

STATUTORY MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

(Budapest, 25-30 November 1991)

On 26 November 1991, the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent announced that it had been forced to postpone the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, owing to the risk “that political disagreement between governments on participation could jeopardize its outcome” (see *IRRC* No. 285, November-December 1991, p. 634).

In view of that decision, the meeting of the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which brings together representatives of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (the Federation)¹ assumed special significance. When it met on 27 November to examine what effects the postponement of the International Conference would have on the work of the statutory meetings of the Movement, the Standing Commission decided to extend the Council of Delegates session — originally scheduled for 28 November only — up to and including Saturday 30 November, and to place on its agenda several items which should have been dealt with by the International Conference. The Commission felt, in particular, that an assessment of the consequences of the postponement of the Conference for the future of the Movement, in the short and longer term, should begin during the discussions in Budapest.

The *Review* is publishing below an account of the opening ceremony and the proceedings of the Council of Delegates (pp. 15-42), together with the full text of the resolutions it adopted (pp. 43-65).

¹ Formerly the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The new name was adopted by the League General Assembly at its VIIIth session (Budapest, 25-28 November). See report below (pp. 66-73).

The Council of Delegates was preceded by the VIIIth session of the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. A summary of its proceedings appears on pages 66-73.

The reader will also find (see pp. 74-93) the text of the report entitled "Respect for international humanitarian law: ICRC review of five years of activity (1987-1991)", which the ICRC had intended to submit to the Conference.