

Reports and Documents

Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Nairobi, 23–25 November 2009

Resolutions*

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* The resolutions are available on the websites of the International Committee of the Red Cross (www.icrc.org), the International Federation (www.ifrc.org) and the Standing Commission (www.rcstandcom.info), in the sections devoted to the 2009 Council of Delegates.

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Resolution 1

TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) AND THE AGREEMENT ON OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS (AOA) BETWEEN THE PALESTINE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY (PRCS) AND MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL (MDA)

The Council of Delegates,
recalling the MoU signed by PRCS and 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 the competences of PRCS. MDA and PRCS will respect each others' jurisdiction and 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;*

taking note, with appreciation for his work, of the report presented to the Council by Minister (Hon.) Pär Stenbäck, the Independent Monitor appointed by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) with the agreement of MDA and the PRCS upon request of the International Conference to monitor progress achieved in the implementation of the MoU and the AOA of 28 November 2005 between the PRCS and the MDA;

recalling Resolution no. 2 adopted by the Council of Delegates on 24 November 2007 concerning the implementation of the MoU and AOA between PRCS and MDA;

recalling Resolution no. 5 adopted by the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent concerning the implementation of the MoU and AOA between PRCS and MDA;

affirming the importance of operating in accordance with international humanitarian law and with the Statutes, Rules, and Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

recalling the obligation to respect and to protect health care personnel, including Red Cross and Red Crescent workers, their means of transport as well as medical establishments and other medical facilities at all times, in accordance with international law, and in particular international humanitarian law;

reaffirming the necessity for effective and positive coordination between all components of the Movement of Red Cross and Red Crescent for the full implementation of the MoU between the PRCS and MDA;

1. *regrets* that satisfactory progress in the implementation of the MoU by MDA has not been achieved, as observed by the Monitor;
2. *requests* MDA, as reported by the Monitor, that it fulfil its obligations under the MoU and conduct its activities in accordance with the provisions of resolution no. 11 of the International Conference of 1921 and the legal framework applicable to the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel in 1967, particularly those relating to geographic scope of the two National Societies and to urgently implement the provisions related to geographic scope;
3. *requests* the ICRC and International Federation to confirm the mandate of the Monitor as decided by the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and to continue to support and strengthen the monitoring of the implementation of the MoU and AOA;
4. *requests* the Monitor to report regularly on the progress of the implementation of the MoU, as he deems necessary;
5. *requests* National Societies to favourably respond to any request for help and support that the Monitor may ask of them in the fulfilment of his task up to the next Council of Delegates;
6. *requests* the ICRC and International Federation to arrange for the provision of a report on implementation of the MoU and AOA to the next Council of Delegates and through it to the International Conference;
7. *requests* National Societies to help MDA facilitate the implementation of the MoU, if appropriate.

Resolution 2

STRATEGY FOR THE MOVEMENT

The 2009 Council of Delegates,
recalling Resolution 7 of the 2007 Council of Delegates on the Strategy for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement Strategy) and the further work called for in that resolution;

appreciating the consolidated report on the implementation of the Strategy by the components of the Movement;

welcoming the work undertaken on the Movement fora and Statutory bodies (Action 4) and the comprehensive reviews undertaken by the Standing Commission, in particular the findings regarding implementation by National Societies of decisions taken at past Movement meetings;

further welcoming the work on how to more effectively present the Movement's key messages for use and influence through RC/RC humanitarian diplomacy (Action 8);

reaffirming the validity of the existing rules governing the use of the emblems, notably those contained in the 1949 Geneva Conventions, their Additional Protocols and the 1991 Regulations on the use of the emblem by the National Societies, and *emphasizing* the vital importance of respect for those rules to guarantee the protective value of the emblems and access to people in need of protection and assistance and to strengthen the identity of the Movement,

welcoming the Study on Operational and Commercial and other Non-operational Issues Involving the Use of the Emblems (the Study) prepared by the ICRC, in consultation with States, National Societies and the International Federation,

reaffirming the validity of the Strategy and the importance and relevance of its strategic objectives;

1. *invites* all components of the Movement to complete the 10 actions in the Strategy for the Movement by 2011;
2. *calls on* the Standing Commission, the ICRC and the International Federation to take concrete steps to improve the dialogue with and the involvement of National Societies in the preparation of the 2011 statutory meetings in the interest of better ownership and implementation of the results of those meetings;
3. *further calls on* the International Federation and the ICRC, to enhance their monitoring mechanisms, involving their regional structures, for improved feedback from National Societies on the implementation of resolutions adopted by this Council and coming statutory meetings and to share the findings with the Standing Commission;
4. *invites* the Standing Commission to continue its work on reducing the complexities of the Movement fora in close consultation with National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation and to present its proposals for change, as relevant, to the 2011 Council of Delegates;

5. *invites* National Societies to communicate to the Standing Commission and its working group their views and thoughts on options for better alignment of Movement fora;
6. *invites* the ICRC and the Federation to analyse the 'Our World–Your Move' campaign in relation to the expected results of Action 8 in the Movement Strategy to help guide all components on how to better communicate the Movement's key messages;
7. *calls on* the Standing Commission, with the International Federation and the ICRC, to present to the 2011 Council of Delegates an evaluation of the achievement of the strategic objectives and the expected results in the ten actions of the Movement Strategy;
8. *requests* the Standing Commission to examine the necessity of and prepare a Strategic Framework for the Movement as a continuation of the present Strategy, as needed, taking into account experiences and lessons learnt from the evaluation and internal and external challenges facing the Movement;
9. *calls upon* components of the Movement to implement and promote the recommendations of the Study to enhance the implementation of the rules governing the use of the emblems.

Resolution 3

REVISION OF NATIONAL SOCIETY STATUTES

The Council of Delegates,

recalling Resolution 6 of the 2005 Council of Delegates, which adopted the updated Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) reinforcing the ambition to build an even stronger Movement through enhanced cooperation for effective humanitarian action throughout the world,

reaffirming Action 3 of the Strategy for the Movement, which calls on all National Societies to examine their statutes and related legal texts by 2010 and, where necessary, to adopt new constitutional texts, in accordance with the “Guidance for National Societies Statutes” (Guidance document) and relevant resolutions of the International Conference (Resolution 6 of the 22nd International Conference, Teheran 1973, and Resolution 20 of the 24th International Conference, Manila 1981),

further recalling Resolution 7 of the 2007 Council of Delegates, which urges all National Societies, as requested under Action 3 of the Strategy for the Movement, to examine and update their statutes and related legal texts by 2010, in accordance with the Guidance document and relevant International Conference resolutions,

welcoming the report of the Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes (Joint Statutes Commission), which summarizes the progress made, the experience gained and the work still to be undertaken,

noting with concern that despite the progress achieved, the Movement is still far from reaching its objective of ensuring that by 2010 the statutes of all National Societies comply with the minimum requirements set out in the Guidance document,

1. *draws* the attention of all components of the Movement, in particular their leadership, to the crucial importance of high-quality statutes and related legal texts for the National Societies’ ability to deliver effective services to people in need and to act in conformity with the Fundamental Principles,
2. *urges* National Societies to continue working closely with ICRC and International Federation delegations, to consult with the Joint Statutes Commission and to take the Commission’s recommendations into account in order to ensure that all National Societies have examined and updated their statutes and related legal texts by the end of 2010, as requested under Action 3 of the Strategy for the Movement and in accordance with the Guidance document and relevant International Conference resolutions;
3. *calls upon* National Societies which have not yet initiated or concluded a statute-revision process to take the necessary steps to fulfil the objective of Action 3 of the Strategy for the Movement on the basis of the Guidance document and the supplementary Advisory Notes;

4. *recommends* to National Societies undertaking a revision process that they be particularly attentive to the following issues identified by the Joint Statutes Commission as the issues most often at variance with the Guidance document in the National Society draft statutes:
 - a clear definition of the National Society’s relationship with the public authorities and its auxiliary status in the humanitarian field is needed, in respect for the Fundamental Principle of Independence,
 - a clear definition is needed of the governing bodies (composition, duties, procedures and rotation),
 - separation must be ensured between governance and management functions,
 - membership must be defined,
 - the branch structure must be clearly set out (how branches are created, what bodies govern them and the relationship between branches and headquarters);
5. *strongly encourages* National Societies undertaking a revision process to use the Guidance document as reference document, as well as the Advisory Notes drawn up by the Joint Statutes Commission, in particular Advisory Note No. 3 on the process of revising National Society statutes;
6. *invites* the International Federation and the ICRC to draw on the work of the Joint Statutes Commission in order to provide the next Council of Delegates with a comprehensive assessment of the fulfilment of the objective set in the Strategy for the Movement (Action 3) and to present the Council with recommendations on the most appropriate ways to continue the process of working with National Societies on their statutes after the 2010 deadline for Action 3 of the Strategy for the Movement has expired.

Resolution 4

POLICY ON MIGRATION

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

The Council of Delegates,

underlining the Movement's deep concern about the plight of tens of millions of migrants who live outside or at the margins of conventional health, social and legal systems, and whose humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities are growing due to the increasing exclusion, exploitation and the denial of their fundamental rights to which they are exposed,

recalling the acknowledgement by the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Resolution 1 “Together for Humanity”, Geneva 2007) of the role of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and in particular of National Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in providing protection and assistance to vulnerable migrants, irrespective of their legal status,

recalling the decision of the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Federation), at its 16th session (Resolution 12, Geneva 2007), to develop a policy on migration for National Societies, noting that it will benefit from the specific role, experience and expertise of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in restoring family links and other protection issues, in particular regarding persons deprived of their liberty,

recalling its request for the International Federation to report back on the policy,

recalling its request to the ICRC to develop guidelines for National Societies working or wishing to work in places where migrants are detained in consultation with National Societies and their International Federation and to report back at the next Council of Delegates,

1. *welcomes* the new Federation policy on migration, adopted by the Federation's Governing Board on 3 May 2009;
2. *commends* the policy for its focus on the need for humanitarian access for migrants, irrespective of their legal status, while at the same time recognizing the importance of the legal protection afforded to them under international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law;
3. *takes note* that the policy has benefited from the expertise of the ICRC in restoring family link and other protection issues and that the ICRC will contribute to its implementation in these fields, and as mentioned in the policy;
4. *takes note* of the guidelines for National Societies working or wishing to work in places where migrants are detained developed by the ICRC in consultation with National Societies and their International Federation;

5. *notes* with satisfaction the complementary nature of the Federation policy on migration and the Movement policy on internal displacement, proposed for adoption at this session of the Council, and the fact that therefore, together, these policies will strengthen the strategic response of the Movement to the humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities of a large spectrum of uprooted persons;
6. *reiterates* its call to the components of the Movement to give more prominence to the humanitarian consequences of migration at international, regional, national and local levels (Council of Delegates, Resolution 5, Geneva November 2007);
7. *requests* the International Federation, National Societies and the ICRC, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue cooperating closely in implementing the policy and in coordinating within and beyond the Movement to support the provision of the necessary services and protection to vulnerable persons throughout the entire migration cycle, including return and reintegration.

Policy on Migration

In 2007, the 16th General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies requested the Governing Board to establish a Reference Group on Migration to provide leadership and guidance and to develop a Federation policy on migration. The Council of Delegates welcomed this decision and highlighted the Movement-wide importance of the humanitarian consequences of migration. The 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent also underlined the humanitarian concerns generated by international migration. Its declaration *Together for Humanity* elaborated on the issue, acknowledging the role of National Societies in providing humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants, irrespective of their legal status.

