

**Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and  
Red Crescent Movement  
Geneva, 11-14 november 2001**

**Resolutions**

- Resolution 1*      Work of the Standing Commission of the  
Red Cross and Red Crescent
- Resolution 2*      Implementation of the Seville Agreement  
and Conduct of International Relief Operations
- Resolution 3*      Strategy for the International Red Cross  
and Red Crescent Movement
- Resolution 4*      Movement Action in Favour of Refugees and  
Internally Displaced Persons
- Resolution 5*      International Disaster Response Law
- Resolution 6*      Emblem
- Resolution 7*      Respect of the Emblem in Situations of  
Armed Conflict or Other Situations of  
Violence
- Resolution 8*      The United Nations Convention on Certain  
Conventional Weapons: Explosive Remnants  
of War and Non-international Armed Conflicts
- Resolution 9*      Involvement of Red Cross and Red Crescent  
Workers in Proceedings related to Violations of  
International Humanitarian Law

- Resolution 10*      International Conference of the Red Cross  
and Red Crescent (December 2003)
- Resolution 11*      Protection of Cultural Property in the Event  
of Armed Conflict
- Resolution 12*      Strengthening Humanitarian Values across  
Religious, Political and Ethnic Lines
- Resolution 13*      Statement by the Council of Delegates  
concerning the Terrorist Attacks of  
11 September 2001 and their Repercussions

For reasons of consistency, the names of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and the components of the Movement (the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the National Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent) will appear in full the first time they are mentioned in the resolutions, with their abbreviation or acronym in parentheses. Thereafter they will be referred to in their shortened form, e.g. Standing Commission, ICRC, International Federation and National Societies.

## Resolution 1

### Work of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

**The Council of Delegates,**

*having taken note* of the report submitted by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) on its work since December 1999,

*commending* the Standing Commission and its five working groups for actively promoting cooperation among the components of the Movement, greater information sharing and developing practical measures to enable its members to carry out their important work for the Movement,

*reaffirming* previous recommendations that the Standing Commission associate personalities from National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), participating in a personal capacity, in the preparation of the Council of Delegates and the International Conference,

*reaffirming* previous recommendations that the Standing Commission organises structured consultations with National Societies on all Movement matters taking advantage of regional and other meetings organised within the Movement,

1. *encourages* the Standing Commission to continue its established working methods of including personalities from National Societies and set up such working groups as it deems necessary;
2. *urges* the Standing Commission to maintain its Working Groups on the Council of Delegates and the International Conference;
3. *encourages* the Standing Commission to pursue its efforts to further develop its communications and consultations with the Movement's components, i.e., through participation in regional and other meetings organised within the Movement;
4. *reaffirms* 1997 Council of Delegates Resolution I that the financial implications of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be the joint responsibility of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the National Societies, on the basis of 25% from

the ICRC, 25% from the International Federation and 50% through voluntary contributions of National Societies.

## **Resolution 2**

### **Implementation of the Seville Agreement and Conduct of International Relief Operations**

**The Council of Delegates,**

*taking note* of the report on the implementation of the Agreement on the Organisation of the International Activities of the Components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Seville Agreement) for the years 2000 and 2001, submitted to the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent (Standing Commission) by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation),

*further taking note* of the Report of the Ad Hoc Group on the conduct of international relief operations pursuant to Resolution 5 of the 1999 Council of Delegates, and agreeing with its recommendations,

*stressing* that the implementation of the Seville Agreement requires complementarity of activities, functional co-operation, support, mutual respect and trust among the components of the Movement,

*noting* with satisfaction that the Secretariat of the International Federation and the ICRC have started harmonizing their systems and procedures,

*recognising* that these harmonizing efforts will contribute to strengthening the operational capacity of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies),

1. *urges* all components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to implement the recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Group on the conduct of international relief operations

annexed herewith and commit to the Seville process, abide by its provisions and provide resources for that purpose;

2. *requests* all National Societies to inform the International Federation and the ICRC of the steps taken in this respect;

3. *further requests* the International Federation and the ICRC to report on this matter in their annual report on the implementation of the Seville Agreement.

