

Resolutions*

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Resolutions of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent:

- Resolution 1** Strengthening international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty
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* All documents related to the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent are available on its website at: www.rccconference.org.

Resolution 1 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW PROTECTING PERSONS DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

mindful that deprivation of liberty is an ordinary and expected occurrence in armed conflict, and that under international humanitarian law (IHL) States have, in all forms of armed conflict, both the power to detain, and the obligation to provide protection and to respect applicable legal safeguards, including against unlawful detention for all persons deprived of their liberty, and in this regard,

deeply concerned that persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict are vulnerable to murder, forced disappearance, the taking of hostages, torture, cruel or inhumane treatment, rape and other forms of sexual violence, summary executions and disregard for their basic needs, and *condemning* any such acts,

recognizing that this Resolution does not give rise to new legal obligations under international law,

also recognizing that this Resolution does not modify the mandates, roles and responsibilities of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) as prescribed in the Statutes of the Movement.

recalling the universal ratification of the 1949 Geneva Conventions,

reiterating that international humanitarian law – in particular the four Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, as applicable to State parties thereto, and customary international law – remains as relevant today as ever in international armed conflict (IAC) and non-international armed conflict (NIAC) and continues to provide protection for all persons deprived of their liberty in relation to such conflicts,

stressing that greater respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law, by all parties to an armed conflict, is an indispensable prerequisite for improving the situation of persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict,

mindful of the need to strengthen international humanitarian law, in particular through its reaffirmation in situations when it is not properly implemented and its clarification or development when it does not sufficiently meet the needs of victims of armed conflict,

also mindful of the need to strengthen international humanitarian law in relation to the deprivation of liberty related to armed conflicts, in particular in NIAC,

recalling the important roles of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National

Societies) and the International Conference with respect to strengthening international humanitarian law, as set forth in the Statutes of the Movement,

recalling that Resolution 1 of the 31st International Conference recognized the importance of analysing the humanitarian concerns and military considerations related to the deprivation of liberty in relation to armed conflict with the aim, *inter alia*, of ensuring humane treatment, adequate conditions of detention (taking into account age, gender, disabilities and other factors that can increase vulnerability), and the requisite procedural and legal safeguards for persons deprived of their liberty, interned or transferred in relation to armed conflict,

recalling that Resolution 1 of the 31st International Conference invited the ICRC to pursue further research, consultation and discussion in cooperation with States and, if appropriate, other relevant actors, including international and regional organizations, to identify and propose a range of options and its recommendations to ensure that international humanitarian law remains practical and relevant in providing legal protection to all persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict,

noting the consultative process facilitated by the ICRC, which included four regional consultations, two thematic consultations and one meeting open to all States, and the ICRC's respective reports and chair's conclusions summarizing those discussions, with a view to providing States with a relevant basis for discussions, and *expressing appreciation* to all stakeholders who contributed to the consultation process,

acknowledging with appreciation the close cooperation of States throughout the consultation process, and *thanking* in particular those States that hosted consultations,

1. *commends* the ICRC for facilitating consultations on strengthening international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty, which included notably an initial exchange of ideas on areas of humanitarian concern and related legal protections that should be considered for strengthening;
2. *thanks* the ICRC, and *takes note* of its concluding report submitted to the 32nd International Conference, the consultations held and the issues discussed, and the divergence of views expressed, based on the understanding that this concluding report is the sole responsibility of the facilitators and does not necessarily express the agreed views of States;
3. *thanks* States that participated in the consultation process for their constructive engagement on strengthening international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict and for their willingness to share their operational knowledge and experience;
4. *recommends* that States engage in further work on strengthening international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty, in close cooperation with the ICRC, taking into account the discussions during the 2012–2015 consultation process and other recent work done by States;
5. *acknowledges* that strengthening the IHL protection for persons deprived of their liberty by any party to an armed conflict is a priority;

6. *reaffirms* the paramount importance and continued relevance of treaty-based and customary international humanitarian law in protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict, and *emphasizes* that any future efforts towards strengthening international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict take into account these and other relevant bodies of law, within their scope of application;
7. *takes note* that the areas identified for analysis by Resolution 1 of the 31st International Conference – ensuring humane treatment and adequate conditions of detention, taking into account age, gender, disabilities and other factors that can increase vulnerability, and the requisite procedural and legal safeguards for persons detained, interned or transferred in relation to armed conflict – provide a basis for continued discussions;
8. *recommends* the pursuit of further in-depth work, in accordance with this Resolution, with the goal of producing one or more concrete and implementable outcomes in any relevant or appropriate form of a non-legally binding nature with the aim of strengthening IHL protections and ensuring that IHL remains practical and relevant to protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict, in particular in relation to NIAC;
9. *welcomes* the readiness of States and the ICRC to collaborate in determining, at the outset of their further work and with the consensus of the participating States, the modalities of further work in order to ensure its State-led, collaborative and non-politicized nature in accordance with this Resolution;
10. *invites* the ICRC to facilitate the work of States and to contribute its humanitarian and legal expertise in accordance with this Resolution and the Statutes of the Movement;
11. *also invites* States and the ICRC to consult with National Societies and other relevant actors, including international and regional organizations, to enrich the discussions where appropriate;
12. *stresses* that this Resolution and any outcomes should neither affect the legal status of parties to armed conflict, nor be invoked for the purpose of affecting the sovereignty of a State or the responsibility of the government, by all legitimate means complying with IHL, to maintain or re-establish law and order in the State or to defend the national unity and territorial integrity of the State;
13. *invites* the ICRC to present a report on the work done pursuant to this Resolution to the 33rd International Conference.

Resolution 2 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

STRENGTHENING COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

stressing the importance and continued relevance of international humanitarian law (IHL) for regulating the conduct of parties to armed conflicts, both international and non-international, and providing protection and assistance for the victims of armed conflicts,

recalling the universal ratification of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and *emphasizing* the primary responsibility of States in the development of IHL,

recalling Resolution 1 of the 31st International Conference, and *taking note* of the *Concluding Report* prepared by the ICRC and Switzerland on the consultations held in implementing the relevant provisions of this resolution,

stressing that the imperative need to improve compliance with IHL was recognized by all States in the consultation process facilitated by the ICRC and Switzerland as a key ongoing challenge, and that more can be done to address the current weaknesses and gaps in the implementation of IHL, including by non-State parties to armed conflict,

1. *thinks* Switzerland and the ICRC for facilitating the consultation process with States and other actors pursuant to the relevant provisions of Resolution 1 of the 31st International Conference, and *recalls* the guiding principles of the consultation process:
 - the State-driven and consensus-based character of the process and the need for the consultations to be based on applicable principles of international law
 - the importance of avoiding politicization, including by ensuring that States address the implementation of IHL only within their own sphere of competence and responsibility
 - the need for an IHL compliance system to be effective
 - the avoidance of unnecessary duplication with other compliance systems
 - the requirement to take resource considerations into account
 - the need to find appropriate ways to ensure that the discussions address all types of armed conflicts, as defined in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols (for the latter as may be applicable), and the parties to them
 - the need for the process to ensure universality, humanity, impartiality and non-selectivity
 - the need for the process to be based on dialogue and cooperation

- the voluntary, i.e. non-legally binding, nature of the consultation process, as well as of its eventual outcome
 - the need for the process and the mechanism to be non-contextualized.
2. *recommends* the continuation of an inclusive, State-driven intergovernmental process based on the principle of consensus after the 32nd International Conference and in line with the guiding principles enumerated in operative paragraph 1 to find agreement on features and functions of a potential forum of States and to find ways to enhance the implementation of IHL using the potential of the International Conference and IHL regional forums in order to submit the outcome of this intergovernmental process to the 33rd International Conference.

