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**32nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT**

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**Implementation of the Resolution 3 of the 31st International
Conference “Migration: Ensuring access, dignity,
respect for diversity and social inclusion”**

**Progress report
(2011-2015)**

**Document prepared by Australian Red Cross
in cooperation with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
and the International Committee of the Red Cross**

Geneva, October 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has a long standing commitment to work with governments, host populations and migrant communities to meet the humanitarian needs of vulnerable migrants. This commitment was formally elaborated in the International Federation's Migration Policy in 2009 and recalled by States in Resolution 3 adopted at the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in 2011. This Resolution in turn responded to the earlier Declaration adopted by the 30th Conference, Together for Humanity, which noted "the importance of examining ways and means to reinforce international cooperation at all levels to address the humanitarian concerns generated by international migration."

This report provides an overview of progress made by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement [the Movement - comprised of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and National Societies], and States in implementing the 31st International Conference's Resolution 3 on Migration: *Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion* during the period 2011-2015.

With the growing plight of vulnerable migrants, Resolution 3 remains relevant and it is vital that the Movement and States continue to promote the implementation process. States should maintain and increase their efforts to protect the dignity and ensure the safety of all migrants as well as their access to relevant services. The Movement, by virtue of its expertise and its presence along the migration routes, is able and committed to contribute to addressing the humanitarian needs of vulnerable migrants. There is a critical need to cooperate closely within and outside the Movement to ensure access to humanitarian services and protection for vulnerable persons throughout the entire migration route in countries of origin, transit and destination.

Significant achievements 2011-2015¹

While some progress has been noted and is highlighted below, it is important to note that it is limited and relative, due to the small number of National Societies and States that have responded to the survey. The current findings are based on questionnaire responses from 47 National Societies and 22 States.

Access by National Societies to migrants without discrimination and irrespective of legal status

The majority of National Societies that provided information for the review of the implementation of Resolution 3 on Migration reported sufficient access to migrants, irrespective of their legal status, though some noted that their right to this access had not been formalized by any legal agreement with public authorities. States noted compliance with their obligations stemming from international conventions and agreements relevant to migration with a small number reporting unrestricted access of National Societies to all migrants.

Migrants access to appropriate international protection and relevant services

¹ Findings are based on IFRC 2013 Progress Report, 2015 questionnaire responses from 47 National Societies and 22 States, previous research by Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO) and the Asian Pacific Migration Network (APMN), and recent consultations through the Migration Coordination Cell in 2015 (Migration Cell), hosted by the Federation Secretariat in Geneva and made of experts from National Societies and IFRC with the support of the ICRC. More concrete mapping is required to fully report on overall progress as responses to the 2015 questionnaire are not statistically significant (25 per cent of National Societies and 12 per cent of States).

There are instances of significant progress to guarantee that national procedures, especially those that may result in a denial of access to international protection, as appropriate, include adequate safeguards to protect the dignity and ensure the safety of migrants. In this regard, a number of National Societies have assisted authorities in analysis, planning and service provision. However, limited resources are a factor for National Societies that are committed to implementing Resolution 3. In some States, the operationalization of international and other forms of protection, as well as access to humanitarian services has been limited due to lack of fair and efficient status determination procedures and adequate safeguards. This has challenged efforts to guarantee respect for the fundamental rights of all migrants, irrespective of their legal status, in accordance with applicable international law and domestic law. Detention of migrants remains all too frequent, as the automatic response to irregular migrants rather than first considering alternatives to detention. Fifty-six States in the 2013 survey and 14 States in the 2015 survey reported action had been taken to implement protection safeguards.

Promotion of social inclusion

National Societies have expanded and adjusted programmes to meet the growing needs of vulnerable migrants, including the promotion of social inclusion with activities ranging from targeted education, awareness raising, capacity building with civil society organizations (CSO) and humanitarian diplomacy with governments. Funding is often a limiting factor. Social fragmentation is evidenced in many States through barriers to family reunion, employment and essential services. A number of States reported social inclusion measures, with some programs to assist returning nationals to reintegrate back into society.

