

**Recognition  
of the Bahamas Red Cross Society**

Geneva, 17 December 1976

*Circular No. 505*

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you that the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 16 December 1976, officially recognized the Bahamas Red Cross Society.

The Society was constituted on 16 November 1939 as a branch of the British Red Cross and formally applied for recognition by the International Committee on 18 March 1976. Its request was supported by various documents including its Statutes, the law of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas recognizing the Bahamas Red Cross Society as a National Society auxiliary to the public authorities, and a report on the Society's activities.

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

This recognition, which the International Committee is pleased to announce, brings to 123 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross. Representatives of the International Committee

and of the League of Red Cross Societies found that the Bahamas Red Cross Society was active throughout the greater part of the inhabited islands of the archipelago. It is concerned in particular with the provision of aid to needy, sick, aged and handicapped persons. It is also concerned with the training of first-aiders in various parts of the territory and it runs a deaf children's home. Its junior section is very active, and it goes to the aid of victims of natural disasters.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas confirmed on 27 June 1975 that the Commonwealth considered itself a party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, by a declaration of continuity with effect from 10 July 1973, the date on which it acceded to independence.

The President of the Society is Mrs. Rowena P. Eldon. The Chairman of its Executive Committee is Mrs. Lottie V. Tynes and the Society's headquarters is at Nassau.<sup>1</sup>

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Bahamas Red Cross to membership of the International Red Cross, in accrediting it and commending it, by this circular, to all other National Societies, and in expressing sincere good wishes for its success in the discharge and development of its humanitarian activities.

For the International Committee  
of the Red Cross

Alexandre HAY  
President

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<sup>1</sup> The new Society's address is: Bahamas Red Cross Society, P O Box No 91, Nassau.