Resolution 3 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: JOINT ACTION ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

condemning in the strongest possible terms sexual and gender-based violence, in all circumstances, particularly in armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies and *deeply deploring* the suffering of all victims/survivors of such violence,

noting with particular alarm the persistent prevalence and the growing evidence of sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies,

stressing that this Resolution does not give rise to new obligations under international law,

also stressing that this Resolution does not expand or modify the mandates, roles and responsibilities of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) as prescribed in the Statutes of the Movement,

recalling the obligations to protect and assist victims/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies in accordance with the applicable legal framework,

bearing in mind that international humanitarian law applies only to situations of armed conflict,

recognizing that factors such as the weakening of community and institutional protection mechanisms, disruption of services and community life, destruction of infrastructure, separation of families, displacement, and limited access to justice and health services, among others, in addition to structural gender inequalities, may contribute to an increased risk and impact of sexual and gender-based violence,

recognizing also that while women and girls are disproportionately affected, men and boys can also be victims/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and that factors such as age, disability, deprivation of liberty, displacement, religion, ethnicity, race and nationality, among others, may increase the risk,

affirming that women's political, social and economic empowerment; gender equality; and the engagement of men and boys in the effort to combat all forms of violence against women are essential to long-term efforts to prevent sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies,

affirming also that, in order to adequately address this humanitarian concern, approaches are required that effectively prevent sexual and gender-based violence, end impunity, protect victims/survivors and respond to their respective needs in a comprehensive and multidisciplinary manner in all phases of an emergency,

stressing the need to understand and address the root causes of sexual and gender-based violence in order to prevent and respond to such violence effectively, *recognizing* that, despite their prevalence, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence are often invisible, as taboos, stigma, feelings of guilt or shame, fear of retribution, and the unavailability of support or lack of information about available support often prevent victims/survivors from coming forward, and as injuries, both physical and psychological, may be less obvious than those caused by other forms of violence,

underlining that it is therefore important to work towards the prevention and elimination of such violence and to prepare appropriate responses to the needs of potential victims/survivors before specific incidents arise, and *noting* that such action can be life-saving for victims/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence,

noting with concern the findings of a growing number of studies from around the world, including the recently published report of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation),¹ describing increased risks of sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies,

deeply concerned that there have been instances of national and international humanitarian workers and other representatives of the international community committing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse, *condemning* such acts in the strongest possible terms, and *calling on* States and relevant organizations to make all possible efforts to prevent, detect, investigate, and liaise with the appropriate authorities concerning cases of suspected sexual exploitation and abuse, for ensuring accountability,

recalling the basic mission of the Movement to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found, protect life and health and ensure respect for the human being, and *expressing appreciation* for the work and efforts of the components of the Movement so far in addressing sexual and gender-based violence, in accordance with their respective mandates and institutional focuses,

expressing appreciation of existing relevant work and initiatives by the United Nations (UN), regional organizations, States, judicial bodies, humanitarian organizations and other actors in relation to sexual and gender-based violence, and *underlining* the complementary character of the work of the Movement and the International Conference with such work and initiatives,

recalling all relevant resolutions adopted by the UN and by the International Conference,

1 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, "Unseen, unheard: Gender-based violence in disasters, global study," 2015.

I. Sexual violence in armed conflicts

Legal and policy frameworks

1. *strongly urges* all parties to armed conflict to immediately cease all acts of sexual violence forthwith;
2. *recalls* all existing provisions of international humanitarian law that prohibit acts of sexual violence in armed conflict, which are binding upon both State and non-State parties to armed conflict, and *notes* that acts of sexual violence are also addressed in other legal frameworks, as applicable;
3. *recalls also* that sexual violence can constitute a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, when it is committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group and that rape and other forms of sexual violence in armed conflict can constitute war crimes, that acts of sexual violence can amount to torture and that in international armed conflicts acts of sexual violence can constitute grave breaches as listed in the 1949 Geneva Conventions;
4. *underlines* the need for States to comply with their relevant obligations to put an end to impunity and to effectively use all appropriate means to thoroughly investigate and prosecute those subject to their jurisdiction that are alleged to have committed such crimes;
5. *stresses* the important contribution of international criminal tribunals and courts to end impunity for crimes of sexual violence;
6. *urges* all States to consider ratifying or acceding to international humanitarian law treaties to which they are not yet party and whose provisions prohibit acts of sexual violence;
7. *calls upon* States to criminalize acts of sexual violence if they have not done so and encourages States to review, as appropriate, their domestic legal frameworks to determine whether they fully implement applicable obligations with respect to sexual violence, provide for investigation and prosecution, and offer protection and other necessary responses to the needs of victims/survivors;
8. *encourages* States to make every feasible effort to ensure that their authorities at all levels, including military and civilian commanders and superiors, adopt and enforce a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual violence;

Prevention

9. *calls upon* States, in times of peace as in times of armed conflict, pursuant to legal obligations, to disseminate international humanitarian law, including its existing provisions that prohibit sexual violence in armed conflict, as widely as possible in their respective countries and, in particular, in their programmes of military and, if possible, civil instruction, and also calls upon States to make every effort to fully integrate those prohibitions of sexual violence into all activities of their armed and security forces and their detaining authorities, with the support of the components of the Movement as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates;

10. *underlines* the important role that, for example, local leaders and civil society, including women's and youth organizations, as well as the engagement of men and boys, can play in raising awareness among the wider population of the prohibition of sexual violence, of the need to prevent such violence and of the need to assist and protect victims/survivors, including against further victimization and stigmatization, and the avenues for obtaining redress, and *encourages* States to support their activities, to the degree practicable;
11. *further calls upon* States to make every feasible effort to ensure that their armed and security forces and their detaining authorities have in place appropriate internal systems for monitoring, and responding to sexual violence that are sensitive to the needs of victims/survivors;
12. *encourages* States to exchange experiences and good practices concerning prevention of sexual violence;

Protection and access to justice

13. *underlines* the need for States to make every feasible effort to increase individuals' protection from sexual violence by addressing security and safety concerns in a victim/survivor-oriented and gender-sensitive manner;
14. *calls upon* States to make every feasible effort to give victims/survivors access to justice, including by creating, in a culturally-sensitive, gender-sensitive and victim/survivor-oriented manner, an environment where victims/survivors can easily report incidents of sexual violence within the framework of applicable national and international law;
15. *recognizes* that protection and access to justice are also understood as a prevention measure and *calls upon* States to make every feasible effort to put in place specific training for the personnel of all their institutions who may need to respond to instances of sexual violence in armed conflict;
16. *stresses* the need to avoid any kind of discrimination in the efforts to prevent the occurrence of sexual violence, respond to and protect the needs of victims/survivors and punish the perpetrators;

