

# COOPERATION WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

## The work of the statutory bodies

### *STANDING COMMISSION*

In 1990 the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, composed of two representatives from the ICRC, two from the League and five from the National Societies, the latter elected by the International Conference, met on 1 May, 30 July and 22 October. It was chaired by Dr. Ahmad Abu-Goura, President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society.

The Standing Commission devoted most of its time to preparations for the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

At its first meeting of the year, the Commission took note of the decision by the Colombian Red Cross not to organize the next International Conference. The Commission decided to send a circular to the National Societies informing them of the Colombian Society's withdrawal and asking whether they wished to host the 1991 Conference.

After considering the offers received, the Commission decided at its July meeting to accept that of the Hungarian Red Cross to host the Conference in Budapest in November-December 1991. The Commission also began drawing up the Conference's agenda and reviewing general preparations.

### *Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace*

The Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace, set up by the Council of Delegates in 1977, met twice in 1990 (30 April and 16 October) in Geneva

under the chairmanship of Mr. Alexandre Hay.

It is composed of representatives of the League, the ICRC, the Henry Dunant Institute and 14 National Societies.<sup>1</sup> During its meetings the Commission was informed of the initial work carried out by the Ad hoc Group which it had set up to reactivate the Plan of Action against Racism and Racial Discrimination (*see below*).

It also took note of the progress made in preparations for the World Campaign for the Protection of Victims of War and the interim report of the International Promotion Bureau<sup>2</sup> in charge of the Campaign. The Commission reviewed the Campaign's goals, the various programmes involved and the means of carrying them out.

The Commission also discussed its future activities. Noting that major changes on the international scene had given rise to new humanitarian needs, it felt duty-bound to reassess some of its priorities and widen the future scope of its concerns.

### *Ad hoc Group against Racism and Racial Discrimination*

The Ad hoc Group on the Reactivation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Plan of Action against Racism and Racial Discrimination was set up by the Commission on the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Peace in October 1989 in accordance with Decision 3 of the 1985 Council of

<sup>1</sup> The Red Cross Societies of Australia, Benin, Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia and Sweden, and the Red Crescent Societies of Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania and Yemen.

<sup>2</sup> A joint ICRC/League body.