the International Committee of the Red Cross on 15 August 1986. In support of its application it forwarded various documents, including the text of its Statutes and a copy of the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society Act No. 3 of 1983 attesting that the Saint Lucia Red Cross is recognized by the government as a voluntary aid society auxiliary to the public authorities in accordance with the provisions of the First Geneva Convention of 1949. Reports on the Society's activities during the three previous years were also submitted.

All these documents, which were examined jointly by the International Committee and the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, showed that the ten conditions for the recognition of a new National Society by the International Committee had been fulfilled.

The International Committee and the League have observed the activities of the Saint Lucia Red Cross for several years. Representatives of the two institutions have ascertained that the Saint Lucia Red Cross is set up in conformity with the Fundamental Principles of our Movement. It has an infrastructure enabling it to act throughout the national territory and its work embraces several activities: services to the community (helping the aged, home helps, working in hospitals) by young volunteer workers and the training of first-aid instructors. It is also involved in the government's disaster-preparedness programme.

Saint Lucia, a former British colony, attained independence on 22 February 1979 and became party to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 by a declaration of succession received on 18 September 1981 by the Swiss Federal Council and taking effect from the date of its independence.

The Saint Lucia Red Cross is presided over by Mr. Kenneth Monplaisir. The Society's headquarters are in Castries. Its address is as follows: Saint Lucia Red Cross, 2 Mongiraud Street, Castries.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Saint Lucia Red Cross to membership of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and in accrediting it and commending it, by this circular, to all other National Societies. It expresses sincere good wishes to the Society for its future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Alexandre HAY
President