Investigating and prosecuting

17. *underlines also* that the effective investigation and ethical documentation of sexual violence can be instrumental in ensuring access to justice for victims/survivors and in bringing alleged perpetrators to justice and in this regard recognizes the utility of internationally recognized tools;
18. *also calls upon* States to put in place, to the degree practicable, specific training for their police, prosecutors, judiciary and relevant supporting personnel to enable them to investigate, prosecute and try acts of sexual violence in an effective, impartial and appropriate manner that, while guaranteeing the rights of alleged perpetrators, also fully respects the rights and needs of victims/survivors;

19. *encourages* States, particularly in situations of post-conflict, to consider addressing sexual violence in truth and reconciliation processes;

Support for victims/survivors

20. *calls* upon States and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) to make every feasible effort to ensure, insofar as possible, that victims/survivors of sexual violence and, where appropriate, gender-based violence, have unimpeded and ongoing access to non-discriminatory and comprehensive health care, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, according to national law, physical rehabilitation, psychological and psychosocial support, legal assistance and socio-economic support and spiritual services, as required, always keeping in mind the need to ensure the dignity and safety of victims/survivors, and the importance of confidentiality and privacy, including addressing issues such as social stigmatization of victims/survivors;

II. Sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies

Legal and policy frameworks

21. *reaffirms* States' obligations under applicable international human rights law to prohibit acts of sexual and gender-based violence;
22. *calls* upon States to review and strengthen, if necessary, their domestic legal frameworks, to fully implement applicable international obligations related to sexual and gender-based violence, and to assess, as relevant, whether domestic procedures, policies and contingency and preparedness plans related to disasters and other emergencies in their territory ensure that adequate attention is paid to sexual and gender-based violence;

Prevention, information and training

23. *encourages* States, with the support of their National Societies and other civil-society actors, including women's and youth organizations, as well as engagement with men and boys, to make every effort before, during and after disasters and other emergencies to make the prohibition of sexual and gender-based violence, and all services, facilities, mechanisms and support services available to address it, known as widely as possible among their populations;
24. *also encourages* States to gather, analyse and disseminate relevant disaggregated data and information relating to sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies in their territory, with support, as appropriate, from their National Societies and the International Federation;
25. *calls* upon States, National Societies, the International Federation and other relevant humanitarian and development stakeholders to ensure that their

disaster- and emergency-management plans and activities include measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in accordance with their respective mandates, such as putting in place specific training for relevant emergency- and disaster-response personnel, including the participation of women in disaster- and emergency-response teams, and engaging community members, in particular women, in decision-making about disaster risk management;

26. *encourages* States to ensure that their law enforcement and justice systems are equipped to effectively address sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies, including by undertaking specific gender-sensitive training, striving for a gender balance in their personnel, and assisting victims/survivors to easily and safely report incidents to competent domestic authorities;
27. *invites* international humanitarian organizations, including representatives of relevant sectors and clusters, to share good practices, guidelines and experiences related to addressing sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies with relevant actors;

Preparedness and response

28. *calls* upon States, with support, as appropriate, from National Societies and other partners to make every effort to ensure that persons affected by sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and emergencies have unimpeded and ongoing access to non-discriminatory and comprehensive health care, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, according to national law, physical rehabilitation, psychological and psychosocial support, legal assistance, and socio-economic support, spiritual services as required, always keeping in mind the need to ensure their dignity and safety, and the importance of confidentiality and privacy, in order to reduce the likelihood of them not seeking help and to avoid re-victimization;

III. Movement implementation, cooperation and partnerships

29. *encourages* the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to intensify its efforts to prevent sexual violence, alongside its efforts to protect and assist the victims/survivors thereof, in line with its mandate as laid down in the Statutes of the Movement, including research and analysis, and to cooperate with other components of the Movement, in accordance with their respective mandates, as appropriate;
30. *also encourages* the International Federation, in collaboration with National Societies and other relevant partners, to continue its research and consultations with a view to formulating relevant recommendations to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in disasters and other emergencies;

31. *calls upon* the components of the Movement, in accordance with their respective mandates and institutional focuses, to make every possible effort to make capacity-building on preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence one of their priorities, including by specifically training their relevant staff and volunteers at all levels, coordinating and cooperating with each other in line with their respective mandates and roles within the Movement, and exchanging experiences and good practices as appropriate;
32. *also calls upon* all components of the Movement to adopt and enforce zero-tolerance policies on sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries by their staff and volunteers, and subject these individuals to sanctions for their actions;
33. *further calls upon* the components of the Movement, in accordance with their respective mandates, to make every effort to support, where and when appropriate, the development and strengthening of the capacity of national institutions to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and to invest in training and strengthening local expertise and in community-based initiatives;
34. *further calls upon* the components of the Movement, in accordance with their respective mandates, to make every effort to coordinate and cooperate as appropriate with other relevant stakeholders working on preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, such as the UN, regional organizations and humanitarian organizations, including, as appropriate, by exchanging experiences and good practices;
35. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation to report to the 33rd International Conference on progress they have made and on any information provided for this purpose by members of the International Conference about their respective efforts.

Resolution 4 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

HEALTH CARE IN DANGER: CONTINUING TO PROTECT THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE TOGETHER

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

deeply concerned about attacks, threats and obstructions affecting the wounded and sick, health-care personnel and facilities, and medical transports as well as the misuse of health-care facilities, medical transports or the distinctive emblems and other impediments to the delivery of health care in times of armed conflict or other emergencies, and *deploring* the fact that such acts lead to serious humanitarian consequences, including loss of life and widespread suffering, and to the weakening of the capacity of health systems on a national and regional level to provide health care to affected populations,

recalling Resolution 5 of the 31st International Conference entitled “Health care in danger: Respecting and protecting health care,” including its call upon the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in operative paragraph 14 “to initiate consultations with experts from States, the International Federation, National Societies and other actors in the health-care sector, with a view to formulating practical recommendations for making the delivery of health care safer” in armed conflicts or other emergencies, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks, “and to report to the 32nd International Conference in 2015 on the progress made,”

welcoming the expert consultations held between 2012 and 2014 and *taking note with appreciation* of the practical recommendations resulting therefrom, as well as the progress report submitted by the ICRC pursuant to operative paragraph 14 of Resolution 5 of the 31st International Conference,

expressing its appreciation for the specific role played by States, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) and health-care professional associations in hosting expert consultations,

welcoming the ongoing efforts made by States, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) and other actors in the health-care sector to improve the protection of the delivery of health care, in accordance with the applicable international and domestic legal frameworks, and efforts to implement relevant practical recommendations as well as to follow good practices in this regard,

bearing in mind that international humanitarian law applies only to situations of armed conflict and *recognizing* that international humanitarian law and applicable international human rights law provide a framework for protecting health care,

stressing that this Resolution does not give rise to new obligations under international law,

also stressing that this Resolution does not expand or modify the mandates, roles and responsibilities of the components of the Movement as prescribed in the Statutes of the Movement,