## Annex to Resolution 2

### Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Group on the Conduct of International Relief Operations

The Group, bearing in mind its mandate, based on its analysis of recent operational experience and its evaluation by external experts, recommends:

#### Improved consultation

The ICRC and the International Federation Secretariat should establish transparent processes of consultation, involving relevant National Societies, specifically designed to improve the effectiveness of the Movement as a whole in planning and executing relief operations in areas of natural or technical disasters, or of armed conflict, such processes enabling the parties to:

- share information on possible emergencies and the capacities of components of the Movement to deal with them;
- cooperate in the strengthening of National Societies' capacities in emergency response;
- develop contingency plans to deal with various levels and types of emergency;
- make explicit the decision-making mechanism, used to determine the particular organisational model to be employed in complex emergency situations as they arise, and the criteria to be applied in arriving at such decisions;

- monitor the progress of harmonization of systems and procedures associated with relief operations.

### **Preparedness, including funding**

The ICRC and the International Federation Secretariat, in consultation with National Societies should:

- develop a strategy for strengthening capacity of emergency response of National Societies for both conflicts and natural, technical and other disasters;
- improve the quality of and access to information on vulnerable countries identifying their vulnerabilities and capacities to respond to emergencies;
- improve the quality of and access to information on resources available within the Movement for emergency response;
- develop, at the appropriate level, contingency plans for disaster relief (at national, regional and international levels);
- develop alternative appeal systems and funding, tailored to meet specific needs of certain types of emergencies;
- build adequate reserve funds, enabling immediate action before an appeal is launched;
- ensure the implementation of policies on post-emergency rehabilitation, disaster preparedness, co-operation and capacity building;
- train delegates, staff and volunteers on requirements and responsibilities for action including in the field of security. Nobody should be allowed in the field without having undergone a Basic Training Course (BTC);
- clarify the issue of security when the International Federation is the Lead Agency;
- encourage the Operating National Society (ONS) to follow strictly the security rules and procedures established by the Lead Agency.

### **Organisation and management**

The ICRC and the International Federation Secretariat, in consultation with National Societies should:

- in situations not covered by the Seville Agreement decide on the modus operandi for the emergency in question;

- *establish emergency operations rooms in each headquarters, as recommended in the Balkans evaluation report, only one of these to be used in a joint operation;*
- *identify responsibilities and adequate authority at each level, with swift and clear lines of communication between levels;*
- *delegate on-the-ground leadership from Geneva to one Director of field operations, who is responsible for operational management of all components of the Movement and media relationships during the emergency phase, with authority respected by all participants;*
- *identify and train representatives from the ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies capable of handling delegated authority in the field, ready to be moved into place at short notice to assume local command.*

The Group further recommends that:

- *where there is a requirement for a needs assessment beyond that conducted initially by the ONS, the Lead Agency is to organise a further needs assessment, involving ONS, which must be respected by all components;*
- *the Lead Agency should make effective use of resources of National Societies from the region (for example, personnel, logistics, fund-raising), involve the ONS in decision-making, and use the emergency to enhance ONS capacity building;*
- *the Lead Agency is to set up a Coordination Centre for National Societies during the emergency phase, to advise all participants of the state of events and their responsibilities;*
- *special attention should be paid to the transfer of the Lead Agency role from one component to the other as the situation changes.*

### **Compatibility**

The ICRC and the International Federation Secretariat should be encouraged to pursue their efforts relating to the compatibility of their management systems and the National Societies should seek to develop their own work interfaces with these systems. The areas affecting operational effectiveness include:

- human resources;
- logistics and relief;
- information technology;
- evaluation;
- quality control;
- statistical reporting:
- field monitoring;
- financial reporting.

### **Information and image**

The Group recommends that:

- a single image of the Red Cross and Red Crescent should be projected to the world from the field whilst retaining separate identities for particular audiences;
- the Lead Agency employs a media management system that provides clear messages as well as opportunities for improved National Society recognition.

### **Culture and behaviour**

The Group further recommends that:

- operations should be guided above all by solidarity between the components in the interest of the victims and not by individual or competitive humanitarian action;
- all participants should avoid actions or statements which may either jeopardise the ICRC mandate as specified by the Geneva Conventions and the Statutes of the Movement, or diminish respect for any component of the Movement;
- rules of engagement must be respected by all participants, and deviations followed up with offenders;
- uncooperative individuals should be disciplined by their own Movement component.