Collaboration and partnerships

Collaboration and partnerships with governments, multilateral organizations and CSOs have been established and are recognized as central for ongoing success. Some National Societies are working effectively on regional approaches. The private sector is recognized by some National Societies as offering the potential to advance the integration of migrants through employment opportunities, expanding use of modern technologies, and sharing distribution channels in support of humanitarian action.

Priority areas for renewed focus:

All core elements of Resolution 3 remain relevant in view of the increasing humanitarian needs of migrants. The following priority areas are highlighted to strengthen the ongoing implementation of this Resolution.

- States are reminded, in line with relevant international law, of their responsibility to ensure that their national legislation and procedures at international borders include adequate safeguards to protect the safety and dignity of migrants. States are also called on to comply with their obligation to grant appropriate international protection to those entitled thereto, in line with applicable international and domestic law, and to ensure the access of migrants to relevant services.
- The Movement will prioritize and strengthen cooperation and coordination in addressing the humanitarian needs of all vulnerable migrants, irrespective of their legal status, while recognizing the special protection afforded to certain categories of people such as refugees and asylum seekers under international and domestic law.
- The Movement is committed to continuing to strengthen its global reach through joint planning, mapping and analysis.
- The Movement will continue to invest in capacity building to build awareness, peer-to-peer learning and opportunities to address localized, regional and international needs and vulnerabilities.

- The Movement should deepen its engagement and enhance partnerships with public authorities and migrant and host communities to ensure effective planning and responsiveness to the humanitarian needs of vulnerable migrants.

1. Introduction

This Progress Report provides an overview of the progress made by the Movement and States in the implementation of the 31st International Conference's Resolution 3 on Migration (*Migration: Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion*). It is submitted pursuant to Article 5 of that Resolution. This report builds on the mid-term report prepared by the IFRC in 2013 for the period 2011- 2013.

The 31st International Conference provided an opportunity for discussion among components of the Movement and States about ways to fulfil commitments made at the 30th International Conference in 2007 with regard to the humanitarian consequences of migration. The Declaration "*Together for Humanity*," adopted at the 30th International Conference, called for "international cooperation at all levels to address the humanitarian concerns generated by international migration." In the Declaration participants also resolved to intensify efforts to "mobilize community respect for diversity and action against racism, discrimination, xenophobia, marginalization and other forms of exclusion faced by all vulnerable groups."

There has been much progress since 2011 by some States and National Societies to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable migrants. At the same time, the Movement remains concerned that there continues to be vulnerable migrants who live outside conventional health, social and legal systems, and, that, for a variety of reasons, still do not have access to processes which guarantee respect for their fundamental rights.

This 2015 Progress Report begins with some background information and is then organized on the basis of the four operational paragraphs of Resolution 3 on Migration:

- **Operational Paragraph 1:** Promoting humanitarian access for and to migrants
- **Operational Paragraph 2:** States grant migrants access to appropriate international protection and ensure their access to relevant services
- **Operational Paragraph 3:** Cooperation to promote social inclusion of migrants through cultural awareness, humanitarian values, and engagement with civil society organizations
- **Operational Paragraph 4:** Establishing partnerships.

2. Background

The Movement has a long standing tradition of working with and assisting vulnerable migrants, underpinned by our Fundamental Principles. The focus of the Movement is on the vulnerabilities and potential of migrant communities, irrespective of their legal status, and emphasizes the importance of recognizing each migrant's aspirations and rights.

Due to its global presence in countries of origin, transit and destination the Movement can help bridge existing protection and assistance gaps arising throughout the journey. In addition, many National Societies have made long standing efforts to address discriminatory and exploitative practices to ensure social cohesion of migrants, including addressing their isolation and marginalization.

The Movement recognizes migration across global migration routes as a priority in the context of increasing numbers of migrants who are in need of protection and assistance.

In order to build on this tradition and potential, in 2009, the IFRC's General Assembly adopted a Policy on Migration, requesting National Societies to align their activities under it with support from the IFRC. That year, Resolution 4 of the Council of Delegates welcomed the IFRC's new policy and called for continued cooperation between all components of the Movement to ensure its implementation.