recalling the obligations to respect and protect the wounded and sick, health-care personnel and facilities, as well as medical transports, and to take all reasonable measures to ensure safe and prompt access to health care for the wounded and sick, in times of armed conflict or other emergencies, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks,

calling for all States and all stakeholders to respect the integrity of medical and health-care personnel in carrying out their duties in line with their respective professional codes of ethics and scope of practice,

bearing in mind the specific health-care needs of certain categories of the wounded and sick, including children, women, persons with disabilities and the elderly,

stressing that identification of health-care personnel, facilities, and medical transports as such may enhance their protection, and in this regard *recalling* international legal obligations pertaining to the use and the protection of the distinctive emblems under the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and where applicable, their Additional Protocols,

recalling the Statutes of the Movement, in particular the mission of the components of the Movement as stated in the preamble of these Statutes, which guide the work of the Movement to make the delivery of health care safer in armed conflict or other emergencies,

stressing, in particular, the importance of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and *recalling* that “States shall at all times respect the adherence by all components of the Movement to the Fundamental Principles,” as laid down in the Statutes of the Movement,

emphasizing, in this context, the principle of humanity, whereby human suffering shall be prevented and alleviated wherever it may be found, and the principle of impartiality, whereby no discrimination on grounds of nationality, race, religious beliefs, class, political opinions or gender shall be made between individuals whose suffering is to be relieved, being guided solely by their needs and giving priority to the most urgent cases of distress,

recalling the importance of health-care personnel having sufficient practical knowledge of their rights and responsibilities, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks and with their professional codes of ethics and scope of practice, and *stressing* that health-care personnel should be able to offer their services without obstruction, threat or physical attack,

stressing the need for continued and, where relevant and appropriate, strengthened cooperation between States, the Movement, international and national health-care professional associations and other health-care providers, international and regional organizations, civil society, religious and community leaders, affected communities and other relevant stakeholders to raise awareness, promote preparedness to address and address violence against the wounded and

sick, health-care personnel and facilities, and medical transports, especially at a national level, bearing in mind existing roles, mandates and capacities,

1. *urges* full respect by all parties to armed conflicts for their obligations under international humanitarian law and by States for their obligations under international human rights law, as applicable and relevant for the protection of the wounded and sick and health-care personnel, facilities, and medical transports exclusively engaged in medical duties;
2. *recalls*, in this regard, the prohibitions against attacking the wounded and sick, health-care personnel and facilities, and medical transports, against arbitrarily denying or limiting access for the wounded and sick to health-care services, and against harassing, threatening or punishing health-care personnel for carrying out their duties, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks;
3. *notes* that attacking, threatening or otherwise preventing health-care personnel from fulfilling their medical duties undermines their physical safety and the integrity of their professional codes of ethics;
4. *expresses* its deep concern about attacks against health-care personnel and facilities, and reaffirms the commitment of all components of the Movement to the protection of health-care personnel, facilities and medical transports as afforded by international humanitarian law, and calls upon States, as are required, to conduct full, prompt and independent investigations with a view to reinforcing preventive measures, ensuring accountability and addressing the grievances of victims;
5. *calls upon* States, where relevant and appropriate, to adopt and effectively implement the required domestic measures, including legislative, regulatory and practical ones, to ensure respect for their international legal obligations pertaining to the protection of the wounded and sick and health-care personnel, facilities, and medical transports, and the protection and use of the distinctive emblems by authorized medical personnel, facilities and transports;
6. *calls upon* States to ensure that their armed forces and security forces, within their respective competencies under domestic law, make or, where relevant, continue their efforts to integrate practical measures for the protection of the wounded and sick and health-care services into the planning and conduct of their operations;
7. *calls upon* States, where relevant, also to contribute to the integration of such practical measures by armed forces and security forces in the operational practices and procedures of regional or international organizations;
8. *calls upon* States, in cooperation with the Movement, the health-care community and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to enhance their understanding of the nature of violence affecting the delivery of health-care services with a view to developing and effectively implementing domestic legal, regulatory and practical measures for preventing and addressing such violence, where relevant, and to this end, *encourages* States and the Movement, in cooperation with the health-care community and other

- relevant stakeholders, to regularly share challenges and good practices in this regard;
9. *calls upon* States and the Movement, in cooperation with the health-care community and academia, as appropriate, to continue making use of or otherwise support existing training tools or, where relevant, developing new tools to enhance the understanding by health-care personnel of their rights and responsibilities resulting from applicable law and their professional codes of ethics, as well as understanding of national and local customs and traditions, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks, and of dilemmas in the discharge of their legal and ethical responsibilities and stresses that this may contribute to behaviour that could increase their acceptance with local communities and thereby to their safety and security;
 10. *calls upon* States and the Movement, in cooperation with the health-care community and academia, as appropriate, to intensify or otherwise support efforts to make instruction on the rights and responsibilities of health-care personnel part of the curricula of relevant university faculties, including but not limited to medical faculties, and of training institutions for health-care personnel;
 11. *calls upon* National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to continue supporting and strengthening the capacity of local health-care facilities and personnel around the world and to continue providing training and instruction for health-care staff and volunteers by developing appropriate tools on the rights and obligations of health-care personnel and on protection for and the safety of health-care delivery, to the extent possible;
 12. *calls upon* States and the Movement, where relevant, and in cooperation with affected local communities and their leaders, to enhance the secure functioning of health-care facilities through preparatory and practical measures;
 13. *calls upon* States and National Societies, where relevant, to engage or continue to engage with each other, with a view to strengthening domestic law, regulations and practice regarding the auxiliary role of National Societies to the public authorities in the humanitarian field for the safer delivery of health care, including the effective coordination of their respective health-care services, and *calls upon* National Societies, in the fulfilment of that auxiliary role, to promote and support the implementation of States' international legal obligations and dissemination efforts in this regard;
 14. *calls upon* National Societies to intensify their commitment and efforts to increase their acceptance, safety and security in order to access persons in communities where they deliver health-care services, including by providing training or other support to their staff and volunteers to ensure that they operate in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, by applying existing operational approaches and approaches designed to enhance the organizational development of National Societies, such as the

Safer Access Framework, and by continuing to work, where relevant, on specific procedures, protocols and capacities to enhance risk management and the overall security of their ambulance and emergency health-care services, and *encourages* other National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation, as appropriate, to support them in these efforts.