## Resolution 3

### Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

**The Council of Delegates,**

*recalling* Resolutions 1 and 5 of the 1999 Council of Delegates, in which it requested the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) to establish a Working Group to develop a proposal for an overall Strategy for the Movement,

*taking note* of the Report of the Working Group on the Strategy for the Movement,

*appreciating* the intensive consultation process by the Working Group in developing the Strategy,

1. *adopts* the Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;
2. *calls upon* all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to
  - a) promote knowledge and understanding of this Strategy at all levels of their respective organisations;
  - b) implement the actions outlined in this Strategy as part of their strategies and plans at national, regional and international levels, and allocate the requested resources to carry them out;
3. *invites* the Standing Commission to establish a task force of experts from National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC, to develop procedures for monitoring, evaluation and analysis of progress made by all components regarding the implementation of this Strategy;
4. *requests* National Societies to submit reports on the implementation of this Strategy to the International Federation Secretary General as part of the existing reporting mechanisms;
5. *calls upon* the International Federation, the ICRC and the Standing Commission to jointly analyse these reports with the task force of experts and to submit a consolidated report on the implementation of

this Strategy by the components of the Movement to the Council of Delegates;

6. *decides* to review and, if necessary, amend this Strategy at its next meeting.

## **Resolution 4**

### **Movement Action in favour of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons**

#### **The Council of Delegates,**

*expressing its deep concern* about the need to improve protection and assistance to the tens of millions of persons who have been forcibly uprooted and displaced by armed conflict, violations of international humanitarian law and human rights and natural or other human-induced disasters,

*welcoming* the document prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) entitled Movement Action in Favour of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (Document CD2001/6/1),

*recalling* and *reaffirming* the resolutions adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Resolution XXI, Manila 1981; Resolution XVII, Geneva 1986, Resolution 4A, Geneva 1995 and Goal 2.3 of the Plan of Action of the 27th International Conference, Geneva 1999) as well as the Resolutions adopted by the Council of Delegates (Resolution 9, Budapest 1991 and Resolution 7, Birmingham 1993),

*recalling* that in situations of armed conflict refugees and internally displaced persons are protected by international humanitarian law, recalling also the protection afforded by refugee law, human rights law and national law and encouraging all components of the Movement, in accordance with their mandates, to take appropriate measures to ensure that States are aware of their responsibilities under

international humanitarian law, refugee law, human rights law as well as national law applicable to refugees and internally displaced persons, *emphasising* the importance of respect for international humanitarian law for the prevention of displacement,

*noting* the need for the components of the Movement to agree upon and implement a coherent strategy for ensuring a predictable response to the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons, while retaining a global approach based on a response to needs rather than on categories of persons,

*noting* further the requirements that all activities carried out by the components of the Movement in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons be in accordance with their respective mandates as outlined in the Statutes of the Movement and the Seville Agreement and in respect of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement,

### **Movement response to the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons**

1. *calls upon* the ICRC, the International Federation and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), in accordance with their respective mandates, to seek to ensure at all times that the Movement's response adopts a global approach, addressing both the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons — whenever possible, by appropriately addressing all stages of displacement, from prevention to return — and also the needs of the resident population in order to ensure respect for the Principle of Impartiality at all times. In particular, such a response should take into account:

- the need for protection, assistance, tracing, family reunification and durable solutions such as return, local settlement, or resettlement in a third country;
- the specific needs of different groups within populations of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as their different needs at different stages of displacement;
- the need for short-term interventions and long-term solutions;
- the need to involve refugees and internally displaced persons in planning and implementing programmes for their own benefit;

- the needs of host and local communities;
- the need for burden sharing within the Movement to assist National Societies where responding to displacement is beyond their individual capacities;
- the need to develop a strong advocacy platform with common Movement positions;

### **Coordination and cooperation within the Movement**

2. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation to develop a strategy to address the issues and challenges identified in Section VI of the above-mentioned document (CD 2001/6/1) by means of a regular and efficient exchange of information between the various components of the Movement as well as between the headquarters and the field;

3. *recognises* that there may be circumstances in which the ICRC, as the Lead Agency in situations of armed conflict must focus on the priority needs of refugees and internally displaced persons who find themselves closest to areas of conflict, while there may be displaced persons located at a distance from the theatre of hostilities who may also be in dire need of assistance, and urges the ICRC, in consultation with the International Federation and National Societies, to develop, within the framework of the Seville Agreement, operational solutions to such situations;

