

Recognition of the Suriname Red Cross Society

Geneva, 12 December 1986

CIRCULAR No. 543

*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 Suriname Red Cross by the International Committee of the Red Cross. This recognition, which took effect on 1 October 1986, brings to 143 the number of National Societies members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Founded on 20 June 1940, the Society officially applied for recognition by the International Committee of the Red Cross on 12 August 1986. In support of its application it forwarded various documents, including the text of its Statutes and a copy of Government Decree No. 99 of 22 September 1983 attesting that the Suriname 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. A report on the Society's activities was also forwarded to the ICRC.

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 may be considered as fulfilled.

The International Committee and the League have observed the activities of the Suriname Red Cross for several years. Representatives of the two institutions have ascertained that the Suriname Red Cross is set up in conformity with the Fundamental Principles of our Movement. Its work embraces several activities: blood transfusion, first-aid and life-guard courses, training instructors, preparedness for natural disasters. Furthermore its youth section is involved in various social events (day of the disabled, selling handicrafts made in the Society's workshops).

Suriname, a former Dutch colony, attained independence on 25 November 1975 and became party to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 by a declaration of succession received on 13 October 1976 by the Swiss Federal Council and taking effect from the date of its independence.

The Suriname Red Cross is presided over by Dr. E.R.R. Radhakishun. The Society's headquarters are in Paramaribo. Its address is as follows: Suriname Red Cross, Gravenberchstraat 2, Paramaribo.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Suriname 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