

Recognition of the Red Cross Society of Belize

GENEVA, 20 March 1984

CIRCULAR NO. 529

*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 Belize Red Cross Society by the International Committee of the Red Cross. The recognition is effective as of 15 March 1984 and brings to 132 the number of National Society members of the International Red Cross.

Founded on 12 April 1950, the Belize Red Cross Society officially applied for recognition by the ICRC on 1 December 1983. Its request was supported by various documents, including several reports on its activities, the text of its Statutes, and a copy of the "Belize Red Cross Society Act, 1983", which recognizes it as the only Red Cross Society in the country and as a voluntary aid society auxiliary to the public authorities. The documents, which were examined jointly by the ICRC and the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, showed that the ten conditions for recognition of a new National Society had been fulfilled.

The ICRC and the League have been closely observing the activities of the Belize Red Cross for several years. Representatives of both institutions, on mission to the country, have noted that the Society, which extends its activities throughout the entire territory, has a satisfactory infrastructure and is capable of operating effectively, thanks

to the over 2,000 voluntary relief workers who have already received the appropriate training. The Society carries out numerous activities: information, first aid, health education, primary medical care, social welfare services, preparation in case of natural disasters. It assists the Government in its work to help the disabled and to provide medical services.

The Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 are in force on the territory of Belize by virtue of the declaration of provisional application of these treaties which was notified by Belize to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Organization on 29 September 1982.

The President of the Belize Red Cross Society is Mr. Sydney J. Turton. The headquarters of the Society are in Belize City and the address is: The Belize Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 413, Belize City, Belize.

The International Committee of the Red Cross takes pleasure in welcoming the Belize Red Cross Society into the International Red Cross, accrediting and commending it, by the present circular, to all National Societies, whilst expressing its best wishes for its future and for the success of its humanitarian activities.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Alexandre HAY

President