4. *calls on* National Societies to support ICRC and/or International Federation programmes in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons mobilising public as well as government support and coordinating their action with the Lead Agency to ensure the most effective Movement response;

### **Coordination and cooperation with other humanitarian actors**

5. *requests* the ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies jointly and individually, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to closely co-ordinate their activities in this area and promote real coordination with other humanitarian actors, aiming to achieve a coherent approach by the components of the Movement

in their relations with other humanitarian actors to achieve greater complementarity in their activities;

6. *urges* National Societies to ensure that their activities in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons are carried out in respect of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and existing policy at all times, and particularly when they are acting as implementing partners for other humanitarian actors;

7. *reminds* National Societies of their obligation to inform the International Federation and/or the ICRC of any negotiations likely to lead to a formal agreement between them and any agency of the United Nations or any other international organisation. The International Federation and/or the ICRC will assist National Societies in negotiations likely to lead to an agreement with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and must concur with the terms of any such agreement in order to ensure coherence and complementarity;

8. *requests* that the ICRC and the International Federation jointly initiate a process of consultation with the UNHCR with a view to clarifying the terms upon which the components of the Movement engage in cooperation with UNHCR, and to report thereon to the next Council of Delegates;

### **Development of Movement Strategy**

9. *calls upon* the ICRC and the International Federation to further develop proposals for Movement strategy on refugees and internally displaced persons, in consultation with National Societies, and to report to the next Council of Delegates;

10. *further calls upon* the International Federation, in consultation with National Societies to develop proposals for a plan of action on other aspects of population movement. This plan of action will address, inter alia, migration and resultant vulnerability, migrants in irregular situations, and action to address discrimination and xenophobia. The International Federation will report thereon to the next session of its General Assembly.

## Resolution 5

### International Disaster Response Law

**The Council of Delegates,**

*recalling* Resolution VI of the 23rd International Conference of the Red Cross, Bucharest 1977 and the recommendations drawn up in its Annex “Measures to expedite international relief”,

*bearing in mind* the Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Disaster Relief as taken note of by the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference), Geneva 1995,

*recalling* the significance for all humanitarian actors of the obligations listed in the Code of Conduct for the Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief as endorsed by the Council of Delegates, Birmingham 1993,

*noting* Strategy 2010 as adopted by the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) 1999,

*recalling* Final goal 2.2, paragraph 7 of the Plan of Action adopted at the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Geneva 1999,

*noting* the significance of the work now under way in the UN on the development of rules relating to international urban search and rescue,

*acknowledging* the concept of International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) as outlined in the background document CD 2001/7/1,

*underlining* that the full application of International Humanitarian Law in situations of armed conflict and complex humanitarian disasters should be preserved,

1. *welcomes* the International Federation’s initiative to advocate for the development and, where applicable, the improvement and faithful application of International Disaster Response Law in particular, but not limited to, through the compilation and publication of existing

international laws and regulations, and the evaluation of their actual effectiveness in humanitarian operations;

2. *encourages* the International Federation, with the support of all concerned National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), to engage or, where applicable, continue the dialogue with governments and promote appropriate disaster response laws and regulations, allowing relief actors to meet the needs of the disaster victims in the most effective way;

3. *encourages* the International Federation to continue its work and invites it to report to the Council of Delegates and the International Conference in 2003;

4. *requests* National Societies and, as appropriate, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to support the International Federation in the implementation of this resolution through contributions to the work plan and advocacy;

5. *invites* National Societies to encourage their respective governments to become parties to the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunications Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998 as an important contribution to enhancing International Disaster Response Law.

## Resolution 6

### Emblem

#### The Council of Delegates,

*having taken note of* the report presented by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) on the follow-up given to Resolution 2 of the Council of Delegates convened in Geneva on 29 and 30 October 1999 and Resolution 3 of the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

1. *commends* the efforts made by the joint working group on the emblems, which was set up by the Standing Commission with a

view to finding a comprehensive solution to the question of the emblem and is composed of representatives of the Movement and of States;

2. *recalls* the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in particular the Principle of the Universality of the Movement;

3. *confirms* its objective of finding, as rapidly as possible, a comprehensive solution to the emblem issue which is acceptable to all parties in terms of substance and procedure;