The present policy on migration expands the scope of, and replaces the Federation policy on refugees and other displaced people. It builds on, and complements those resolutions of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement that relate to action in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons (see Annex). In order to capture the full extent of humanitarian concerns, the policy is deliberately broad. Therefore, while recognizing the specific rights of different categories under international law, it addresses the needs and vulnerabilities of, among others, labour migrants, stateless migrants, irregular migrants, as well as refugees and asylum seekers.

National Societies and the International Federation have a responsibility to ensure that their activities and programmes are carried out in compliance with this policy; that all staff and volunteers are aware of the rationale and content, and that all relevant governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners are adequately informed about it.

Policy Principles

Each National Society and the International Federation shall take into account and adopt the following approach on migration:

1. Focus on the Needs and Vulnerabilities of Migrants

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement strives to adopt an integrated and impartial approach, combining immediate action for migrants in urgent need with longer term assistance and empowerment. It is therefore important that National Societies be permitted to work with and for all migrants, without discrimination and irrespective of their legal status.

2. Include Migrants in Humanitarian Programming

National Societies can opt for different approaches in assisting and protecting migrants. Some focus on migrants through special, targeted programmes or projects; others include migrants in their general humanitarian action, addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of the population in its diversity. Both approaches require sustained efforts by National Societies to guarantee impartiality and non-discrimination, taking into account the humanitarian needs of the host population.

3. Support the Aspirations of Migrants

Migrants have a legitimate claim to hope and opportunities to achieve their potential. They are also an important social, economic and cultural factor. Their skills, experience, and resilience can be a valuable contribution to their host communities. National Societies will consider migrants' own needs and interests, and support their social inclusion, integration, and their aspirations.

4. Recognize the Rights of Migrants

National Societies provide assistance and protection to migrants, irrespective of their legal status. Yet, the degree to which migrants are able to enjoy their rights is an important factor in assessing their vulnerability. By working with migrants to ensure that their rights are respected – including the right to the determination of their legal status – National Societies will also promote their social inclusion and their aspirations.

5. Link Assistance, Protection and Humanitarian Advocacy for Migrants

Assistance to migrants goes hand in hand with efforts to protect them against abuse, exploitation, and the denial of rights. In making these efforts National Societies will respect the migrants' own interest, and the imperative of doing them no harm. To enable migrants to overcome abuses and pressures, National Societies can provide legal advice, refer them to other relevant and competent organisations or entities, or undertake discreet or public forms of humanitarian advocacy.

6. Build Partnerships for Migrants

The humanitarian challenges of migration reach across borders, regions, and cultures. There is a Movement-wide responsibility for capacity-building, mutual support and coordination. Regional cooperation among National

Societies is equally essential. In working with external partners on migration, a common and principled approach of the Movement is indispensable.

7. Work Along the Migratory Trails

The Movement is in a unique position to help bridge the gaps of assistance and protection for migrants. National Societies in countries along the migratory trails will work together to optimise their humanitarian action, including the restoration of family links. This requires a focus on situations and conditions in which migrants all along their journey are especially susceptible to risks. National Societies may sensitize potential migrants about risks of migration, but must not seek to encourage, prevent or dissuade migration.

8. Assist Migrants in Return

Return to the place of origin is not the necessary end or solution of migration. Migrants may prefer to stay where they are, for an extended period or permanently. While providing counselling and informing migrants about their options, National Societies cannot and shall not decide what solution is the best, and must at all times maintain their impartiality, neutrality and independence. When migrants do return they face particular challenges; to assist and protect them, cooperation and agreement between National Societies in countries of destination and return is essential.

9. Respond to the Displacement of Populations

Armed conflicts and violence, natural or man-made disasters, but also development or relocation schemes can force populations to leave their homes, leading to accelerated and collective, even massive movements. The displaced populations might seek assistance and protection within their own country, or might find refuge across international borders. Displacement of populations and migration of individuals and groups are distinct but often interrelated phenomena; where they are interrelated, National Societies will strive for a coordinated action that covers both, the displaced and the migrants.

10. Alleviate Migratory Pressures on Communities of Origin

Migratory pressures on communities of origin can be related to social and economic distress; they can be linked to environmental degradation as well as natural or man-made hazards; and they can be due to persecution, armed conflict, and violence. By supporting disaster preparedness and building resilience at community level, National Societies contribute to alleviating pressures that can induce people to migrate against their will and desire.

Policy Guidance

Introduction

In engaging in the area of migration, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have the purpose – individually and together with the International Federation and the ICRC – to address the humanitarian concerns of migrants in need throughout their journey. They strive to provide assistance and protection to them, uphold their rights and dignity, empower them in their search for opportunities and sustainable solutions, as well as promote social inclusion and interaction between migrants and host communities.

Working with and for vulnerable migrants is one of the long-standing traditions of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It is rooted in its Fundamental Principles and universal character as well as in its volunteer and community basis. However, patterns and issues associated with migration change over time. We should, therefore, continually examine our ways of working with and for migrants to ensure that our action remains strong, coherent, and mindful of crosscutting issues. Our policy on migration is a living policy: it will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised as we evaluate its implementation.

Many migrants succeed in establishing themselves in their new communities, but others – those at the centre of our attention – face difficulties. They may lose the links with their families and communities. Outside their traditional support systems, they often are unable to access health and social services that respect their basic needs and dignity. They may be subject to human trafficking, sexual or labour exploitation. They may be deprived of their liberty and detained, as part of the migration process. Some risk persecution if they return to their countries of origin. Migrants also often face cultural and language barriers, discrimination and exclusion, or even violence. Women and children – especially unaccompanied and separated minors –, traumatised persons, people with physical and mental disabilities, and elderly persons are particularly vulnerable.

The approach of the Movement to migration is strictly humanitarian and based on the recognition of each migrant's individuality and aspirations. It focuses on the needs, vulnerabilities and potentials of migrants, irrespective of their legal status, type, or category.

In order to capture the full extent of humanitarian concerns related to migration, our description of migrants is deliberately broad: migrants are persons who leave or flee their habitual residence to go to new places – usually abroad – to seek opportunities or safer and better prospects. Migration can be voluntary or involuntary, but most of the time a combination of choices and constraints are involved. Thus, this policy includes, among others, labour migrants, stateless migrants, and migrants deemed irregular by public authorities. It also concerns refugees and asylum seekers, notwithstanding the fact that they constitute a special category under international law.

Migration within one country can lead to situations similar to international migration, especially if the migrants are subject to discrimination. For such situations, many recommendations of this policy will be useful. In other contexts, migration within one country is part of the general labour mobility, for example due to urbanization. In this case, support to migrants will fall under our general humanitarian action.

In contexts where migration is an important subject of domestic politics, there can be considerable pressure on National Societies to collaborate with governmental as well as non-governmental partners that have political rather than humanitarian objectives. The best way for National Societies to avoid or resist such pressure is to demonstrate that their work is based on an independent understanding of the migrants' own needs and interests, and rooted in the Movement's Fundamental Principles.

1. Focusing on the Needs and Vulnerabilities of Migrants

- 1.1. The primary focus should always be on migrants whose survival, dignity, or physical and mental health is under immediate threat. Equally important are efforts to reduce the vulnerability of migrants, protect them against abuses, exploitation and the denial of rights, as well as to empower them to seek opportunities and sustainable solutions.
 - National Societies shall strive to combine their immediate response to the needs of migrants with programmes designed to reduce their vulnerabilities, and to protect and empower them.
- 1.2. The degree to which migrants have access to assistance, services and legal support is a key criterion in assessing their vulnerability. Those who lack access are especially susceptible to risks.
 - National Societies shall undertake sustained efforts to ensure that migrants have access to humanitarian assistance, essential services, and legal support. They shall strive to obtain effective and unconditional access to all migrants, irrespective of their legal status.
- 1.3. Migrants often face difficulties in obtaining permits to transit through countries, or to stay and work abroad. Many try to pass borders illegally, or they go into hiding from authorities when failing to legalize their status. At the same time, governments are increasingly implementing policies to curb irregular migration. To do so is the prerogative of governments as long as they act within accepted international standards. However, such policies tend to increase the vulnerability of irregular migrants, as they face obstacles in obtaining basic assistance and essential services.
 - National Societies shall take into account the needs and vulnerabilities of irregular migrants. To the extent possible, they shall take steps to respond to their needs, either through direct assistance, or referral, or humanitarian advocacy efforts.
- 1.4. The age and gender of migrants have an influence on their susceptibility to risks, as do other factors, such as their state of health, disabilities, national or ethnic origin, and cultural background.

- National Societies shall pay special attention to age, gender, and other factors of diversity that increase the vulnerability of migrants.
- 1.5. When collecting data on migrants, National Societies do so for the purpose of humanitarian assessment, planning and response. However, third parties might want to use the data for purposes that run counter to humanitarian principles, such as discriminatory policies.
 - National Societies should recognize that third parties might misuse information that they collect on migrants. Within the limits of national law, they shall ensure that the information remains within the humanitarian domain.

2. Including Migrants in Humanitarian Programming

- 2.1. National Societies may choose to set up programmes that are specifically designed to address the needs and vulnerabilities of migrants. Programming should be based on vulnerability and capacity assessments using participatory approaches. If National Societies set up such programmes, it is crucial that they ensure transparency and avoid creating barriers between migrants and the general population.
 - When conducting programmes with a special focus on migrants, National Societies shall strive to integrate these programmes within their overall strategy for a general and non-discriminatory humanitarian response.
- 2.2. Alternatively, National Societies may choose to include migrants in their general humanitarian action. In this case, they may come under pressure to give preferential treatment to local communities, and might run the risk of overlooking the specific situation of migrants. In crises or emergencies, third parties might prevent migrants from receiving assistance.
 - National Societies shall take pre-emptive measures to ensure that migrants are included in general humanitarian action through a careful diversity approach, especially in times of crises and emergencies.

3. Supporting the Aspirations of Migrants

- 3.1. Host communities can benefit from non-material values that come with migration, such as migrants' skills, experience and resilience, as well as cultural diversity. Moreover, many countries depend on migrants as part of their labour force. In turn, countries of origin may benefit from remittances transferred home by migrants. Yet, in spite of these benefits of migration, migrants often face suspicion, or even hostility and xenophobia.
 - By underlining the benefits that migrants bring to host communities and countries of origin, National Societies can help overcome barriers of exclusion and discrimination and reduce the potential for community tensions.

- 3.2. Public authorities, other institutions, and the general public may have assumptions about migrants that differ from what the migrants themselves see as their interests, needs and capabilities. Equally, migrants can have misperceptions or misunderstandings regarding the laws, customs and conditions in their host country. National Societies can reduce these gaps by promoting the participation of migrants in decisions that have an impact on their lives.
 - To the extent possible, National Societies shall involve migrants in participatory processes within their host communities. This will help ensure a response to their needs and aspirations that is mutually acceptable and beneficial.
- 3.3 Linguistic and cultural barriers can prevent migrants from representing their own needs, interests and aspirations effectively. They also might misunderstand the role of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in their host country, and mistrust its national staff. By adopting policies to ensure the diversity of their staff and volunteers, National Societies can overcome such barriers and support social inclusion.
 - To the extent possible, National Societies shall integrate members of migrant communities as staff and volunteers into their ranks.