Resolution 5 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF HUMANITARIAN VOLUNTEERS

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

noting that the purpose of this resolution, among others, is to raise awareness and promote the safety and security of humanitarian volunteers,

recognizing with gratitude the enormous contribution of humanitarian volunteers and other humanitarian personnel, including the 17 million volunteers working with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), to the well-being of their communities,

highlighting in particular, the service of the 7,000 Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers who worked in Ebola-affected countries in 2014–15 and the 1 million Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers who live and work in countries exposed to armed conflict,

noting with grave concern the highly elevated risks that volunteers and other humanitarian personnel face in armed conflicts, which include but are not limited to physical attack, psychological trauma, social stigma and accidental injury, and which may be affected by gender,

acknowledging that humanitarian volunteers and other personnel can also face these and other risks in other circumstances, such as disasters, health emergencies and even in daily support to their communities,

noting with dismay that nearly 100 Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers lost their lives in the course of their duties since the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference) in 2011, *expressing* its sympathy for their families and communities, as well as its solidarity with volunteers who have been injured, traumatized or otherwise harmed,

recalling that, under international humanitarian law, humanitarian relief personnel, as civilians, must be respected and protected and that international human rights law also provides a framework for protecting persons;

acknowledging that protecting humanitarian volunteers is both a moral and humanitarian imperative, in light of their humanity and their service, and a practical necessity, in light of their indispensable role in humanitarian action and the impacts that insecurity can have on their recruitment and retention,

recognizing that while the safety and security of all humanitarian personnel is extremely important, research recently completed by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) has shown that the situation of volunteers has often received far less attention,

affirming our determination to cooperate in preventing and mitigating risks to volunteers to the degree feasible, to collaboratively implement initiatives that will promote a safer environment for them, and to strengthen our efforts to meet the

needs of injured or traumatized volunteers and of the families of volunteers killed or injured in the line of duty,

stressing the importance of strong data, research and learning to understand and reduce risks to humanitarian volunteers and other humanitarian personnel, including gender-related risks,

recalling relevant resolutions of the International Conference, including Resolution 4 of the 31st International Conference, which called on States and National Societies to create and maintain an enabling environment for volunteering, including through the promotion of supportive legislation and policy,

recognizing the complementarity of the present resolution with Resolution 4 of the present International Conference entitled “Health care in danger: continuing to protect the delivery of health care together,” as regards the safety and security of Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel,

recalling that United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/138 of 2012 requested States and the UN to work together with other volunteer-involving organizations to support efforts to enhance the security and protection of volunteers,

reaffirming that the work of humanitarian volunteers will be critical to success in meeting international goals related to community resilience, as set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Determination to protect

1. *calls* on National Societies, and all other actors deploying humanitarian volunteers, to make every effort to provide their volunteers in a timely manner with the best safety-related information, guidance, training, protective equipment, psychological support and insurance within their means;
2. *urges* National Societies, and all actors deploying humanitarian volunteers, to continuously review potential threats to their volunteers, including but not limited to those related to gender, and to ensure that their plans and programmes include measures to reduce and mitigate these risks;
3. *invites* States and other relevant stakeholders to support National Societies and other actors deploying humanitarian volunteers in these endeavours, including, as appropriate, through training, expertise and resources;
4. *calls on* States to promote the safest environment feasible for humanitarian volunteers, bearing in mind the inherent risks in some of their activities, including, in accordance with national practice, measures to promote public understanding and acceptance of the role of humanitarian volunteers, the integration of measures to protect volunteer safety and security in national laws, policies, plans and programmes for emergency management, and measures to hold perpetrators of crimes against humanitarian volunteers accountable;

Enhancing knowledge

5. *encourages* States, in cooperation, as appropriate, with National Societies and other relevant stakeholders, to develop and/or maintain national systems for the collection and dissemination of comprehensive data, including sex and age disaggregated data, relevant to the safety and security of humanitarian volunteers in a manner consistent with applicable national law and calls for international data collection efforts on humanitarian safety to also include information about volunteers;
6. *encourages* States, National Societies, and all other relevant stakeholders to regularly share challenges and good practices with regard to improving the safety and security of humanitarian volunteers;
7. *invites* the academic community to increase its research into problems concerning humanitarian volunteers and potential solutions to those problems and encourages States to consider increasing their financial support for such research;

Enhancing understanding

8. *stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian volunteers are aware and respectful of national and local customs and traditions and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives within communities in order to enhance their acceptance, thereby contributing to their safety and security, and in this regard to ensure that humanitarian action is guided by humanitarian principles;
9. *encourages* National Societies to ensure that their volunteers are fully trained in applicable safety procedures and protocols, including the use of any necessary protective equipment, in the application of the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and are familiar with the use of global tools such as the International Committee of the Red Cross Safer Access Framework and the International Federation's "Stay Safe" toolkit;

Promoting insurance or equivalent protection

10. *urges* National Societies and all actors deploying humanitarian volunteers to make every effort, within their means, to ensure that their volunteers have adequate insurance or equivalent "safety net" assistance with regard to death, injury, sickness or trauma they may endure while carrying out their duties;
11. *commends* those States that have provided direct or indirect support for the insurance or equivalent "safety net" assistance for volunteers of National Societies and other actors deploying humanitarian volunteers within their territories and *urges* others to consider doing so, to the maximum extent feasible;

12. *urges* States and other relevant stakeholders to also consider providing such support in other countries, as donors, in accordance with national legislation and the humanitarian principles;
13. *encourages* the International Federation to continue to support National Societies in identifying cost-effective means to insure or otherwise respond to the needs of their volunteers;

Implementation and support

14. *invites* the International Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to offer their support to National Societies and States in carrying out the implementation of this resolution and also encourages National Societies to support each other with the sharing of best practices and challenges;
15. *encourages* the International Federation, ICRC and National Societies to continue to strengthen partnerships with other stakeholders, including the UN, in promoting the safety and security of volunteers;
16. *requests* operational partners to National Societies to cooperate with them, with support, as appropriate, from the International Federation and/or the ICRC, to ensure that any joint projects do not pose unnecessary risks to volunteers;
17. *requests* the International Federation to submit a report on progress with this resolution at the 33rd International Conference.

Resolution 6 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

STRENGTHENING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR DISASTER RESPONSE, RISK REDUCTION AND FIRST AID

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

recalling Final Goal 3.2 of the 28th International Conference, Resolution 4 of the 30th International Conference and Resolution 7 of the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

recalling relevant resolutions of the United Nations, which encouraged States to strengthen their regulatory frameworks for international disaster assistance, taking the Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance (“IDRL Guidelines”) into account,

noting the completion of the final “Model Act on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance” by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation), the United Nations Office of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in 2013 and the initiative of the International Federation and OCHA to develop a “Model Emergency Degree on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance”,

noting with satisfaction that some 23 States have adopted new laws, rules or procedures drawing on the IDRL Guidelines since 2007 and that a significant number of regional organizations and initiatives have increased their support to their member States in preventing or resolving regulatory issues in international disaster response operations,

noting with concern the findings of the background report by the International Federation that regulatory problems nevertheless continue to impact the timeliness and effectiveness of international disaster response operations and that there are still many States that lack comprehensive laws, rules or procedures for managing international disaster assistance,

noting that the International Law Commission has completed the first reading of its “Draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disaster” and has requested States and some organizations, including the International Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross, to provide their comments by 1 January 2016,

recalling the critical roles played by the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World in 1994, the Hyogo Framework for Action in 2005 and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015 (Sendai Framework) in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, which was made possible with the

facilitating role of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR),

welcoming the Sendai Framework, which encourages States, *inter alia*, to strengthen the content and implementation of their laws, regulations and policies related to disaster risk reduction, underlines that a gender, age, disability and cultural perspective should be integrated in all risk reduction policies and practices and that women's and youth leadership should be promoted, and recognizes the importance of reviewing national laws and procedures in light of the IDRL Guidelines,

