

## FINANCE

With a total of 441.3 million Swiss francs, the ICRC's overall budget expenditure for 1990 showed a slight drop (-4%) as against the previous year (458.9

million). These figures include the value of contributions in kind and services received and used by the ICRC (66.1 million francs).

<b>Expenditure and charges</b> <i>(including contributions in kind and services)</i>	<b>1990</b> <i>(in millions of Swiss francs)</i>	<b>1989</b> <i>(in millions of Swiss francs)</i>
Headquarters' financial structure	98.8	91.0
Field financial structure	342.5	367.9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>441.3</b>	<b>458.9</b>

### **Expenditure by region** *(Figure 1, p. 109)*

There was a marked reduction (-26%) in ICRC expenditure for Africa compared with the previous year (152.2 million Swiss francs as against 204.9 million in 1989). This was the result less of an improvement in the situation there — though there had been a real improvement in several countries — than of obstacles encountered in some major operations such as in southern Sudan.

There was a sharp rise (+61%) in expenditure for Europe, due largely to the ICRC's operation in Romania. ICRC activities in Asia also increased (+6%) in comparison with 1989, as a result of its operation in Sri Lanka and an upsurge in the volume of ICRC work in Afghanistan and Cambodia.

Events in the Middle East — particularly in the Gulf region following the entry of Iraqi troops into Kuwait on 2 August 1990 — caused ICRC operations in the area to be stepped up considerably. At the same time, additional staff had to be deployed in Iran and Iraq to handle the repatriation of prisoners of war between the two countries. Finally, ICRC activities

in the territories occupied by Israel also increased in 1990.

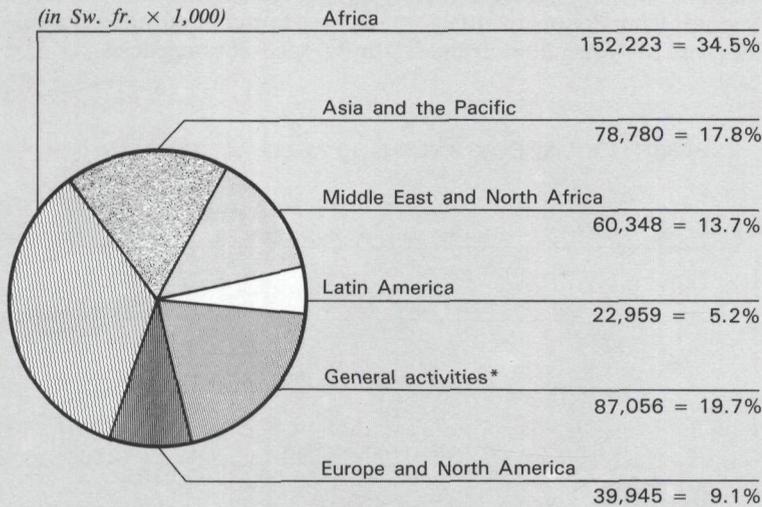
In Latin America, on the other hand, the total volume of ICRC operations declined by more than 20% as a result of the peace process in countries such as Nicaragua (-50%), El Salvador (-27%) and Chile (-20%).

### **Expenditure according to type of activity** *(Figure 2, p. 110)*

The obstacles encountered by the ICRC in its relief operations — in particular in southern Sudan — account for the perceptible reduction in this activity (131 million Swiss francs in 1990 as against 178 million in 1989). There was, however, a 17% increase (from 78.7 million francs in 1989 to 92.3 million in 1990) in expenditure for protection and Central Tracing Agency activities (visits and other activities in behalf of prisoners of war, displaced persons and internees).

The ICRC's work to promote and disseminate international humanitarian law continued at the same level as in 1989 (18.4 million francs).

Total expenditure for support and management activities (24 million and

**EXPENDITURE BY REGION IN 1990***(including contributions in kind and services)**(Figure 1)***Total: 441.3 million Sw. fr.**

\* This heading includes all the following activities when carried out at or from ICRC headquarters:

- protection activities for victims of conflicts (Detention Division), Central Tracing Agency work;
- medical and material assistance, aid to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;
- promotion and dissemination of international humanitarian law, communications;
- operational management, support and management activities for ICRC work at headquarters and in the field, special extrabudgetary expenses.