4. Recognizing the Rights of Migrants

- 4.1. Legal considerations are an essential element in determining the vulnerability of migrants, and in securing adequate access for them to assistance and services. Moreover, legal considerations are important when designing strategies to empower migrants and support them in establishing realistic and positive prospects for themselves.
 - National Societies shall develop a thorough understanding of migrants' rights as a key element for responding to the vulnerabilities of migrants, and for their empowerment.
- 4.2. No migrant is without rights. National legislation is a source of these rights, but it falls under the overall framework of international bodies of law: (a) international human rights law, which defines the rights of all human beings; (b) international humanitarian law, which protects, among others, civilians in situations of armed conflict, including migrants; (c) international refugee law, which sets out the specific rights of asylum seekers and refugees as a distinct legal category. All three bodies of law include or recognize the principle of *non-refoulement*, which prohibits the expulsion or removal of persons to countries where there are reasons to believe they will be subjected to persecution, torture or other forms of cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment, or to arbitrary deprivation of life.
 - In their work with and for migrants, National Societies shall respect the relevant national and international law. They also have a role in promoting the rights of migrants and sensitizing partners, counterparts and

the public to the principle that no migrant is without rights, regardless of his or her legal status.

- 4.3. States have the right to regulate migration in their domestic legislation and through administrative policies and practices. At the same time, they are required to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of migrants. This obligation includes measures to safeguard access to the asylum system, as well as action against discriminatory and exploitative practices, such as the exclusion of migrants from services and assistance responding to their basic needs. It may also concern governments whose migrant citizens abroad, or diasporas, are discriminated against or exploited.
 - If necessary and appropriate, National Societies shall remind or call upon public authorities to take action against discrimination and exploitation of migrants.

5. Linking Assistance, Protection and Humanitarian Advocacy for Migrants

- 5.1. Protection is a crosscutting concern. When National Societies encounter situations where migrants are at risk, there is a range of measures that can contribute to their protection. These include direct assistance, legal advice, referrals to relevant organisations, and different forms of advocacy. In order to identify the adequate measures, it is important for National Societies to understand and analyse the various risk factors.
 - In their efforts to protect migrants, National Societies shall take care to choose those measures that they are best suited to undertake. They will ensure that these measures do no harm and maximize the benefits to migrants.
- 5.2. There are circumstances that expose migrants to heightened and acute risks to their physical integrity and well-being. This is the case when they are subject to *refoulement*, sexual and labour exploitation, and human trafficking. It may also be the case when migrants are in the hands of people smugglers. National Societies encountering such cases may require special support and guidance from the International Federation or the ICRC which will assist them to develop their capability to respond.
 - The International Federation and the ICRC shall provide guidelines and advice to National Societies working in situations of heightened and acute risks to migrants.
- 5.3. An increasing number of migrants are unaccompanied minors or minors separated from their families. Without family links or appropriate care arrangements, they are at high risk of abuse and exploitation. Their rights may be violated, and their prospects for a secure and productive future are often dim. These minors are of special concern to the Movement.
 - National Societies shall cooperate and engage in the protection of unaccompanied and separated minor migrants, including through efforts to restore their family links. To the best of their capacities, they shall support them in building a viable future for themselves.

- 5.4. Migrants who are detained in the course of the migratory process may be exposed to heightened risks. Under certain circumstances and conditions, National Societies may contribute to improving their treatment and conditions of detention. However, National Societies should ensure that their work for migrants in detention is carried out in the migrants' interest, and thus does no harm.
 - National Societies choosing to initiate activities for detained migrants, such as the provision of specific services or monitoring of detention conditions, shall follow guidelines developed for this purpose under the lead of the ICRC.
- 5.5. The National Society of the country hosting migrants is usually in a privileged position to conduct advocacy on their behalf. Humanitarian advocacy can take the form of discreet interventions with authorities or private parties; or of public statements, messages, or campaigns. Whatever form it takes, it should always be carefully targeted and reflect the concrete situation of those on whose behalf it speaks.
 - National Societies shall base their advocacy on behalf of migrants on concrete experience that they, or other components of the Movement, have gained in working with and for the migrants of concern.
- 5.6. A National Society may need other National Societies or external partners, to support its advocacy on behalf of migrants in its country. The International Federation plays an important role in supporting such advocacy interventions and in carrying out advocacy activities on migration at the global level.
 - National Societies can call on other National Societies, the International Federation or external partners to support their advocacy on behalf of migrants. Where several components of the Movement are concerned by a common migration issue, a coordinated approach on advocacy is essential.

6. Building Partnerships for Migrants

- 6.1. Several components of the Movement may be present in a country where a National Society is providing assistance and protection for migrants. Even where only one National Society is present, work on migration issues usually implies crossborder and interregional relations with other National Societies. It is important to make good use of Movement-wide networks and platforms to optimise National Societies' action on migration.
 - In undertaking their assistance and protection efforts on behalf of migrants, National Societies, the International Federation, and the ICRC shall make use of available Movement mechanisms to build partnerships and seek consent among each other.
- 6.2. For a coherent global response to the humanitarian consequences of migration, National Societies require adequate capacities, in terms of dedicated expertise, staffing, structures, and other resources.

- A global and effective system of support and partnership, specifically dedicated to migration issues, should be built under the lead of the International Federation to support capacities of National Societies on migration.
- 6.3. Governments increasingly coordinate their national migration policies at a regional level. The humanitarian aspects of regional policies are of direct concern to National Societies, and often require coordination within regional groups. However, regional policies have an inter-regional and global humanitarian impact. Consequently, regional cooperation of National Societies requires that they also consult and cooperate with National Societies beyond their region, in line with the universal character of the Movement.
 - Regional groups of National Societies working together on migration shall consult and cooperate with National Societies beyond their region, in order to share relevant interregional and global humanitarian concerns.
- 6.4. Domestic institutions as well as international organizations may have mandates to assist and protect specific categories of migrants in a country or region. It is important for National Societies to design a strategy by which, within their capacities, they add value to the overall response, while acting within humanitarian principles and maintaining their independence.
 - National Societies shall take into account the roles and mandates of other organizations or institutions that provide assistance and protection to migrants. When working together with them, National Societies shall respect Movement policies and principles concerning external cooperation.

7. Working Along the Migratory Trails

- 7.1. Understanding the conditions all along migratory trails is important to ensure assistance and protection for migrants where they are most in need and at risk. Therefore, National Societies need to collect and exchange information, and establish an integrated picture of the conditions of migrants as they move.
 - National Societies along migratory trails shall strive to exchange information about the conditions and risks for migrants in the countries concerned, and to integrate the information to facilitate the assessment of their needs and vulnerabilities.
- 7.2. Work with migrants in transit is a challenge for National Societies, as these migrants tend to be particularly vulnerable to abuses and exploitation. Their very survival can be at stake. As these migrants are transient, it is critical for National Societies to assess their needs and take effective humanitarian action.
 - It is a priority for the International Federation to strengthen the capacities of National Societies to work with migrants in transit.

National Societies in countries of transit shall identify their requirements for support.

- 7.3. Support in establishing community linkages is part of National Societies' overall engagement in promoting the social inclusion and integration of migrants. Isolation and the lack of community linkages increase their vulnerability. The links of migrants with their families and communities at home are often weakened and sometimes entirely lost. The worldwide family links network of National Societies and the ICRC is often the last resort for restoring family links between the migrants and their families.
 - It shall be a priority for National Societies, in working together, as well as with the ICRC, to take action for restoring the family links of migrants.
- 7.4. In some cases, migrants enter countries without presenting themselves at official border crossings. As public authorities have intensified their efforts to prevent such irregular migration, migrants of different origins and profiles are often detained in groups. They tend to be treated as part of a clandestine or irregular "mixed group", rather than as individuals with specific needs, vulnerabilities and rights, including the right to seek asylum.
 - National Societies shall recognize and support the right of each member of mixed migrant groups to be considered on an individual basis. They should strive to assist each of them in seeking the opportunity to assert their individual claims through adequate procedures.
- 7.5. People deciding to migrate in search of safety and new places to live and work need to know about the risks of migration, which for irregular migrants can be life threatening. Migrants' hopes for opportunities abroad may also be inflated and unrealistic. Raising the awareness of potential migrants about the risks of migration, and of conditions in countries of destination, can prevent human suffering. However, many migrants may have no choice but to travel by irregular means. As a matter of principle, National Societies must not seek to prevent migration: whether to migrate or not is a personal decision. It is also important that National Societies avoid the perception that they are acting under governmental policies to encourage, prevent or dissuade migration.
 - National Societies may raise the awareness of potential migrants concerning the risks of migration, particularly irregular migration. However, they must avoid becoming instruments of governmental policies, aimed at preventing migration as a whole.

8. Assisting Migrants in return

- 8.1. Returning migrants will often face challenges, particularly in terms of their reintegration – but they also can contribute to the development of countries of return. When working with and for them, National Societies are only concerned with the returnees' own needs and interests. At all times, they must maintain their impartiality, neutrality and independence. National

Societies in countries of destination and return should cooperate, both in preparation of returns, and in receiving the returnees. Activities by National Societies may include predeparture counselling and support as well as reintegration assistance and monitoring of conditions after return.

- Assistance and protection for returning migrants, before and after their return, shall be based on the agreement of the returnee. Cooperation between National Societies in countries of departure and countries of return is essential, and may include formal partnership agreements for the benefit of returnees.
- 8.2. It is within the prerogative of States to regulate the presence of migrants, and if they are deemed irregular, to expel or deport them. However, governments must ensure that such coercive acts are executed in due respect of international law, including the principle of *non-refoulement*. National Societies are under no obligation, as auxiliaries to public authorities or otherwise, to have a role in coercive acts or migration control. In fact, their direct participation may endanger the neutrality and humanitarian identity of the Movement.
- National Societies shall avoid participation in expulsions or deportations of migrants. However, with the prior consent of both, those who will be forcibly removed and the National Society in the country of return, they may respond to humanitarian needs. In such cases, stringent programming conditions must be respected.

9. Responding to the Displacement of Populations

- 9.1. Situations of displacement of populations are often linked to migration. People in displacement may not be in a position to return or to stay where they have sought refuge. Thus, they may take the path of migration to reconstruct their lives elsewhere. For both, displaced populations and migrants, National Societies play an essential humanitarian role. This can involve individual action as well as action in partnership with the ICRC, the International Federation, or other National Societies. It is important to adopt a coordinated approach that considers displacement of populations and migration as challenges that are distinct but interrelated.
- Requirements for the response to situations of displacement of populations are different from those related to migration. However, all components of the Movement, as the contexts require, shall strive for a coordinated action that covers both, displaced populations and migrants.
- 9.2. In situations of internal displacement, i.e. displacement of populations within a country, national legislation is a source of law that guarantees assistance and protection for the affected populations. However, national legislation does not always foresee the extraordinary circumstances of internal displacement. Public authorities can be overstretched and weakened. In such situations, it is especially important for National Societies to base their

work on international human rights law and – for situations of armed conflict – international humanitarian law, both of which are reflected in the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*. To facilitate the work of National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC shall provide the necessary guidance.

→ National Societies providing assistance and protection in situations of internal displacement shall refer to the relevant international legal and normative frameworks, and follow the guidance of relevant Movement standards and policies.

9.3. Displacement within a country may precede the displacement of refugees or disaster victims across international borders. On either side of the border, the circumstances and humanitarian needs of the displaced populations will be different. Crossborder coordination is essential in order to ensure that relief provided on either side of the border aims at durable collective solutions. The primary level of cross-border coordination shall be within the Movement; the secondary level shall be with external actors, in line with Movement policies and principles concerning external cooperation.

→ In contexts where an association exists between internal displacement and displacement across international borders, National Societies shall aim at a humanitarian response that is coordinated under a cross-border strategy.