4. *recognizes* the legal and protective value of the emblems used by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which, by virtue of their inclusion in the 1949 Geneva Conventions and continuous practice for over a century, have become universally recognized symbols of impartial and neutral aid and protection to the victims of war, natural disasters and other catastrophes;

5. *notes* that the adoption of an additional emblem which is devoid of any political, national or religious connotation whatsoever will be conducive to strengthening the protection of the victims of war and other situations of violence;

6. *notes* that the draft third protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions, which was drawn up by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in consultation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and was circulated on 12 October 2000 by Switzerland in its capacity as the depositary of the Geneva Conventions, constitutes an acceptable working basis for the resumption of negotiations when circumstances permit;

7. *sincerely regrets* the fact that developments in the Middle East in September 2000 created a situation which compelled Switzerland to postpone the Diplomatic Conference which was to be convened with a view to examining and, if possible, adopting the third protocol;

8. *expresses* the wish that the Diplomatic Conference can meet as soon as circumstances suggest favourable prospects for reaching an agreement;

9. *invites* the International Federation and the ICRC to take all possible initiatives with a view to pursuing cooperation – in particular in

the operational field – with the National Societies which are not yet recognised;

10. *requests* the Standing Commission to continue consultations with a view to *finding* a *comprehensive* solution to the question of the emblem on the basis of the work already carried out and to report on the implementation of the present resolution at the next Council of Delegates and the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

## **Resolution 7**

### **Respect of the Emblem in Situations of Armed Conflict or Other Situations of Violence**

**The Council of Delegates,**

*deeply concerned* by deliberate or accidental attacks in situations of armed conflict or other situations of violence against relief workers, hospitals, buildings or vehicles belonging to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) or National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), or the civilian or military medical services,

*urges* the parties to any armed conflict or other situation of violence to recognise and respect the protective value of the emblems of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

## **Resolution 8**

### **The United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons: Explosive Remnants of War and Non-International Armed Conflicts**

**The Council of Delegates,**

*alarmed* by the widespread and preventable death and injury caused during and after armed conflict by explosive remnants

(unexploded ordnance/UXO) of war — which no longer serve any military purpose,

*deeply concerned* by the long-term consequences for civilian populations of unexploded ordnance, particularly their role in preventing the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, blocking the delivery of humanitarian aid and other services to vulnerable populations, and hindering reconstruction and economic development,

*stressing the need* for the provisions of international humanitarian law governing specific weapons to apply in all situations of armed conflict,

*noting* that the second Review Conference of the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons will take place from 11 to 21 December 2001,

*recalling* the Movement Strategy on Landmines adopted by Resolution 10 of the Council of Delegates in October 1999,

1. *welcomes* the proposal made by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for consideration by the Review Conference on explosive remnants of war;

2. *further* welcomes the proposals made by the ICRC on the extension of the Convention's scope of application to non-international armed conflicts;

3. *urges* all States party to the Convention to participate in the Review Conference;

4. *calls upon* the Review Conference to initiate negotiations, beginning in early 2002, on a new protocol to address the problems caused by explosive remnants of war;

5. *calls upon* States party to the Convention to reach agreement as quickly as possible on extending the Convention's scope of application;

6. *urges* all States which have not yet done so to adhere to the Convention as soon as possible and to participate in the Review Conference;

7. *reaffirms* the Movement's commitment to the Movement Strategy on Landmines, and to continuing its efforts in the fields of care and rehabilitation of victims of landmines and UXO, mine and UXO

awareness, and the promotion of adherence to and implementation of the relevant treaties of international humanitarian law;

8. *encourages* all components of the Movement to raise public and governmental awareness of the human cost of explosive remnants of war and to promote the negotiation of an effective new protocol to the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons to address this problem;

9. *requests* the ICRC to report on the progress made on explosive remnants of war and the extension of the scope of application of the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons to the 2003 session of the Council of Delegates.