taking note of the progress made at the first meeting of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology, as a practical step to implement the Sendai Framework,

welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which calls for commitment, *inter alia*, to build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and disasters and other economic, social and environmental shocks,

noting the initiative of the International Federation and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to undertake comparative research on best practices and common gap areas in domestic law related to disaster risk reduction, as described in the report entitled "Effective law and regulation for disaster risk reduction: a multi-country report" published in 2014, and *noting* their findings that there has been encouraging progress in the strengthening of legislation for disaster risk management in recent years, but gaps still remain in many countries, particularly with regard to addressing financing, capacity building, community participation, implementation, and accountability for disaster risk reduction,

noting the consultation and pilot process conducted by International Federation and UNDP from 2012 to 2015 on the "Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction," which sought feedback and contributions from a broad range of governmental and non-governmental practitioners,

acknowledging that widespread training and individual practice of first aid is a cost-effective way to ensure that life-saving help is close at hand in the first moments of a sudden health crisis,

welcoming the strong contribution provided by National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in promoting first aid,

noting the findings of the International Federation background report that targeted mandates for first aid training can increase the chance that a person with appropriate skills will be available in a situation of crisis, but that there is substantial variability among States in the degree to which such mandates are imposed,

noting further the finding that many States lack minimum standards for the quality and content of first aid training and *welcoming* in this respect the International First Aid and Resuscitation Guidelines developed by the International Federation in 2011, as an important reference tool,

noting further the finding that even trained volunteers are hesitating to provide first aid out of fear of potential liability in the event that their good faith

efforts are unsuccessful and that there are, in fact, no special legal protections for them in many States' laws,

recognizing that women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and building resilience,

emphasizing that the affected state has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Accelerating progress in the facilitation and regulation of international disaster response

1. *commends* those States that have adopted comprehensive laws, policies, rules and procedures for facilitating and regulating international disaster assistance and *encourages* them to share their experiences with others;
2. *calls on* those States that have not yet adopted appropriate laws, policies, rules and procedures to do so at national and subnational level in order to avoid being caught unprepared in the event of a future disaster and *encourages* them to consider developing their own institutional measures to ensure adequate discussion and planning relating to the management of international disaster assistance;
3. *welcomes* the support that National Societies and the International Federation have provided to interested States to make use of the IDRL Guidelines and *encourages* them to continue their efforts, including integration with their national plans, in collaboration with relevant partners, including the United Nations and relevant regional organizations;
4. *invites* National Societies and States to collaborate in disseminating information to the public about the most appropriate donations of goods in the wake of a major disaster and to discourage the shipment of unnecessary and unsolicited items;
5. *welcomes* the International Federation's initiative to foster dialogue on further options to accelerate progress in resolving regulatory problems in international disaster response operations, including country-level efforts as well as the potential for further strengthening global and/or regional legal frameworks, and *invites* it to continue to lead consultations with States and other stakeholders in this regard;

Strengthening cooperation and laws for disaster risk reduction

6. *recognizes* that National Societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, have an important role to play in supporting their States to achieve a number of the goals, targets and priorities set out in the context of the

- Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and outcomes of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including those related to building community resilience, reducing disaster risks and adapting to climate change;
7. *encourages* National Societies and States to consider ways to enhance their cooperation to achieve these goals, targets and priorities, including cooperation to address urban risks and to promote strong and well-implemented domestic legal frameworks;
 8. *commits* to work together to strengthen community-driven, holistic resilience efforts, including by encouraging partnerships and alliances and, in this respect, welcomes the One Billion Coalition for Resilience;
 9. *recognizes* the Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction as a useful and non-binding assessment tool to help states, when applicable, to review domestic legal frameworks for disaster risk reduction at the national, provincial and local levels and *notes* its utility to States in carrying out related commitments set out in the Sendai Framework;
 10. *invites* States to use the Checklist to evaluate and, as needed, improve the content and implementation of their laws, regulations and public policies related to disaster risk reduction, with support from National Societies, the International Federation, the United Nations System, local civil society, the private sector, academia and other partners;
 11. *encourages* National Societies and States to cooperate in generating greater public awareness about disaster risk reduction and related rights and responsibilities of relevant actors under national and international law;

Providing supportive legal frameworks for saving lives through first aid

12. *encourages* States to promote regularly refreshed first aid education across the life-span of their citizens, in particular, to the degree capacity and national systems allow, through mandatory training for school children and teachers and driver's licence applicants and to ensure equal participation of women, girls, men and boys in first aid training;
13. *further encourages* States to adopt and regularly update official guidelines as to the minimum content of first aid education programmes, taking into account standards already in use, including the International Federation's International First Aid and Resuscitation Guidelines, as well as the results of impact assessments;
14. *further encourages* States to consider all necessary steps to encourage the provision of first aid by laypersons with appropriate training, including, where appropriate, establishing protection from liability for their good faith efforts and ensuring that they are aware of this protection;
15. *invites* States to exchange good practices in this area, including the use of digital communication, and *requests* National Societies and the International

Federation to support interested States in assessing and, as needed and requested, strengthening their existing legal frameworks related to first aid;

Extending support and partnerships

16. *encourages* National Societies, as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field, to continue to provide advice and support to their governments in the development and implementation of effective legal and policy frameworks relevant to disaster and emergency management at all levels, in particular with respect to the areas of concern mentioned in this resolution;
17. *requests* the International Federation to continue to support National Societies and States in the field of disaster law, including with respect to the areas of concern mentioned in this resolution, through technical assistance, capacity building, the development of tools, models and guidelines, advocacy and ongoing research and promoting the sharing of experiences and best practices between countries;
18. *welcomes* the increasing cooperation of the International Federation and National Societies with other partners, in accordance with their respective mandates, in providing support to interested States in this area, in particular with the United Nations, regional organizations, civil society, including national NGOs, the private sector, and academia and *encourages* them to continue to develop new partnerships;

Ensuring dissemination and review

19. *reaffirms* the role of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent as one of the key international fora for continued dialogue about disaster laws and on recovery action in synergy with actions conducted by States and international organisations;
20. *invites* States, the International Federation, and National Societies to disseminate this resolution to appropriate stakeholders, including by bringing it to the attention of relevant international and regional organizations;
21. *requests* the International Federation, in consultation with National Societies, to submit a progress report on the implementation of this resolution to the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Resolution 7 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