10. Alleviating the Migratory Pressures on Communities of Origin

10.1. In situations of armed conflict and other violence, international humanitarian law defines the rules that limit the effects of conflict and protect people and their homes. The humanitarian intervention of National Societies, in coordination and partnership with the ICRC with its specific mandate under the Geneva Conventions and the Statutes of the Movement, can reduce the risks of the displacement of populations, as well as the onward migration that may ensue.

→ To alleviate migratory pressures due to armed conflict and other violence, National Societies shall cooperate with the ICRC, and support its mandate under international humanitarian law.

10.2. Social and economic distress, as well as the lack of services and prospects for development, are major causes of migration. Humanitarian advocacy may encourage governments to take measures for improved services and economic development. However, the comparative advantage of National Societies lies in their contribution to the resilience of communities through volunteer based work. This may involve, among other activities, programmes for food security and income generation, programmes for health and education, or humanitarian relief.

→ When contributing to the reduction of migratory pressures in countries in economic and social distress, National Societies shall focus on

strengthening the resilience of people through action at community level.

- 10.3. Environmental degradation, coupled with population growth, makes living conditions in many places increasingly precarious, particularly for the poor. The threat of natural or man-made disasters can induce people to migrate in search of safer places. By preparing for such hazards and increasing the resilience of the population, National Societies and the International Federation contribute to alleviating pressures which compel people to migrate.
- As a key strategy to reduce migratory pressures on disaster-prone communities, National Societies and the International Federation shall focus on disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

Policy Annex

This policy addresses issues and contains concepts that may require further commentary and background. The documents listed in the Annex include Movement resolutions, Federation policies, Federation and ICRC guides and handbooks, resolutions adopted by regional statutory conferences, regional meeting recommendations, as well as a selection of relevant international legal instruments.

Policy on Migration Annex

The policy on migration addresses issues and contains concepts that may require further commentary and background. The documents below are therefore intended to assist the reading of the policy. It is, however, not an exhaustive list of all texts that may of relevance when providing assistance and protection to migrants.

Movement Resolutions

- Together for Humanity, Resolution 1, 30th International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference, 2007
- Specific nature of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in action and partnerships and the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, Resolution 2, 30th International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference, 2007
- International Migration, Resolution 5, Council of Delegates, 2007
- Restoring Family Links Strategy (and Implementation Plan) for the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (2008–2018), Resolution 4, Council of Delegates, 2007
- Promoting respect for diversity and non-discrimination – A contribution to peace and friendship between peoples, Resolution 3, Council of Delegates, 2005
- Implementation of the Seville Agreement, Resolution 8, Council of Delegates, 2005

- Promote respect for diversity and fight against discrimination and intolerance, Resolution 9, Council of Delegates, 2003
- Movement action in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons and minimum elements to be included in operational agreements between Movement components and their external operational partners, Resolution 10, Council of Delegates, 2003
- Movement action in favour of refugees and internally displaced persons, Resolution 4, Council of Delegates, 2001
- The Movement's policy on Advocacy, Resolution 6, Council of Delegates, 1999
- Agreement on the organization of the international activities of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (The Seville Agreement), Resolution 6, Council of Delegates, 1997
- Principles and action in international humanitarian assistance and protection, Resolution 4, 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, 1995
- The Movement, refugees and displaced persons, Resolution 7, Council of Delegates, 1993
- The Movement and refugees, Resolution 9, Council of Delegates, 1991
- The Movement and refugees, Resolution XVII, 25th International Conference of the Red Cross, 1986
- International Red Cross aid to refugees, Resolution XXI, 24th International Conference of the Red Cross, 1981

Federation Policies

- Health policy, 15th Session of the General Assembly, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2005
- Psychological support policy, 7th Session of the Governing Board, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2003
- Social welfare policy, 12th Session of the General Assembly, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 1999
- Disaster preparedness policy, 12th Session of the General Assembly, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 1999
- Gender policy, 12th Session of the General Assembly, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 1999
- Emergency response policy, 11th session of the General Assembly, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 1997

Federation and ICRC Guides and Handbooks

- Enhancing protection for civilians in armed conflict and other situations of violence, ICRC, 2008
- Interagency guiding principles on unaccompanied and separated children, ICRC, 2004
- Assistance to asylum seekers in Europe – A guide for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2003

- Restoring family links: a guide for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, ICRC, 2001
- Strengthening Protection in War: A Search for Professional Standards, ICRC, 2001

Resolutions Adopted by Regional Statutory Conferences

- Johannesburg Commitments, 7th Pan African Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2008
- Guayaquil Commitment, XVIII Inter-American Conference of the Red Cross, 2007
- The Istanbul Commitments, 7th European Regional Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference, 2007
- The Santiago de Chile Commitment, XVII Inter-American Conference of the Red Cross, 2003
- The Manila Action Plan, VIth Asia Pacific Regional Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference, 2002
- Berlin Charter and Plan of Action – Migration, VIth European Red Cross and Red Crescent Regional Conference, 2002

Recommendations Adopted by Other Regional Meetings

- Strasbourg Recommendations, Seminar on Migration, Unaccompanied Minors and Forced Returns, French Red Cross and the Council of Europe, 2009
- Palermo Recommendations, International Meeting on Gender and Migration in the Mediterranean, Italian Red Cross and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Centre for Cooperation in the Mediterranean, 2008
- Final Report, European Open Forum on Return, Swedish Red Cross and the Red Cross/EU Office, 2006

Regional Guidelines

- Return: Policy and Practice – A guide for European National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO), 2008
- Guidelines on the reception of asylum seekers, Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO), 2001

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International Legal Framework – A Selection of Relevant International Instruments

This is a selection of universal legal instruments that may be relevant when working with migrants. It does not include regional human rights and refugee law instruments.

International Human Rights Law

Migrants

- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 1990
- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Protocol), 2000

Stateless Persons

- Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1961
- Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954

Other Specific Groups

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006

General

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984 (see in particular Article 3 on *non-refoulement*)

International Humanitarian Law

- Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 1949
- Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, 1949
- Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977
- Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 1977

International Refugee Law

- Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951
- Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, 1967

Resolution 5

MOVEMENT POLICY ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT*

The Council of Delegates,

expressing its deep concern about the plight of tens of millions of persons who are forcibly uprooted and other persons and communities affected by displacement as a result of armed conflict, violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, and natural or human-induced disasters,

recalling and reaffirming the commitment of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) to improving protection and assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) as expressed in 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; Resolution 7, Birmingham 1993; Resolution 4, Geneva 2001; and Resolution 10, Geneva 2003),

recalling that international human rights law and international humanitarian law, within their respective spheres of application, protect all persons affected by displacement, such as IDPs themselves and resident and host communities, and that in the event of armed conflict, civilians, including those affected by displacement, are protected as such by international humanitarian law, *stressing* the importance of respect for these laws in preventing displacement,

emphasizing the protection that national law can provide and encouraging all components of the Movement, in accordance with their mandates, to take appropriate measures to support States in their effort to incorporate international humanitarian law and human rights law in their national law and practice applicable to IDPs, and recognizing that the Guiding Principles on internal displacement constitute an important international framework that can give guidance for that purpose,

recognizing that a common approach strengthening the Movement's global response will enhance its image and position within the humanitarian community,

noting that the General Assembly of the International Federation in 2009 endorsed a Policy on migration that had been adopted by its Governing Board and that the policy set out below complements that policy,

recognizing the effort of the African Union in adopting the Convention for the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons in Africa.

1. *adopts* a Movement policy on internal displacement that consists of the following 10 principles:

* The Movement policy on internal displacement has been published in the *International Review of the Red Cross*, Vol. 91, No. 875, pp. 593–611.

- We in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,
- i. serve all those affected by internal displacement – the people actually displaced, host communities and others – and make decisions according to the most pressing needs for humanitarian services
 - ii. make full use of our privileged access to communities at risk as well as to decision-makers
 - iii. seek to prevent displacement while recognizing people’s right to leave of their own accord
 - iv. support the safe, voluntary and dignified return, relocation or local integration of IDPs, on the basis of our independent assessment of their situation
 - v. seek to empower individuals and communities. We do this by ensuring their participation in the design and implementation of our programmes, and by helping them to exercise their rights and by providing access to available services
 - vi. coordinate with the authorities and all others concerned. Whenever necessary, we remind them of their obligations, as set out in the applicable normative framework
 - vii. as National Societies and auxiliaries to our authorities, support those authorities in meeting their responsibilities in the humanitarian field as far as our resources and capacities allow and provided we can do so in full compliance with the Fundamental Principles and in keeping with the mission and Statutes of the Movement
 - viii. seek to limit the extent to which we substitute for the authorities, in discharging their responsibility to meet the needs and ensure the well-being of the population within the territory under their control
 - ix. give priority to operational partnerships within the Movement and strive to play our complementary roles, shoulder our responsibilities and marshal our expertise to the full
 - x. coordinate with other entities on the basis of their presence and abilities on the ground, the needs to be met, the capacities available, and the possibilities for access, while ensuring that we remain (and are perceived as remaining) true to our Fundamental Principles;
2. *requests* all the components of the Movement to implement this policy when responding to the needs of people affected by displacements, or when backing other components of the Movement in doing so;
 3. *requests* the ICRC, in coordination with the International Federation, to report to the Council of Delegates in 2011 on the implementation of this policy;
 4. *invites* the ICRC and the International Federation to give due consideration to including this topic as part of the overall agenda for the 2011 International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in order to bring to the attention of States the challenges encountered in meeting the humanitarian needs of persons affected by internal displacement.

Resolution 6

MOVEMENT STRATEGY ON LANDMINES, CLUSTER MUNITIONS AND OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR: REDUCING THE EFFECTS OF WEAPONS ON CIVILIANS

The Council of Delegates,

expressing renewed deep concern about the widespread and preventable death and injury caused during and after armed conflicts by landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war,

noting that the similar effects of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war call for similar humanitarian responses, including establishing and implementing international norms, reducing the risk to affected communities of the dangers posed by such weapons, and providing comprehensive assistance to victims,

expressing satisfaction at the substantial progress made in anti-personnel mine destruction, awareness and clearance since the entry into force in 1999 of the Convention on the prohibition of Anti-Personnel mines, yet concerned that a significant number of States Parties have found it necessary to apply to extend the deadlines for mine clearance and that some States Parties have fallen behind in meeting the deadlines for stockpile destruction,

warmly welcoming the adoption on 30 May 2008 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions,

recalling Resolution 10 of the 1999 Council of Delegates adopting the Movement Strategy on Landmines, Resolution 11 of the 2003 Council of Delegates extending the Movement Strategy on Landmines through 2009 and the activities listed therein to cover all explosive remnants of war, and Resolution 8 of the 2007 Council of Delegates on international humanitarian law and cluster munitions,

recognizing the historic development of international humanitarian law and of practices in the fields of risk reduction and victim assistance since the 1999 Movement Strategy on Landmines was adopted,

commending the commitment and perseverance of all the Movement's components that have been involved in the implementation of the Movement Strategy on Landmines since 1999,

noting with appreciation the report to the Council of Delegates prepared by the ICRC on progress made in implementing the objectives set out in Resolution 8 of the 2007 Council of Delegates on international humanitarian law and cluster munitions,

1. *adopts* the Movement Strategy on Landmines, Cluster Munitions and Other Explosive Remnants of War: Reducing the Effects of Weapons on Civilians, which replaces the 1999 Strategy and its 2003 extension;
2. *urges* all the Movement's components to implement the Strategy, in particular by:
 - a. continuing to develop, promote and implement the norms of international humanitarian law that now form a comprehensive international

- legal framework for preventing and addressing the human suffering caused by mines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war;
- b. taking flexible, appropriate, coordinated and integrated action to reduce the impact of weapon contamination through data gathering and analysis, risk reduction, risk education, and survey and clearance;
 - c. providing victims of weapons with comprehensive assistance in the form of emergency and continuing medical care, physical and functional rehabilitation, psychological support and social reintegration, economic inclusion, and development and promotion of national legislation and policies that advocate effective treatment, care and protection for all citizens with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents;
3. *requests* that all the Movement's components carry out periodic self-assessments on their implementation of the Movement Strategy and that they provide this information to the ICRC for monitoring and reporting purposes;
 4. *invites* the ICRC to monitor implementation of the Movement Strategy and to report, as necessary, to the Council of Delegates on the progress made based on the reports submitted to it by the Movement's components and information obtained from other sources, said report to include pertinent recommendations.