## Resolution 9

### Involvement of Red Cross and Red Crescent Workers in Proceedings related to Violations of International Humanitarian Law

#### The Council of Delegates,

*recalling* the obligations of States to suppress and repress violations of international humanitarian law,

*noting* with great satisfaction the current national and international developments for more effective repression of breaches of international humanitarian law,

*taking note* of the efforts of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) in promoting international humanitarian law in their countries and encouraging their governments to adopt appropriate national legislation for the punishment of violations of international humanitarian law,

*recalling further* the Principles of Neutrality and Impartiality as essential conditions for the fulfilment of the humanitarian mandate of the Movement, especially for the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC),

*expressing appreciation* for the recognition of the testimonial privilege of the ICRC in the jurisprudence of the International

Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and in the Draft Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the International Criminal Court,

*being aware* of the potential dangers for the future work of the Movement if representatives of any of the components are called upon to give evidence in proceedings for the punishment of violations of international humanitarian law,

*stressing the great importance* of a concerted approach of the components of the Movement on this issue,

1. *takes note* of the work and consultations of National Societies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and the ICRC, regarding the involvement of individual components of the Movement in proceedings for the punishment of violations of international humanitarian law;
2. *invites* the National Societies, together with the International Federation and the ICRC, to continue their efforts to raise awareness of this issue within the Movement and with relevant public authorities, explaining the potential risk to the humanitarian action of all components of the Red Cross/Red Crescent involvement in proceedings on violations of international humanitarian law;
3. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation, together with the National Societies, to develop appropriate briefing on this issue and to elaborate practical measures to introduce the issue into the training of Red Cross/Red Crescent workers and delegates;
4. *further invites* the National Societies and the International Federation to review and promote standard clauses in the contracts of Red Cross/Crescent workers in order to ensure appropriate actions when asked for co-operation;
5. *suggests* that National Societies, when their delegates or staff are asked for information obtained during their missions to be used in national or international procedures for the punishment of violations related to crimes under international humanitarian law, inform the International Federation and the ICRC for advice prior to taking further action;
6. *encourages* States, when ratifying the Statute of the International Criminal Court, not to make the declaration provided for in Article 124 of this Statute;

7. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation to report to the 2003 session of the Council of Delegates on the progress made.

## **Resolution 10**

### **International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (December 2003)**

#### **The Council of Delegates,**

*acknowledges* the reports of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) on the implementation of the Plan of Action adopted by the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference) and the preparation of the 2003 International Conference,

*takes note* with appreciation of these reports and its suggestions, and requests the Standing Commission to take into account the comments made during the Council of Delegates, as well as those to be formulated through further consultations with governments, when deciding on the format and theme for the 2003 International Conference,

1. *urges* all components of the Movement and governments to dedicate renewed efforts to the implementation of the 1999 Plan of Action and related pledges, and to report on the measures they have taken in this respect to the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, thus enabling them to constantly update the database established to present the overall result of this implementation at the 2003 International Conference;
2. *encourages* all components of the Movement to be active in preparing and promoting the International Conference, and to commit adequate resources to this task, and to urge governments to do likewise.

## Resolution 11

### Protection of Cultural Property In the Event of Armed Conflict

The Council of Delegates,

*deeply alarmed* at the destruction of monuments, works of art, manuscripts and books and other objects of cultural property during armed conflicts,

*recognising* that cultural property, monuments and cultural heritage are essential elements of the identity of peoples, the importance of their preservation as part of the cultural heritage of the world and as part of promoting mutual understanding and peace, and the protection afforded to cultural property under criminal law,

*noting* that protection of cultural property during armed conflicts is enhanced by adherence to the relevant rules of international humanitarian law, in particular, the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two Protocols of 1954 and 1999,

*recalling* the Plan of Action of the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and relevant resolutions of earlier International Conferences which call upon States to consider becoming party to relevant treaties concluded since the adoption of the 1949 Geneva Conventions to enhance the universal character of international humanitarian law,

*recognising that* many of the rules contained in the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols of 1954 and 1999 require implementation in peacetime in order to be effective during situations of armed conflict,

*recalling* the special role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) in the promotion, dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law,

1. *notes* with appreciation the increasing role of the ICRC, in co-operation with UNESCO, in encouraging ratification and implementation of the Hague Convention and its Protocols;

2. *encourages* National Societies to include the Hague Convention and its Protocols in their activities to promote, disseminate and implement international humanitarian law, either on their own initiative or in co-operation with their governments;
3. *invites* the States that have not yet done so to become party to the relevant treaties concluded since the 1949 Geneva Conventions, in particular the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols, with a view to strengthening the universality of international humanitarian law.