The Policy's description of migrants is deliberately broad, due to the desire to capture the full extent of humanitarian concerns related to migration. Migrants are considered to include 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. The IFRC Policy on Migration includes, among others, labour migrants, stateless persons, migrants deemed irregular by public authorities, as well as refugees and asylum seekers, while recognizing the specific rights of different categories under international and domestic law.

In 2011, the 31st International Conference offered States and the Movement the opportunity to develop concrete action plans and resolutions regarding migration based on the humanitarian commitments discussed at the 30th International Conference and drawing on the areas of focus in the Policy. Conference participants adopted Resolution 3, "Migration: Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion," which encouraged States "to ensure that their national procedures at international borders, especially those that might result in denial of access to international protection, deportation or interdiction of persons, include adequate safeguards to protect the dignity and ensure the safety of all migrants".²

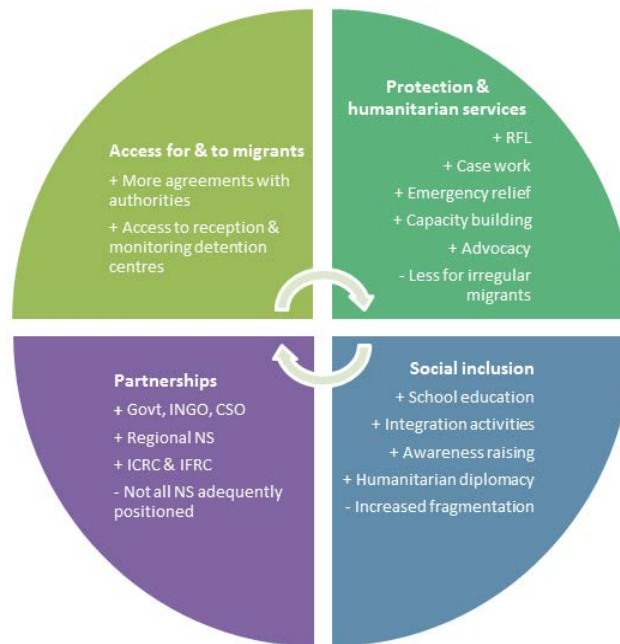
States were further requested to take legal and procedural steps to guarantee that National Societies would be able to access migrants, regardless of their legal status, as well as to: provide assistance and protection; uphold the fundamental rights of migrants; ensure that border security—particularly those procedures that result in denial of entry or access to asylum procedures, deportation, or interdiction—safeguard the safety, well-being and dignity of migrants; and develop partnerships to strengthen humanitarian services available to vulnerable migrants. In addition, conference members were invited to submit voluntary pledges to undertake specific actions, individually or in partnership, that further the objectives of the Resolution.

The Policy on Migration and Resolution 3 on Migration have been widely disseminated during the intervening period and interim progress reporting was prepared for the Movement statutory meetings of 2013.

As we mark the 50th Anniversary of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement it is appropriate to recognize the key role they play in guiding the activities of the Movement in the area of migration, to protect the life and health of human beings, and promote dignity and respect. The Fundamental Principles provide an operational framework that allows the Movement to respond to humanitarian concerns along the migratory routes, embedding our neutrality in our activities – by not taking sides, and ensuring impartiality by addressing needs according to vulnerability. The principles of unity and universality reinforce the Movement's local and global reach while the principle of Independence speaks to a particular relationship with government as auxiliaries in the humanitarian field, able to add value to the work but acting autonomously in accordance with the Principles. Our global network of volunteers whose only motivation is humanitarian, provide compassion and support to the most vulnerable migrants.

² IFRC (2011), "[Migration: Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion](#)", Resolution, 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Geneva, 28 Nov. - 1 Dec., (page 2)

Snapshot of progress 2011 - 2015



3. Progress on Resolution 3 on Migration

Resolution 3 on Migration has raised the profile of migration within the Movement and built significant momentum on this global concern. More concrete mapping would be required to fully report on overall progress as responses to the 2015 questionnaire are not statistically significant (25 per cent of National Societies and 12 per cent of States). In addition to these responses, this report draws upon the interim 'Progress Report on the Implementation of the Resolution 3 on Migration and Migration Pledges, 2011-2013,' research by Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO) and the Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN), and recent consultations through the Migration Coordination Cell, chaired by the IFRC.