Movement Strategy on Landmines, Cluster Munitions and other Explosive Remnants of War: Reducing the Effects of Weapons on Civilians

Vision

The aim of this strategy is to ensure that civilians will no longer be affected by weapons that cause suffering and injury after the cessation of hostilities.

To achieve this vision, all the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) are committed to an approach that integrates the following activities: the development, promotion and implementation of legal norms, operational activities for alleviating the effects of these weapons and assistance to survivors.

This can be achieved by mobilizing the unique capacities of all the components of the Movement, while ensuring effective coordination and cooperation with relevant external actors.

Executive summary

Landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to cause suffering long after the end of conflicts. Significant developments in applicable norms and in operational practice since the adoption of the 1999–2009 Movement Strategy on Landmines have made a new strategy necessary.

The new Movement Strategy builds, strengthens and mobilizes the capacities and resources of all the components of the Movement, and ensures effective coordination and cooperation with all relevant actors. It sets out the roles, responsibilities and guiding principles, and the actions required, of the different components of the Movement.

The Strategy commits the Movement to continuing the development, promotion and implementation of the norms of international humanitarian law that now form a comprehensive international legal framework for preventing and addressing the human suffering caused by mines, cluster munitions and other ERW. The Movement played a vital role in the adoption and promotion of these norms; and it will remain actively engaged in ensuring that the commitments of these instruments are kept and their potential to save lives realized.

Flexible, appropriate, coordinated and integrated action is necessary in order to reduce the impact of weapon contamination. Not only mines, cluster munitions and other ERW, but also stockpiles of ammunition and small arms and light weapons pose a threat. Taking established guiding principles into account, the Movement's components will, depending on the situation, implement the following activities, either separately or in combination: data gathering and analysis, risk reduction, risk education, and survey and clearance. The Movement implements these activities during, before and after conflicts and in rapid-onset emergencies in which weapon contamination poses a threat.

Greater efforts are required to provide comprehensive assistance to victims of weapons. Assistance to survivors will be implemented through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach with the aim of providing the widest possible opportunities for full and effective participation and inclusion in society, for education and employment, and for access to essential services. Victim assistance activities include emergency and continuing medical care, physical and functional rehabilitation, psychological support and social reintegration, economic inclusion, and development and promotion of national legislation and policies that advocate effective treatment, care and protection for all citizens with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents.

Section 1: Background and approaches

1.1 Introduction

The issue of landmines enabled the humanitarian community to begin the process of comprehensively tackling the impact and long-term effects on civilians of mines, ERW and other weapons.¹ Since the adoption of the first Movement Strategy in

1 The Council of Delegates first began calling for legal and humanitarian action to address the human costs of the use of landmines in 1993 (Resolution 3). By this time, the widespread use of anti-personnel mines in armed conflicts was causing what the ICRC termed an "epidemic" of landmine deaths and injuries. Most casualties were among civilian populations, and most of them occurred after the fighting had

1999, a great deal more has been learnt about the human costs of abandoned or unexploded weapons. These insights have provided the basis for significant developments in those areas of international humanitarian law that deal with such weapons, in operational activities to alleviate the consequences of weapon contamination for civilians, and in efforts to convert States' victim assistance commitments into tangible benefits for the victims themselves. All the components of the Movement, together with other humanitarian actors, have played a role in promoting international norms, in intervening to secure compliance, in reducing the effects on civilians, and in assisting victims. National Societies, with their community-based networks and unique status within affected countries, continue to play a crucial role in national strategies for dealing with the consequences of weapon contamination.

The Strategy reinforces the Movement's commitment to develop, promote and implement the norms of international humanitarian law that now form a comprehensive international legal framework for preventing and addressing the human suffering caused by mines, cluster munitions and other ERW. The Strategy calls for a flexible, multidisciplinary approach to reduce the consequences of weapon contamination and to strengthen efforts to provide comprehensive assistance to victims, using the capacities and resources of the Movement for action. It aims to build, strengthen and mobilize the capacities and resources of all the components of the Movement, and to ensure effective coordination and cooperation with all relevant actors.²

1.2 Scope

The Strategy presents Movement policy in support of international norms prohibiting or regulating the use of weapons that kill and injure despite the end of hostilities. It also reflects the Movement's operational approach to alleviating the consequences of weapon contamination and to providing support for, and assisting in the social reintegration of, survivors and their families. The Strategy does not cover every aspect of the Movement's efforts to protect civilians from being harmed by weapons and provide assistance for victims. As its title suggests, the Strategy's focus is on landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW. However,

ceased. In 1995, the Council called for the Movement to work for a total ban on anti-personnel mines, which, from a humanitarian viewpoint, it considered "the only effective solution" (Resolution 10). During this same period, the ICRC and National Societies began engaging in efforts to prevent casualties, primarily through mine awareness activities and by strengthening their work in physical rehabilitation. The ICRC, many National Societies and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) campaigned publicly for a ban on anti-personnel mines. This led to the signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines (Mine Ban Treaty) in Ottawa in December 1997.

- 2 The Movement's components, and National Societies in particular, discussed their experiences in carrying out such activities at a Movement meeting on weapon contamination held in Siem Reap in Cambodia in January 2009. The National Societies represented at the meeting were from Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, France, India, Iran, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Tajikistan and Yemen. The discussions at this meeting have informed this new Movement Strategy.

the activities devoted to reducing the harm done by weapon contamination and providing assistance to victims also cover a broader range of weapons.

The Strategy is not time-bound. It aims to provide a long-term framework that will be updated when necessary.

1.3 Movement approach

1.3.1 *Roles and responsibilities*

The ICRC continues to implement activities based on need, both directly and in association with national authorities and National Societies during armed conflicts and other situations of violence. It also provides expertise, advice and support to National Societies who wish to launch programmes in this area of need. The ICRC also plays a leading role in the development of relevant international norms as well as in monitoring and promoting their implementation.

National Societies, as the key Movement actors in their domestic contexts, will direct their efforts towards the promotion of legal norms, incident reduction and data gathering. They also play an important part in providing various forms of victim assistance, based on needs and capacities. Their auxiliary role to their public authorities in the humanitarian field and their grassroots networks make them uniquely qualified to contribute to national strategies for tackling the effects of weapon contamination. Depending on the context, those National Societies that work internationally support and cooperate with the National Societies of affected countries, in coordination with the ICRC and the International Federation.

The **International Federation** provides the necessary organizational development support for National Societies in areas such as resource mobilization and financial and human resources management, and assists them in incorporating programmes covered by this Strategy in their development plans. The International Federation also includes work in this field in its own disaster-preparedness and emergency response mechanisms. Its presence in relevant international forums will create opportunities for National Societies to present their experiences, in support of Movement positions.

1.3.2 *Guiding principles for Movement action:*

The Movement seeks to alleviate the consequences of weapon contamination through a flexible, multidisciplinary approach, which will continue to evolve in step with experience and best practice.

- *Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement* – The Movement's components ensure that they promote effective assistance for and protection of the victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence on the basis of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

- *Multidisciplinary approach* – The Movement’s ability to promote and disseminate international norms, curb the harm done by weapon contamination and provide assistance to victims is based on the broad range of skills, capacities and resources at its disposal. Any approach to planning and implementing activities must use all these resources in combination.
- *Flexibility, appropriateness and adaptability of approach* – Activities must be appropriate to the situation. They must be reviewed and adapted, changing or ending when necessary.
- *Complementarity with other actors* – It is essential for the Movement to ensure complementarity internally and with the plans and activities of external actors.
- *Adherence to international standards and tools* – Even as they maintain their independence, Movement activities should comply with international standards such as the International Mine Action Standards.
- *Developing national capacities* – For the long-term sustainability of national efforts to reduce the harm done by weapon contamination, it is essential that Movement action include measures to ensure accessibility of persons with disabilities to services and infrastructure. Where national disability services and mine action authorities exist, the Movement must work with them and reinforce their capacities. In their absence, the Movement must consider developing and implementing new structures appropriate to the context, ensuring that support is provided for the affected population.
- *Equal and non-discriminatory access to health care, rehabilitation services and initiatives for socio-economic reintegration* – The Movement should seek to ensure that everyone in need of health care, rehabilitation, and socio-economic reintegration has access to such services solely on the basis of need and regardless of social, religious, ethnic considerations and regardless of the cause of injury or disability. Special attention must be paid to vulnerable groups.

Section 2: Movement activities

2.1 Promoting international norms

The current framework of international norms in this field reflects an historic development in humanitarian law. It is also evidence of the success that the Movement’s advocacy has had in this field. Taken together, customary norms of humanitarian law, Protocol I additional to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, Amended Protocol II and Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and the Convention on Cluster Munitions now constitute a comprehensive international legal framework for preventing and dealing with the human suffering caused by mines, cluster munitions and all other explosive munitions used by armed forces or non-State armed groups. The objective of protecting civilians and affected communities will be reached only when these norms are universally accepted and implemented by armed forces and non-State armed groups. The ICRC continues to

monitor the development of new weapons and the consequences of their use and to call for action whenever that is required. The Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War all contain direct references to the role of the Movement. This attests to the importance of the Movement's contribution in treaty promotion and implementation at the global, regional and national levels. In addition, the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent has, since 1999, repeatedly addressed the aim of strengthening the protection of civilians from the indiscriminate use and effects of weapons.³

The Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines: This treaty has had a marked impact throughout the world on the use, transfer and production of anti-personnel mines, confirmation that these weapons are being stigmatized and that the anti-personnel mine ban is well on the way to achieving universal observance. The evidence suggests that where there is compliance with the Convention, lives and livelihoods are being preserved in large numbers. There has been a dramatic decrease in the use of anti-personnel mines since the adoption of the treaty. However, the landmines that remain are a major threat and cause immense suffering among civilian populations in many parts of the world. Despite the destruction of millions of mines, as of 2008 several States had been unable to meet their deadlines for the destruction of stockpiles. Also in 2008, most States whose deadline for clearing landmines was 2009 found it necessary to request extensions of two to ten years. States' compliance with deadlines will continue to require close monitoring.

Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons: It is difficult to assess the effectiveness of this instrument. Of the States party to Amended Protocol II, several have not used anti-personnel mines, anti-vehicle mines or booby-traps since the Protocol entered into force. Reporting on the use of mines by other States Parties has been minimal. During the meeting of States Parties held in November 2008, a new Group of Governmental Experts was established to review the status and operation of Amended Protocol II in 2009. Unfortunately, during meetings of States Parties, substantive issues have not been addressed in any detail.