## **Resolution 12**

### **Strengthening Humanitarian Values across Religious, Political and Ethnic Lines**

**The Council of Delegates,**

*having received* the decision of the International Federation's General Assembly, entitled Strengthening Humanitarian Values across Religious, Political and Ethnic Lines (see annex),

*endorses* this decision and requests the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to act upon it with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Annex to Resolution 12

### **Decision of the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

**The General Assembly,**

*taking* into account discussions in the Assembly and its Working Groups on the subject,

*welcomes* the attached decision of the Governing Board,  
and  
*invites* the Secretary General to bring it to the attention of  
the Council of Delegates,  
*requests* all National Societies to take the measures outlined  
in this decision,  
*requests* the Secretary General to continue development of  
action to support the National Societies' initiative in this field,  
*further requests* the Federation Governing Board to review  
action in follow-up to this decision at its next meeting.

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**The Governing Board,**

*recognising* that acts against humanity create conditions in  
which millions of people are placed in fear of their lives and in which  
their economic and social well-being is jeopardised,

*further recognising* that the Red Cross and Red Crescent  
Movement, and especially the National Societies, can play a pivotal  
role in restoring and strengthening humanitarian values across re-  
ligious, political and ethnic lines,

*recalling, in this context,* the commitment by National  
Societies and States to cooperate and, as appropriate, take initiatives to  
promote tolerance, non-violence in the community and cultural  
diversity, as stated in the International Plan of Action adopted in 1999  
by the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red  
Crescent,

*invites* National Societies to establish or further develop  
partnership arrangements with other National Societies to strengthen  
their work to combat discrimination and violence;

*recalls* that in keeping with Red Cross and Red Crescent  
Principles, these partnerships should ignore ethnic, religious or politi-  
cal boundaries;

*requests* all National Societies to enhance their dialogue  
with governments to promote tolerance and understanding globally as  
well as in their communities;

*requests* all National Societies to commit themselves to advocate actively to protect the basic rights of groups and individuals at risk in their countries and, where necessary, to work with partners, including government agencies, to create conditions of safety for persons endangered by violence or discrimination;

*requests* the Secretariat to further develop, in close consultation with National Societies and the ICRC, an advocacy programme for tolerance, non violence and cultural diversity;

*welcomes* the solidarity expressed by National Societies and all components of the Movement with the victims of the devastating acts of 11 September 2001 and their aftermath;

*recalls* the role of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement as an effective mobilizer of assistance to all victims of violence, including terrorism and all forms of conflict;

*invites* the President to draw this decision to the attention of the General Assembly at its forthcoming Session.

## **Resolution 13**

### **Statement by the Council of Delegates concerning the Terrorist Attacks of 11 September 2001 and their Repercussions**

The terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 delivered a blow to the most fundamental values of human societies, particularly those at the heart of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement condemns such acts, which negate the most elementary principles of humanity, in the strongest possible terms.

The attacks have thrown thousands of families of different nationalities into a state of grief and mourning, and since then the population of Afghanistan has been plunged into the misery of another war. They have also forced us to sharpen our awareness of the threats that surround us, particularly those associated with weapons of mass destruction. Amidst this climate of crisis, the Movement also notes

with concern an increase of intolerance, and an upsurge in the number of xenophobic and racist acts.

These challenges underscore the validity and appropriateness of the principles of humanity, non-discrimination, tolerance, solidarity, neutrality and independence, which have inspired the work of our International Movement for more than a century. Accordingly, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, enriched by the diversity of cultures of the National Societies that comprise it, is determined to intensify its action to reject exclusion in all its forms, and to promote a culture of tolerance, justice and peace across all civilizations.

In response to these events, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with the support of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, have launched international operations to provide relief without discrimination to populations who have fallen victim to the conflict in Afghanistan, both inside and outside the country.

The extreme seriousness of the crisis caused by the 11 September attacks and their intensive coverage by the media must not lead anyone to forget the countless victims of other conflicts in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America. For these victims also require assistance that is in keeping with the magnitude of their suffering.

On behalf of all victims, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, at its Council of Delegates meeting in Geneva on 11-14 November 2001, appeals urgently to governments and leaders of international political organizations to do their utmost to ensure that the 1949 Geneva Conventions are fully respected within the context of all these conflicts, and that humanitarian organizations are guaranteed access to the victims.