STRENGTHENING THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT RESPONSE TO GROWING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, *expressing deep concern* at the growing humanitarian needs, *stressing* the importance of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) to continually strengthen and improve their ability to respond to humanitarian needs through efficient collective action and coordination,

reaffirming the significant ethical and operational value of the seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement for all the components of the Movement in the accomplishment of their humanitarian mission,

recalling the commitments made by States to facilitating the activities and the safe access of the Movement's components and respecting at all times their adherence to the Fundamental Principles,

stressing in particular the importance of a constant dialogue in this regard between States and components of the Movement in order to ensure that States implement relevant commitments set out in international humanitarian law and reflected in the Statutes of the Movement,

encouraging the continuous efforts of the Movement to ensure an efficient, coherent and complementary and principled response to growing humanitarian needs, in accordance with respective mandates, by strengthening internal processes and the culture of cooperation and coordination before, during and after emergencies,

acknowledging the need for the Movement, in pursuing its collective ambition, to have a coherent approach to branding and visual representation for global communication, promotion and fundraising purposes,

affirming the importance of the distinctive emblems recognized under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols and the primary function of the emblems as a protective device in times of armed conflict, and *emphasizing* the need to preserve and ensure respect for the emblems at all times in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and with the Regulations on the Use of the Emblem of the Red Cross or the Red Crescent by the National Societies (Emblem Regulations), as adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference) in 1965 and revised by the Council of Delegates in 1991, with subsequent endorsement by the States parties to the Geneva Conventions

also affirming the responsibility of States, in cooperation with their National Societies, to protect the integrity of the distinctive emblems, as set out in the Statutes of the Movement,

taking note of the decision of the 19th Session of the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) endorsing the “Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance,” and requesting that they be presented to the International Conference,

recalling and reaffirming the past commitments adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and in particular Resolution 1 and its annexed Declaration “Together for Humanity” as adopted by the 30th International Conference, and Resolution 3 “Migration: ensuring access, dignity, respect for diversity and social inclusion” as adopted by the 31st International Conference,

noting the adoption by the 2015 Council of Delegates of the Movement statement “Ensuring collective action to protect and respond to the needs and vulnerabilities of migrants”,

1. *notes* the adoption by the 2015 Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement of the “Vision for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,” *strives* to support the components of the Movement in living up to this vision, and *calls upon* States to support and facilitate the Movement in achieving this aim;
2. *recalls* States’ commitment to respect at all times the adherence by all the components of the Movement to the Fundamental Principles, and *urges* States and National Societies to maintain a constant dialogue regarding respect for and adherence to the Principles, to ensure that every country has the full benefit of a neutral and impartial auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, and one which remains autonomous in carrying out its humanitarian activities for the most vulnerable;
3. *welcomes* the commitments made during the 2013 and 2015 Councils of Delegates to “strengthening Movement coordination and cooperation,” aimed at increasing operational coordination and cooperation in both preparedness and response, and *urges* the Movement components to continue their efforts to serve affected populations in the most effective and inclusive manner possible;
4. *takes note* of the initiative of the Movement components adopting a Movement logo for exceptional use in representation, communication, global fundraising and promotional activities, and *stresses* the commitment of Movement components to only display the Movement logo in accordance with the conditions and rules governing its use in order to ensure that it is coherent with existing regulations and is complementary to the existing logos of individual Movement components;
5. *encourages* States to recognize as appropriate the Movement logo and facilitate its use on their territory, in compliance with applicable national and international law and in conformity with the 1991 Emblem Regulations;
6. *endorses* the “Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance” as revised by the General Assembly of the

International Federation in 2013, which govern National Societies and their International Federation in international humanitarian assistance (excluding armed conflict, internal strife and their direct results); *requests* States to facilitate and support the implementation of these Principles and Rules; and *recalls* the auxiliary role of National Societies to their public authorities in the humanitarian field;

7. *welcomes* the initiative of the Movement to share its unique perspective and experience with the World Humanitarian Summit, thereby complementing the efforts of other humanitarian actors to address the most pressing humanitarian challenges.

Resolution 8 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT ON OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS DATED 28 NOVEMBER 2005 BETWEEN THE PALESTINE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY AND MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

1. *notes* the adoption of Resolution 10 of the Council of Delegates on 7 December 2015 on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement on Operational Agreements dated 28 November 2005 between the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Magen David Adom in Israel (see annex for the text of the Resolution);
2. *endorses* this Resolution.

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Annex: Resolution 10 of the 2015 Council of Delegates

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT ON OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS DATED 28 NOVEMBER 2005 BETWEEN THE PALESTINE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY AND MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL

The Council of Delegates,

recalling the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and Magen David Adom in Israel (MDA) on 28 November 2005, in particular the following provisions:

1. MDA and PRCS will operate in conformity with the legal framework applicable to the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel in 1967, including the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War.
2. MDA and PRCS recognize that PRCS is the authorized National Society in the Palestinian territory and that this territory is within the geographical scope of the operational activities and of the competences of PRCS. MDA and PRCS

will respect each other's jurisdiction and will operate in accordance with the Statutes and Rules of the Movement.

3. After the Third Additional Protocol is adopted and by the time MDA is admitted by the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies:
 - a. MDA will ensure that it has no chapters outside the internationally recognized borders of the State of Israel.
 - b. Operational activities of one society within the jurisdiction of the other society will be conducted in accordance with the consent provision of resolution 11 of the 1921 international conference.
- (...)
4. MDA and PRCS will work together and separately within their jurisdictions to end any misuse of the emblem and will work with their respective authorities to ensure respect for their humanitarian mandate and for international humanitarian law.
5. (...)
6. MDA and PRCS will cooperate in the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding (...).

taking note of the report of November 2015 on the implementation of the MoU prepared by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission),

recalling Resolution 5 adopted by the Council of Delegates on 17 November 2013 concerning the implementation of the MoU and AOA between MDA and the PRCS,

reaffirming the importance for all of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) to operate at all times in accordance with international humanitarian law as well as the Fundamental Principles, the Statutes and the rules and policies of the Movement,

noting that National Societies have an obligation to operate in compliance with the Constitution of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and the existing policy "on the protection of integrity of National Societies and bodies of the International Federation" adopted in November 2009,

recalling both the dispute resolution mechanism set out in Resolution 11 of the 1921 International Conference as well as the Compliance and Mediation Committee of the International Federation, and recognizing the rights of National Societies thereunder,

while noting the humanitarian and political environment, *expresses* disappointment that after 10 years the MoU is not yet fully implemented and *reaffirms* our collective determination to support its full implementation,

taking note of the letter of 15 November 2015 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel in which the Israeli Government stated that "it is ready to support the MDA to ensure the full implementation of its commitments [under the MoU],"

reaffirming the necessity for effective and positive coordination between all components of the Movement in support of the full implementation of the MoU between the PRCS and MDA,

1. *while noting* with full appreciation the progress made and acknowledging the steps taken by both the PRCS and MDA over the last decade to fulfil the MoU/ AOA, *notes* however and with deep regret the Standing Commission's conclusion "that no additional steps since 2013 have been reported as having been taken in regard to the geographical scope provisions of the MoU";
2. *strongly urges* MDA to comply with its obligations with respect to the geographic scope provisions of the MoU and take appropriate actions to end non-compliance;
3. *requests* MDA and other concerned parties, in Israel and beyond, to undertake further concrete measures to stop misuse of the MDA logo in the territory considered within the geographic scope of the PRCS;
4. *calls on* the State of Israel to continue to support MDA to ensure the full implementation of its commitments under the MoU;
5. *requests* the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation to facilitate the full implementation of the MoU by proposing, for endorsement by the Standing Commission, the appointment of an independent monitor by 31 March 2016;
6. *urges* the ICRC and the International Federation to define the terms of reference for the monitoring process within 45 days of the adoption of this resolution, to include, but not be limited to, the following main functions:
 - a) undertake regular monitoring and report twice annually to the Movement and to the 2017 Council of Delegates;
 - b) validate the information provided by the two National Societies regarding the implementation of the MoU;
 - c) explore constructive options within the Movement to address issues identified in the reports;
7. *recognizes* that the independent monitor may wish to call upon assistance from National Societies and eminent individuals from within or outside the Movement to reach full implementation of the MoU;
8. *urges* MDA and the PRCS to enhance their cooperation in fulfilling their humanitarian mandates and commitments, including through regular meetings;
9. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation to provide logistical and technical support to the monitoring process and to ensure the provision of a report on implementation of the MoU to the next Council of Delegates and through it to the 33rd International Conference;
10. *expresses* the sincere desire that full implementation of the MoU will be achieved and validated prior to the 2017 Council of Delegates.

