

Recognition of the Barbados Red Cross Society

GENEVA, 1 October 1984

CIRCULAR NO. 532

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour of informing you that the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 30 August 1984, officially recognized the Barbados Red Cross Society.

Founded on 17 February 1960 as a branch of the British Red Cross, and independent since 31 July 1969, the Society applied for recognition by the International Committee on 16 June 1984. In support of its request it sent various documents, including several reports on its activities, the text of its Statutes and a copy of the "Barbados Red Cross Society Act, 1969", wherein the Government of Barbados recognizes it as a voluntary aid society auxiliary to the public authorities.

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

For several years the International Committee and the League have been closely following the development of the Barbados Red Cross. Representatives from both institutions have observed that this Society, the work of which extends throughout Barbados, has considerably developed its activities in several spheres: first aid, courses in life-saving, social welfare work and preparedness for natural disasters. In the latter field of activities the Society is co-operating with the Government in its national emergency relief plan (Central Emergency Relief Organization).

The Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 are in force in the territory of Barbados — with retroactive effect to the date of its accession to independence on 30 November 1966 — by virtue of the declara-

tion of succession to the aforesaid Conventions made by the State and received by the Swiss Federal Council on 10 September 1968.

Miss Ena K. Walters is the president of the Barbados Red Cross Society, the headquarters of which is in Bridgetown. The address is: The Barbados Red Cross Society, Red Cross House, Jemmotts Lane, Bridgetown, Barbados.

This recognition, together with the simultaneous recognition of the Western Samoa Red Cross Society and the Red Crescent Society of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, brings to 135 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

The International Committee of the Red Cross is happy to welcome the Barbados Red Cross Society to membership of the International Red Cross and to accredit and commend it, by this circular letter, to all other National Societies. It expresses its sincere good wishes for its future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Alexandre HAY
President