3 In 2003, the 28th International Conference adopted the Agenda for Humanitarian Action. General Objective 2 of the Agenda was to "strengthen the protection of civilians in all situations from the indiscriminate use and effects of weapons and the protection of combatants from unnecessary suffering and prohibited weapons through controls on weapons development, proliferation and use". Resolution 3 of the 30th International Conference in 2007 reaffirmed "that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods and means of warfare is not unlimited and that it is prohibited to employ weapons, projectiles and materials and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering". This resolution called on "all States to increase their efforts to strengthen the protection of civilians against the indiscriminate use and effects of weapons and munitions". It also recognized "the need to urgently address the humanitarian impact of explosive remnants of war and cluster munitions, including through rigorous application of existing rules of international humanitarian law and additional national and international actions that will minimize the harmful effects of these munitions on civilians and on assistance to victims".

Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons: States that are party to this treaty have begun developing standard forms that may be used by all States Parties for reporting on their implementation of the Protocol, and by States affected by ERW to request assistance in clearance activities. So far, however, States Parties have not begun to consider solutions to the problem of ERW in affected States, which should be a primary concern.

The Convention on Cluster Munitions: The Convention will enter into force once it has been ratified by 30 States. The process of implementing it will then formally get under way: this will include annual meetings of States Parties, the establishment of reporting mechanisms, efforts to support clearance and victim assistance, and monitoring by civil society organizations (including through Landmine Monitor annual reports). A number of national and regional meetings are being planned in order to facilitate understanding of the Convention's provisions and to encourage States to adhere to the Convention as soon as possible.

2.1.1 Movement action

The Movement has played a crucial role in the adoption and promotion of the norms of humanitarian law. By remaining engaged it can make vital contributions to the task of ensuring that the commitments in these instruments are kept and that their potential to save lives is realized.

On the **Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines** and the **Convention on Cluster Munitions**, the Movement's principal goals are to:

- achieve universal adherence;
- monitor compliance with the treaties' prohibitions as well as with their clearance and stockpile destruction deadlines and their commitments to victim assistance;
- make special efforts to promote States Parties' compliance with clearance and destruction deadlines when the deadline for a particular State is approaching or has passed;
- ensure that States Parties adopt domestic legislation providing for the implementation of the treaties and for the prosecution and punishment of those who violate the treaties' provisions;
- as appropriate, stigmatize the use of anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions, wherever it may occur;
- document, where feasible, the use of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions and their consequences; consider appropriate action to be taken in such instances with government officials, non-State actors and the media; promote adherence by the State and non-State actors concerned to the relevant norms of humanitarian law; and urge an end to the use of these weapons;
- achieve – with regard to the **Convention on Cluster Munitions** – the maximum number of signatures before the Convention's entry into force and rapid ratification by signatory States and accession by non-signatories;

- ensure, after the Convention’s entry into force, that States Parties focus urgently on their commitments to promote clearance and victim assistance; and provide international assistance, particularly for those States Parties most affected by cluster munitions.

On **Amended Protocol II** and **Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons**, the Movement’s principal goals are to:

- achieve increased adherence to both Protocols;
- monitor compliance with the Protocols’ prohibitions and commitments;
- ensure that States Parties adopt domestic implementing legislation, as needed;
- urge, with respect to Protocol V, States Parties to ensure that their armed forces are in a position, and required, to record and share information on all explosive ordnance used;
- urge States Parties to ensure that the Protocol’s implementation addresses the effects of all existing and future ERW, with a focus on their clearance and victim assistance commitments.

On **all the above-mentioned treaties**, the Movement’s efforts will include:

- regular dialogue with government officials, members of parliament and armed forces;
- making other humanitarian actors and the media sensitive to the importance of these treaties;
- raising awareness among the media and the general public, on important dates associated with these treaties, of their importance and the obstacles to their implementation;
- providing support for national programmes and international assistance for the implementation of clearance, stockpile destruction and victim assistance obligations;
- organizing, at the national, regional and international levels, seminars and workshops to promote increased adherence and implementation;
- ensuring that work on behalf of victims under the treaties mentioned above is consistent with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

2.1.2 Mutually reinforcing roles and responsibilities within the Movement

The ICRC will continue to:

- play an important role in monitoring and promoting the universal acceptance and implementation of these treaties on behalf of the Movement;
- provide technical and legal expertise, communications materials and other support for Movement efforts in the areas of dissemination and advocacy;
- remind parties to armed conflicts of their obligation to comply with humanitarian law as it applies to landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW, and,

- when a party to an armed conflict is a State party to one or more of the above treaties, invoke the relevant treaty prohibitions and commitments;
- document, where feasible, the effects of landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW; and make confidential oral and written representations to local, national and regional authorities of parties to a conflict who control any area where these weapons pose a threat to civilians (the ICRC may also mobilize States, regional organizations or other components of the Movement in these efforts);
 - monitor and participate in negotiations for new international norms for regulating the use of weapons, in order to ensure that the existing legal framework is strengthened and not undermined;
 - mobilize States, international organizations and humanitarian actors in promoting the development, implementation and universal acceptance of these treaties.

Whenever appropriate, **National Societies** will:

- intervene with their national authorities to ensure that their States – if party to the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines and the Convention on Cluster Munitions – respect their deadlines for the destruction of stockpiles and for clearance;
- carry out activities to raise awareness among the general public and national political leaders of the effects of mines, cluster munitions and other ERW, and of the solutions provided in the relevant instruments of humanitarian law;
- promote accession by their governments to relevant international treaties and the faithful implementation thereof by their national authorities;
- promote the adoption of domestic legislation and practical measures to implement those treaties;
- engage in and promote discussions on the national level with the authorities concerned and with military officials, and support programmes and develop partnerships to provide assistance for victims under relevant international instruments, including commitments to such treaties as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- intervene with their national authorities to ensure that adequate resources are provided for supporting the implementation of treaty commitments, both in affected States and in States able to provide assistance;
- follow up with their national authorities on the implementation of commitments and pledges adopted at International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

The **International Federation** will:

- promote the National Societies' role, as auxiliary to their public authorities in the humanitarian field, in implementing relevant global and regional instruments, such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other human rights and health treaties;

- discuss, with the ICRC and National Societies, the promotion and communication of Movement positions on subjects covered by the Strategy.

2.2 Preventing accidents and reducing the effects of weapon contamination

Activities to prevent accidents and alleviate the effects of weapon contamination can be implemented alongside other activities that provide support for victims (including physical rehabilitation, surgical care and activities to improve economic security). These can include data gathering and analysis, risk reduction, risk education and survey and clearance. The context determines the nature, composition and specific objectives of the activities to be carried out.

The nature of the threat posed by weapons varies with the context. In addition to mines, cluster munitions and other ERW, unsecured stockpiles of ammunition and small arms and light weapons also pose a threat. ‘Weapon contamination’ is the umbrella term used to describe operational activities aimed at reducing the effects of such weapons.

Humanitarian action to reduce the effects of weapon contamination on civilians began in 1988, when such activities were first undertaken in Afghanistan. Its techniques and strategies have been evolving constantly, with growing flexibility, professionalism and accountability. Organizations that work in this area have, from the beginning, dealt with weapon contamination that has humanitarian consequences, and not only with weapons that are regulated or prohibited by specific treaties.

The Movement has played an important role in these activities, its various components acting in accordance with their respective mandates. National Societies have taken advantage of their grassroots networks, developing data gathering and working in communities to change behaviour and act as a link with clearance agencies. The ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies working internationally have provided funding for activities. In 1997, the ICRC established a full-time “Mine Action Sector” based in Geneva, in response to the Movement’s request that it become the lead organization in this field. It has since supported mine action activities in more than 40 countries. Besides developing the ability to intervene directly, the ICRC has done much to support National Societies, particularly in the field of capacity building.

2.2.1 *Movement action*

The Movement implements risk reduction activities during, before and after conflicts, and in rapid onset emergencies where weapon contamination poses a threat. It seeks to curb the effects of weapon contamination by employing a flexible, multidisciplinary approach, which is still evolving in step with experience and best practice. Community liaison is an essential element of all aspects of risk reduction: National Societies operating in affected countries are in the best position to play

that role. Bearing in mind the guiding principles set out above, the following kinds of activity can be implemented either separately or in combination, depending on the situation:

Data gathering and analysis – Collecting and analysing data⁴ from weapon-contaminated areas is the basis of all planning for reducing risks caused by weapon contamination. It is also a critical activity that strengthens access to survivors and informs the development and application of norms based on field realities. When it is analysed, this information contributes to the identification of dangerous areas, and makes it possible to plan and prioritize activities related to surveying, clearance, risk reduction and risk education. Such data can also be the source of important information for locating and providing support for survivors. As grassroots organizations with a presence in virtually every country, National Societies are often uniquely placed to gather this data in the short and in the long term. In the short term, they often do this as an operational partner of the ICRC; in the long term, they do so as an integrated component of an overall national mine action strategy normally led by the government. Data gathering and analysis must be coordinated with other actors to ensure interoperability and compatibility.

Risk reduction – Often, in countries where the economy and society have been disrupted by war, people in areas contaminated by weapons have to continue to farm, collect water and firewood, graze livestock, or travel. Clearing affected areas would, of course, be the ideal solution, but the consequences of contamination can be alleviated in the short term by providing safer alternatives through economic security and water and habitat programmes that specifically take contamination into account. As these activities can also benefit survivors, consideration must always be given not only to the prevention of new accidents, but also to the provision of support for survivors and to facilitating their social reintegration. Activities to this end, though of many different kinds, typically involve the establishment of safe areas, the provision of new sources of water on non-contaminated ground and of alternative sources of food or fuel, and the implementation of micro-credit projects. The aim is to prevent persons in contaminated areas from having to take risks in order to survive or live as normally possible, and to ensure that survivors receive support for their social reintegration and for normalizing their lives as far as possible.

Risk education – Risk education includes raising awareness in emergencies, undertaking activities aimed at effecting long-term changes in behaviour and ensuring that communities have a central role in determining clearance priorities. All these activities can also benefit survivors. Raising awareness is carried out as a stand-alone activity primarily during emergencies when little data exists and the level of knowledge among people is extremely low. This would be the case typically in periods immediately after the end of conflict, when displaced populations tend

4 Data on incidents, the presence of ERW, mapping of minefields, types of munitions, and so on.

to return to their homes rapidly and casualty figures are at their highest. In all other situations, awareness-raising activities should be community-based and linked to risk reduction. Given that it is designed to target those civilians most at risk, any method of raising awareness must give careful consideration to cultural and social factors and to the nature of the threat. Interactive, community-led approaches have been found to be the most effective. Community liaison is an extension of this community-based interaction. Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers are uniquely qualified to communicate the problems of their communities to mine action operators.

Community liaison is, like data gathering, a characteristic element in the long-term role that a National Society should play as an integrated component of a sustained national mine action strategy.

Survey and clearance – When technical surveys or clearance is required, the Movement will mobilize personnel with accreditation or certification in accordance with International Mine Action Standards, or National Mine Action Standards where they exist.⁵

2.2.2 The different components of the Movement will strengthen and coordinate their efforts to:

- support and develop national capacities and strategies aimed at curbing the effects of weapon contamination, reintegrating victims in their communities and providing support for survivors;
- ensure that risk reduction priorities take into account national and community development goals;
- ensure that the threat posed by weapon contamination is taken into account and acted on when natural disasters occur in contaminated areas; in such situations, the ICRC may provide technical support for field assessment and coordination teams and others;
- ensure that operational experience is shared internationally and activities coordinated, particularly in the areas of data, risk reduction and risk education;
- foster preparedness planning and encourage the provision of support for capacity building and the exchange of experience and expertise among National Societies working on weapon contamination in their own countries;
- provide – with the ICRC taking the leading role – expertise in weapon contamination during emergencies in which weapon contamination is an issue;
- foster an intra-Movement approach to dealing with issues related to weapon contamination.