Resolution 9 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

DISSOLUTION OF THE AUGUSTA FUND AND ALLOCATION OF THE CAPITAL TO THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND REVISION OF THE REGULATIONS FOR THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

taking note of the report on the Augusta Fund submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC),

also taking note of the lack of sustainability of the Augusta Fund,

further taking note of the ICRC's proposals concerning the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal,

recalling the purposes of the Augusta Fund and the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund,

1. *requests* the ICRC to make arrangements for the dissolution of the Augusta Fund and the transfer of its capital to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund;
2. *approves* the new Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal, which read as follows:

Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal

Amended text adopted by the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
(Geneva, 2015)

Article 1

In accordance with the recommendation of the 8th International Conference of the Red Cross held in London in 1907, and the decision of the 9th International Conference held in Washington in 1912, a Fund was established by contributions from National Red Cross Societies in memory of the great and distinguished services of Florence Nightingale for the improvement of the care of the wounded and the sick.

The income from the Fund shall be used for the distribution of a Medal, to be called the "Florence Nightingale Medal," to honour the spirit which marked the whole life and work of Florence Nightingale.

Article 2

The Florence Nightingale Medal may be awarded to qualified male or female nurses and also to male or female voluntary nursing aides, active members or regular

helpers of a National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or of an affiliated medical or nursing institution.

The Medal may be awarded to those of the above-mentioned persons who have distinguished themselves in time of peace or war by:

- exceptional courage and devotion to the wounded, sick or disabled or to civilian victims of a conflict or disaster;
- exemplary services or a creative and pioneering spirit in the areas of prevention, public health or nursing education.

The Medal may be awarded posthumously if the prospective recipient has fallen on active service.

Article 3

The Medal shall be awarded by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on proposals made to it by National Societies.

Article 4

The Medal shall be in silver-gilt with a portrait on the obverse of Florence Nightingale with the words “Ad memoriam Florence Nightingale 1820–1910.” On the reverse it shall bear the inscription on the circumference “Pro vera misericordia et cara humanitate perennis decor universalis.” The name of the holder and the date of the award of the Medal shall be engraved in the centre.

The Medal shall be attached by a red and white ribbon to a laurel crown surrounding a red cross.

The Medal shall be accompanied by a diploma on parchment.

Article 5

The Medal shall be presented in each country either by the Head of the State, or by the President of the Central Committee of the National Society directly or by their substitutes.

The ceremony shall take place with a solemnity consistent with the distinction of the honour conferred.

Article 6

The distribution of the Florence Nightingale Medal shall take place every two years.

Not more than 50 Medals may be issued at any one distribution.

If by reason of exceptional circumstances due to a widespread state of war it has been impossible for one or more distributions to take place, the number of Medals awarded at subsequent distributions may exceed the figure of 50 but may not exceed the total number which would normally have been attained, if the preceding distributions had been able to take place.

Article 7

From the beginning of September of the year preceding the year in which the Medal is awarded, the ICRC shall invite the Central Committees of the National Societies by means of a circular and application forms to submit the names of the candidates they consider qualified to be awarded a Medal, in accordance with the conditions mentioned in Article 2.

Article 8

The Central Committees of the National Societies, having taken all requisite advice, shall submit to the ICRC the names and qualifications of the candidates they propose.

To enable the ICRC to operate a fair selection, the candidates' names shall be accompanied by all relevant information justifying an award of the Medal, in accordance with the criteria mentioned in Article 2.

All applications submitted must come from the Central Committee of a National Society.

The Central Committees may submit one or more applications, but are not bound to submit applications for each distribution.

Article 9

The applications with the reasons in support of them must reach the ICRC by 1 February of the year in which the award of the Medal is to take place.

Applications reaching the International Committee after that date cannot be considered except in connection with a subsequent award.

Article 10

The ICRC retains complete freedom of choice. It may refrain from awarding the total number of Medals contemplated, if the qualifications of the applicants submitted do not appear to merit this distinguished honour.

Article 11

The ICRC shall issue on the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, namely on 12 May, a circular informing the Central Committees of the National Societies of the names of those to whom the Medal has been awarded.

Article 12

The Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement shall be empowered to study and decide on any change to the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal.

The present Regulations, adopted by the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva in 2015, supersede all previous rules relating to the Florence Nightingale Medal, in particular those of the 9th International Conference (Washington, 1912), the Regulations of 24 December 1913 and the amendments thereto by the 10th International Conference (Geneva, 1921), the 13th International Conference (The Hague, 1928), the 15th International Conference (Tokyo, 1934), the 18th International Conference (Toronto, 1952), the 24th International Conference (Manila, 1981) and the Council of Delegates (Budapest, 1991).¹

1 Following the postponement of the 26th International Conference, the ICRC submitted these Regulations for the approval of the States party to the Geneva Conventions, which had six months in which to voice any objections. Since no objection was raised by that deadline, the Regulations were considered as adopted and came into force on 30 June 1992.

Resolution 10 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

POWER OF HUMANITY

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, *commemorating* the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the theme of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference), and recognizing the continuing relevance of these principles, *taking account* of the views expressed during the International Conference on its three aspirations – *prevent and respond to violence, safeguard safety and access to humanitarian assistance and services, and reduce disaster risk and strengthen resilience*, *welcoming* the numerous pledges made by members and observers of the International Conference in pursuit of these three aspirations, *taking note* with appreciation of the measures taken by States and the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to implement the resolutions of the 31st International Conference as well as the associated pledges as requested in Resolution 9 of the 31st International Conference, and *welcoming* the follow-up report prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) on the progress made, *noting* with appreciation the outcomes of the “Humanitarian Dialogue: a Vision Lab,”

1. *urges* all members of the International Conference to include the resolutions adopted and their pledges made at the International Conference in their efforts to optimize interaction and partnerships among themselves;
2. *invites* all members of the International Conference to review in 2017 progress made with respect to the implementation of the resolutions of the International Conference, as well as of their pledges, and to report on the implementation thereof to the 33rd International Conference in 2019;
3. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation to report to the 33rd International Conference on the follow-up by International Conference members on the resolutions and pledges of the 32nd International Conference;
4. *encourages* all members of the International Conference and the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) to make use of the “Idea Chart” from the “Humanitarian Dialogue: a Vision Lab” as a living source of inspiration for even more effective work at local and global level;
5. *decides* to hold an International Conference in 2019, the date and place of which is to be determined by the Standing Commission.