14.2 million francs respectively) was up by 9% over 1989, largely attributable to the Middle East crisis. These two items, which represent 39% of total expenditure within the headquarters' financial structure, were, like all other items in that structure, affected by inflation which reached 6% in Switzerland in 1990. However, a freeze on staff levels and a paring of expenditure in other areas made

it possible to limit the growth of overall expenditure to 1% (i.e. 102 million francs as against 100.6 million in 1989).

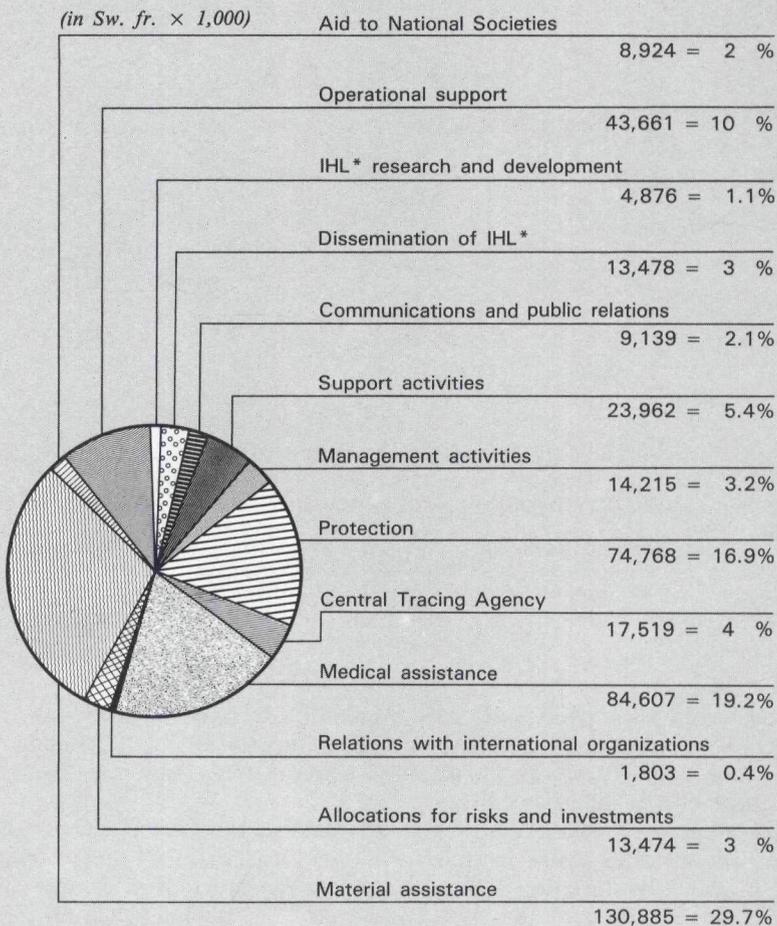
The balance sheet for ICRC activities in the field was distinctly more favourable than in the previous year since the net deficit of 12.7 million francs for 1989 was down to 3.3 million at the end of 1990: an overall requirement for 289.2 million

francs (276.5 million for activities carried out in 1990 plus the deficit of 12.7 million brought forward from 1989) was in fact almost counterbalanced by income totalling 285.9 million francs, including 3 million transferred from the headquarters' structure. Support from donors for ICRC field activities rose by 26.2 million francs

in 1990, i.e. by more than 10%.

Still, the ICRC's financial equilibrium remains at the mercy of sudden, drastic increases in expenditure for emergency operations and it is therefore as essential as ever to maintain sufficient reserves to meet such contingencies.

**EXPENDITURE ACCORDING TO TYPE OF ACTIVITY IN 1990**  
(Figure 2)



\* International humanitarian law

**Total: 441.3 million Sw. fr.**