5 Where technical surveys or small-scale clearance are necessary in order for the ICRC to work safely, clearance is generally conducted by accredited clearance operators. Where no accredited operator is available, the ICRC may carry out short-term technical surveys, explosive ordnance disposal, small-scale clearance tasks and marking. This may be the case where the ICRC has sole access to a contaminated area, or in emergency-response situations. The aims are to protect Movement staff, ensure safe access for assistance and protection activities and protect the population.

2.3 Providing assistance for victims

Assistance for victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW should be implemented through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach. The aim of such an approach should be to a) reduce the number of people who die of their injuries through better access to emergency and medical care and b) remove – or reduce as much as possible – the factors that limit the social integration of persons with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents, so that they may achieve and maintain the highest possible level of independence and quality of life: physically, psychologically, socially and economically. Besides access to essential services, persons with disabilities should have the same opportunities as other citizens, for full and effective participation and inclusion in society, and for education and employment. Survivors of weapon-related accidents – those directly affected by weapons – are a sub-group of the larger community of persons with disabilities. The problems they face are similar to those faced by persons who are disabled in other ways.

The implementation of victim assistance commitments by States party to the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines provides important lessons in how to structure work in this field. Since the first Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, held in Nairobi in 2004, the idea of ‘victim assistance’ has acquired a sharper definition, within a framework for addressing the rights and needs of mine victims and other persons with disabilities. The framework includes the establishment of national focal points for victim assistance and the development of specific measurable and time-bound objectives for achieving the aims of the Nairobi Action Plan and for improving the daily lives of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities. The rights and needs of survivors⁶ of accidents related to weapon contamination and the rights and needs of other persons with disabilities are identical under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Support for the needs and rights of persons with disabilities is an area in which the Movement should play a more prominent role.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, which entered into force on 3 May 2008,⁷ mark a significant shift in attitudes and approaches to persons with disabilities. This treaty requires that persons with disabilities be regarded not as objects of charity in need of medical treatment and social protection, but as persons with rights, who are capable of claiming those rights and making decisions that affect their lives based on their free and informed consent and of being active members of society.

6 Victims are those who, either individually or collectively, have suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights through acts or omissions related to the use of weapons. Survivors are persons who have survived a weapon-related accident.

7 As of January 2009, 44 States have ratified the Convention and 26 States have ratified its Optional Protocol.

Victim assistance does not require the development of new fields or disciplines; but it does require that existing health care, rehabilitation and social services, and legislative and policy frameworks be adequate to meet the needs of all citizens. Assistance for survivors should be viewed as part of a country's overall public health and social services framework. However, within that framework care must be taken to ensure that survivors and other persons with disabilities receive the same opportunities – for health care, social services, a life-sustaining income, education and participation in the community – as everyone else.

Victim assistance must be understood in a broader context of development or underdevelopment. Countries do not have the same capacities; many are not in a position to offer adequate amounts of care and social assistance to their people, as a whole, and to persons with disabilities in particular. In affected countries, a political commitment to assist survivors of weapon-related accidents and other persons with disabilities is essential, but ensuring the achievement of concrete results may require addressing broader development concerns.

2.3.1 Movement action

Activities within victim assistance deal with emergency and continuing medical care, physical and functional rehabilitation, psychological support and social reintegration, economic inclusion, and development and promotion of legislation and policies that advocate effective treatment, care and protection for all citizens with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents.

The activities described below could be carried out by the ICRC with the support of National Societies and/or by National Societies in their own countries with the support of the ICRC and/or the International Federation.

Participating National Societies are encouraged to explore possibilities for partnerships with operating National Societies.

All the components of the Movement should, depending on the context, and their capacities and resources, seek to contribute to the following activities, as part of a comprehensive approach:

Emergency and continuing medical care: Emergency and continuing medical care covers such issues as emergency first aid and ensuring access to health care facilities, and appropriate medical care (including competent surgical management and pain treatment). The aims are to establish and enhance the health-care services needed to respond to the immediate and still-existing medical needs of those who have been injured in a weapon-related incident, by increasing the number of health care workers and improving health care infrastructure and by ensuring that health care facilities have the equipment, supplies and medicines necessary to meet minimum standards.

Physical and functional rehabilitation: Physical rehabilitation may be described as the provision of assistive devices such as prostheses, outhouses, walking aids and wheelchairs along with appropriate physical therapy. It also includes activities aimed at maintaining, adjusting, repairing and replacing the

devices as needed. Physical rehabilitation focuses on helping a person regain or improve his or her physical abilities; functional rehabilitation consists of all the measures that are taken to help a person with a disability recover his or her ability to carry on activities or fulfil roles that he or she considers important, useful, or necessary, and may target issues such as sight and hearing.

Psychosocial support: This takes the form of psychological support and efforts to achieve social reintegration/inclusion. It includes activities that assist victims to overcome traumatic experiences and that promote their social well-being. These activities may include participation in community-based peer support groups, in associations for persons with disabilities and in sporting and related activities; and, where necessary, professional counselling. Suitable psychosocial support can make a significant difference in the lives of survivors of weapon-related accidents and the families of those who have been killed or injured.

Economic reintegration: Economic reintegration/inclusion activities consist mainly of providing education and vocational training and developing sustainable economic activities and employment opportunities in affected communities. Survivors' prospects depend largely on the political stability, and the economic situation, of their communities. However, enhancing opportunities for economic inclusion contributes to the capacity for self-reliance of survivors and their families and to community development as a whole. It is important to integrate such efforts in the broader context of economic development and of attempts to ensure significant increases in the number of economically reintegrated victims.

National Societies, as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field, will actively participate in forums and coordinating bodies whose aims are to develop, implement and/or monitor services provided for persons with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents.

2.3.2 The different components of the Movement must strengthen and coordinate their efforts to:

- ensure that operational experience in the area of victim assistance is shared and activities better coordinated in order to improve the Movement's ability to mount a comprehensive and integrated response to the needs of survivors and their families;
- increase access to appropriate medical care, rehabilitation services and socio-economic reintegration initiatives, giving survivors and their families the same opportunities – for full and effective participation and inclusion in society, for education and for employment – as other citizens;
- support awareness-raising programmes at the community level for reducing the threat of discrimination, marginalization and denial of access to services, education and employment, which increase the suffering of survivors, their families and their communities, and which impede economic and social development;
- improve the quality of the medical care and rehabilitation services being provided and ensure that survivors have access to services that meet their particular needs;

- develop national capacities for the provision of services, in order to ensure their long-term availability, as most survivors will need these services for the rest of their lives;
- support National Society partnerships with other relevant actors, including through supporting the building of capacity in National Societies to function as an effective auxiliary to the various public authorities which will often be involved at the national level;
- support the drafting of laws and policies that address the needs and fundamental human rights of persons with disabilities, including survivors of weapon-related accidents, and ensure effective rehabilitation.

Resolution 7

PREVENTING HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES ARISING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT, USE AND PROLIFERATION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF WEAPONS

The Council of Delegates,

reiterating its continuing concern about the direct, indirect and long-term effects of weapons use on civilians, in particular during hostilities in urban areas and the use of explosive area weapons in densely populated areas,

alarmed by the widespread and preventable death and injury to civilians caused by the unregulated availability of conventional arms,

recalling Resolutions 1 and 3 of the 28th and 30th International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent respectively, in which States recognized that, in light of their obligation to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law, adequate measures to control the availability of arms and ammunition are required so that they do not end up in the hands of those who may be expected to use them in violation of international humanitarian law,

recalling the ICRC's 2002 "Appeal on Biotechnology, Weapons and Humanity" reminding the political and military authorities and the scientific and medical communities, industry and civil society of potentially dangerous applications of biotechnology and other developments in the life sciences,

gravely concerned by the continuing threat posed by the potential proliferation or use of nuclear weapons and *welcoming* States' increased focus on nuclear disarmament on the international agenda,

regretting that only a small number of States have carried out their obligation to ensure the legality of new weapons, means or methods of warfare under international law, despite Final Goal 2.5 of the Agenda for Humanitarian Action adopted during the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, which stated that: "In light of the rapid development of weapons technology and in order to protect civilians from the indiscriminate effects of weapons and combatants from unnecessary suffering and prohibited weapons, all new weapons, means and methods of warfare should be subject to rigorous and multidisciplinary review",

1. *calls upon* the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) to encourage States to pursue a comprehensive approach to reducing the human cost of arms availability, including through national and regional measures, the implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, and the adoption and implementation of an international arms trade treaty regulating transfers of all conventional arms and ammunition;
2. *encourages* National Societies, to the extent possible in their own contexts, to actively raise public awareness of the human costs of unregulated arms availability and to promote a culture of non-violence;

3. *calls upon* States, the scientific and medical communities, industry and civil society to continue to monitor developments in biotechnology and the life sciences and to take all necessary steps to ensure that these benefit humanity and are not used for hostile purposes;
4. *calls upon* States to ensure the faithful implementation of relevant treaties related to biological and chemical weapons and to adopt stringent national legislation to ensure that the norms prohibiting biological and chemical warfare are respected;
5. *calls upon* States to continue their efforts towards the elimination of nuclear weapons with determination and urgency;
6. *calls upon* all components of the Movement to help ensure that decisions of the 31st International Conference contain clear proposals for action to address means and methods of warfare that pose particular hazards to the civilian population;
7. *encourages* all components of the Movement to remind States of their obligation to ensure the legality of new weapons, means or methods of warfare under international law;
8. *invites* the ICRC, in consultation with the International Federation, to report during future sessions of the Council of Delegates, as it deems necessary, on developments in the areas identified in this resolution.

Resolution 8

RESPECTING AND PROTECTING HEALTH CARE IN ARMED CONFLICT AND OTHER SITUATIONS OF VIOLENCE

The Council of Delegates,

continuously aware that the origin and very identity of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) are rooted in care for the wounded and sick, through providing them with immediate and practical relief while upholding the laws that protect them, and that concern for respecting and protecting health care must therefore always be at the heart of the Movement's concerns,

aware also of the uniqueness of the Movement's role in providing health care and humanitarian relief for victims of armed conflicts and other situations of violence,

deeply alarmed that the wounded and sick in armed conflict and other situations of violence do not receive the care and protection that they require, and frequently are denied health care through deliberate action or omission, or owing to serious disruptions in the provision of care and the delivery of medicines, medical equipment and other medical supplies,

equally alarmed at the frequent attacks committed against health care workers, facilities and transports, including those of the components of the Movement, and expressing in this regard its admiration for the unrelenting commitment of the staff and volunteers of the National Societies who give first aid and other health care to the wounded and sick,

deploring the misuse of medical establishments and other medical facilities and of the distinctive emblems to carry out military operations that place civilians, the wounded and sick, and health care personnel in danger,

emphasizing the importance of upholding at all times the rules of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

recalling in situations of armed conflict the prohibition of attacks directed at civilians or civilian objects, the prohibition of indiscriminate attacks, the principle of proportionality in attack, the obligation to take all feasible precautions in attack as well as against the effects of attack, and to protect and spare the civilian population,

recalling the obligation to respect and to protect health care personnel, including Red Cross and Red Crescent workers, their means of transport, as well as medical establishments and other medical facilities at all times, in accordance with international law,

recognizing the importance of health care personnel having access to any place where their services are required,

emphasizing that national implementation, training and education are prerequisites if States and their armed and security forces are to comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights laws, *highlighting* the importance for all State armed forces and organized armed groups of ensuring

that the relevant norms are implemented in military practice, *stressing* that the enforcement of relevant international legal regimes (in particular through the effective prosecution of relevant international crimes such as attacks on medical staff, transports and units) is required to put an end to impunity and to encourage future respect,

recalling the protective value of the distinctive emblems recognized by the Geneva Conventions and, where applicable, their Additional Protocols and *reaffirming* the obligation of parties to armed conflict to recognize, uphold and respect the emblems in all circumstances,

bearing in mind previous relevant resolutions on protecting health care and humanitarian relief and protecting the delivery of those services, in particular Resolution 12 on “Humanitarian assistance in situations of armed conflict” of the 1991 Council of Delegates, Resolution 2 on “The emblem” and Resolution 8 on “Peace, international humanitarian law and human rights” of the 1997 Council of Delegates and Resolution 3 on “Reaffirmation and implementation of international humanitarian law: Preserving human life and dignity in armed conflict” of the 30th International Conference of 2007,

emphasizing the importance of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in providing the necessary framework for action to help the wounded and sick in armed conflict and other situations of violence,

stressing the need for effective coordination among all those involved in delivering health care in order to allow safe passage for ambulances and other health services and supplies,

1. *calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts and all actors involved in other situations of violence to respect and ensure respect for health care personnel, premises and means of transport, and to take all measures to ensure safe and prompt access to health care;
2. *calls upon* all components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to take determined action and to bring their combined influence to bear should access to health care and its safe and prompt delivery be endangered or impeded in armed conflict or other situations of violence, and to adopt plans of action to ensure the protection of health care to the greatest extent possible;
3. *calls upon* the ICRC, with the assistance of the International Federation, to support the National Societies’ efforts to gain safe access to the wounded and sick and to others in need of health care in armed conflict and other situations of violence in order to meet their health needs and other vital requirements;
4. *calls upon* the ICRC, with the assistance of the International Federation and National Society partners, to contribute to strengthening the capacity of National Societies in countries affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence to provide health care to the wounded and sick;
5. *calls upon* the ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies to continue supporting and strengthening the capacity of health care facilities and personnel around the world;

6. *invites* the ICRC, in accordance with its mandate to protect and assist victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence, to continue to collect, if the circumstances permit, specific information on incidents impeding and endangering access to and delivery of health care, and to make representations to the parties to the conflict in order to remove any restrictions on the safe and prompt provision of healthcare;
7. *calls upon* the ICRC and National Societies, with the assistance of the International Federation, to increase their efforts to promote, disseminate and support the national implementation of humanitarian law and human rights obligations to respect and protect health care in armed conflict and other situations of violence;
8. *urges* the ICRC and the National Societies, with the assistance of their International Federation, to encourage and support governments in the adoption of relevant national implementation measures in their domestic law and practice – including legislation, regulations, administrative orders and practical measures – to ensure identification of medical personnel and facilities, protection of the distinctive emblems, dissemination and training in the field of international humanitarian law, and national repression of serious violations of relevant international norms in their domestic courts consistent with international law;
9. *urges* the ICRC and National Societies to encourage and support all armed forces in ensuring implementation of the relevant international humanitarian and human rights law into military doctrine and practice;
10. *calls upon* National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation to intensify efforts to ensure that the health care needs of the most vulnerable people are heard by those in a position to strengthen care for them and to ensure that the ability of civil society, in particular local communities, to strengthen health care is recognized;
11. *encourages* the ICRC, as well as National Societies with the support of the ICRC and the International Federation, to develop and promote campaigns to heighten the awareness of concerned authorities, armed and security forces, and local communities of the need for health care in armed conflict and other situations of violence and of the obligation under international law to respect and protect medical personnel, their transport and medical facilities;
12. *requests* the ICRC, in consultation with National Societies and the International Federation, to present a report, with recommendations, on the issue of health care in armed conflict and other situations of violence to the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2011.

Resolution 9

CODE FOR GOOD PARTNERSHIP OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Council of Delegates,

recalling Resolution 3 of the 2007 Council of Delegates, which welcomed the Code for Good Partnership initiative and encouraged all components of the Movement to further develop this Code,

welcoming with appreciation the adoption of the Code for Good Partnership by the 2009 General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,

taking note with appreciation of the consultation with National Societies and work conducted by the task force members, in particular of the Colombian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross, Mozambique Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, the International Federation, and the ICRC to develop this Code,

reaffirming the importance of the Code to complement already existing policies, to improve and strengthen the Movement as a whole and each Movement component individually, to set commitments and minimum standards of behaviour in working together more efficiently and effectively,

bearing in mind the need to continuously promote the Code to ensure implementation, accountability and compliance towards the stated commitments,

1. *urges* National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC to adopt the “Code for Good Partnership of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement”;
2. *urges* National Societies, the International Federation, and the ICRC to state their individual and collective commitment to implement the Code and to participate in the monitoring and compliance mechanism;
3. *calls upon* all components of the Movement to report back and share experiences in complying with the Code to the next Council of Delegates;
4. *invites* the task force members to consider any further comments on the Code to ensure its implementation and compliance.

Code for Good Partnership of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Preamble

Respectful behaviour is key to successful partnerships which are needed to ‘prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found’.¹ This Code for Good

¹ Preamble of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, *adopted by the 25th International Conference of the Red Cross in Geneva in 1986, amended in 1995 and 2006.*

Partnership (the Code) sets out commitments and minimum standards of behaviour in partnerships. By adhering to this Code, components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) commit to strengthen their partnerships, and work together more efficiently and effectively.

The Code builds on the Fundamental Principles, the Statutes of the Movement and its policy framework, taking into account the specific mandates and nature of the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field and the mandates of the ICRC and of the International Federation.

In the spirit of mutual respect, Movement components will apply this Code to all their partnerships to realize a common goal. The partners recognize that more can be achieved by combining their different capacities and having shared and individual responsibilities.

Institutional partnerships are ultimately about relationships between people. Successful implementation requires that all staff and volunteers understand and adhere to it. Leaders have a particular role to act responsibly by following and promoting the Code.

The Code is a practical and dynamic tool that facilitates continuous learning and development.

Commitment to implement the Code, includes participating in its monitoring and compliance mechanism, and sharing experiences.

The Code has been adopted by the Council of Delegates. Each component of the Movement will subsequently record its individual commitment to practical steps it will take to implement and further develop the Code.

Commitment one: Respect and empower vulnerable people

Respecting the needs and dignity of vulnerable people in all our activities

Indicators

- Vulnerable people are recognized and empowered as stakeholders, and their needs and capacities are key to prioritizing our activities.
- The active participation of vulnerable people is sought in all stages of programme planning and implementation.
- National and local networks are strengthened to support the people and communities.

Commitment two: Practice diversity and cultural sensitivity

Diversity, cultural awareness and sensitivity are key to making partnership work.

Indicators

- Behaviour in partnerships values diversity, cultural awareness and sensitivity respecting Fundamental Principles.
- Differences in organizational cultures are recognized and respected as far as they are compatible with the Fundamental Principles.

Commitment three: Ensure integrity

Integrity enables good partnership and effective programming.

Indicators

- Partners comply with Movement resolutions and their own declared objectives, policies, rules and regulations in full accordance with the Fundamental Principles.
- Partners ensure legal compliance, effective governance, responsible fundraising and strong financial oversight.
- Openness and transparency are demonstrated regarding strategies, financial and human resources management, communications, and service delivery.
- Accountability towards beneficiaries, affected populations, the public and donors is actively promoted.

Commitment four: Work together as partners within the Movement

Working in partnership is a collective and individual responsibility strengthening all components of the Movement.

Indicators

- The different mandates of Movement components and the role of each National Society in its own country are respected and mutually supported.
- Partners work within a common Movement policy framework and implement the statutory and operational decisions.
- Partners establish and actively participate in coordination and communication mechanisms at different levels.
- Partners' capacities are mutually strengthened, improving the capacity of the Movement.

Commitment five: Cooperate with actors outside the Movement

Cooperation with actors outside the Movement is sought when it improves the lives of vulnerable people and is in compliance with the Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

Indicators

- Partners dialogue and coordinate with actors outside the Movement, in particular with the respective States, taking into account the specific nature of the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field.
- Partners engage with actors outside the Movement to influence decision-makers and the public on the basis of the Fundamental Principles.
- Partners build relations outside the Movement to mobilize resources to improve the lives of vulnerable people.

Implementing the Code

The implementation process, which includes the following elements, consists of a continuous cycle:

Commitment

Each Movement component expresses its political will to adhere to this Code and to allocate resources to enable the application, monitoring, reporting and learning. Movement components that endorse this Code are recognized as being “committed to the Code for Good Partnership”.

Application

In applying the Code, each Movement component considers the following steps at organizational level:

- The Code is reflected in organizational strategies, policies, programmes and services.
- The Code becomes an integral part of human resource management, including staff and volunteers regulations, job descriptions, briefing and training to all staff and volunteers.

For each partnership arrangement, partners apply the Code context specific. In doing so, the following actions, among others, are taken:

The Code is:

- applied in all Movement dialogue and negotiations,
- used to recognize the different capacities of partners,
- used to strengthen the skills and capacities to work in partnership,

- integrated in any Movement cooperation and coordination mechanism,
- explicitly incorporated in all agreements between Movement partners,
- integrated into all meetings and initiatives taken by Movement partners,
- promoted in cooperation with external partners.

Monitoring and compliance mechanisms

The Code serves as a framework for this process and provides indicators to analyse and review the partnership. Impact assessment is based upon regular and systematic monitoring of partnership performance against this Code.

Partners define monitoring and compliance mechanisms and adapt them to different contexts and needs of their partnerships.

Monitoring is a voluntary process to ensure continuous improvement and organizational learning through review of achievements against objectives as set in agreements. Monitoring entails self-monitoring, dialogue, peer review and other forms of review.

Problems related to lack of compliance of the Code should be resolved among the partners, and advice may be sought from peers.

Reporting, learning and development

The partners carry out reporting as stated in their partnership agreement. The purpose of reporting is to share good practices among the Movement, including through a website.

Committed partners constitute a task force at a global level to support the implementation of the Code by advancing continuous learning and development. The task force, among others, promotes the Code, collects good practices and experiences, publishes lessons learnt, and lists good practitioners.

The International Federation has a specific responsibility to support its members in implementing the Code. The International Federation and the ICRC will compile reports on the implementation of the Code to each Council of Delegates.

Resolution 10

DATE AND PLACE OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,

decides to meet in Geneva, Switzerland on dates to be determined by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and falling between 10 November and 2 December 2011.

Resolution 11

APPRECIATION TO THE KENYA RED CROSS SOCIETY

The Council of Delegates,
meeting 150 years after the Battle of Solferino, which gave birth to the Red Cross and Red Crescent,
gathered in Nairobi for the first ever Council of Delegates organized in Africa,
expresses its deep gratitude and appreciation to the Kenya Red Cross Society, and in particular to its volunteers, staff members, Governor Mr Paul Birech, and Secretary-General Mr Abbas Gullet, for their wonderful hospitality and for their unfailing contribution to the success of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement meetings held in Nairobi on 17–25 November 2009.