The 2013 interim Progress Report identified a range of practical steps, challenges and recommendations identified by National Societies and States relating to its implementation.³ National Societies acknowledged growing interest in migration issues, recognized an increase in cooperation with and by governments to address needs of vulnerable migrants, emphasized their dedication to humanitarian public policies that advocate for the rights of migrants, and highlighted an increase in the provision of services available to migrants in some countries.

Although the 2013 Progress Report identified a number of actions taken by National Societies it recommended further improvements and more innovative approaches to protecting the rights of migrants, particularly those irregularly in a country. National Societies identified challenges around the terminology and framing used to describe migrants, noting

³ International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent (IFRC), *Progress Report on the Implementation of the Resolution 3 on Migration and Migration Pledges, 2011-2013 (2013)*

that terms such as 'illegal' and 'security threats' accompanied more restrictive asylum policies and made access and the delivery of humanitarian services to migrants difficult.⁴

The 2013 report also noted that a number of States do not provide adequate protection to irregular migrants at international borders and on their territories, with some using detention as a deterrent or not allowing migrants access to services through various policies and legislation.

Operational Paragraph 1: Promoting humanitarian access for and to migrants

Overall, progress has been made in promoting humanitarian access for and to migrants, as a majority of National Societies reported they had sufficient access to migrants irrespective of their legal status, with some noting that no formal legal agreement was in place with public authorities.

Some National Societies reported to have established agreements and/or engaged in dialogue with public authorities on the issue of access and provision of services to vulnerable migrants. Co-operation agreements between National Societies and States, highlight an encouraging step for many in terms of access to migrants in detention, ensuring the rights of all vulnerable migrants, and access to - or provision of - services. See Colombian Red Cross box.

Colombian Red Cross Society

In 2013, the Cundinamarca Red Cross branch signed an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide emergency assistance to migrants in the country when they arrive in Bogotá, with special emphasis on border areas.

Family separation in relation to migration has become the primary source of concern for the Family Links Network (FLN) of the Movement (see box below). According to the Progress Report on the Restoring Family Links (RFL) Strategy,⁵ it is imperative to continue building a more coherent and effective collective response, including in situations of emergencies affecting migrants. Despite a growing number of National Societies having agreements in place with authorities recognizing their role in RFL, it is essential to achieve better integration of RFL services in the National Societies' role as auxiliaries to public authorities, as well as in authorities' national emergency preparedness and response plans. The FLN should take stock of the experience of such agreements and plans in order to better define the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder involved in the prevention and treatment of family separations amongst vulnerable migrants, including the establishment of more effective coordinating mechanisms.

Ensuring respect for and protecting the human rights of all people

The Migration Law was published in the Official Gazette of **Mexico** (DOF) on 25 May 2011. This law regulates migration with a focus on ensuring respect for and protecting the human rights of Mexican and foreign migrants, regardless of their origin, nationality, sex, ethnic background, age and immigration status, and with special emphasis on vulnerable groups. It recognizes the right of migrants to receive any kind of public and private-sector medical care, regardless of their immigration status, and to receive emergency life-saving medical attention free of charge.

A positive example of unrestricted access to migrants is the **Italian Red Cross's** response to the situation in the Mediterranean. With over 54,660 migrants arriving irregularly by boat within the first six months of 2015, IRC staff and volunteers are collectively assisting migrants arriving at port, by providing lifesaving interventions such as first aid and health information, psycho-social support, relief distribution and RFL.⁶ This has been made

⁴ IFRC (2013), page 47

⁵ Progress Report for 2012-2015 on the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (2008-2018), Council of Delegates 2015

⁶ International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent (IFRC), *Emergency appeal operations update Italy: Population Movement*, 2015

possible through support from the ICRC, IFRC, and partnerships with other National Societies. Likewise, the **Moroccan Red Crescent** has launched a humanitarian assistance campaign in cooperation with the Ministry of Moroccan Expatriates and Migration Affairs. This campaign was launched in November 2014 and is still ongoing.

The Family Links Network (FLN), made up of the RFL services of the ICRC and 189 National Societies, helps prevent people from disappearing or getting separated, and works to restore and maintain contact between family members when and wherever possible. It also tries to help people find out what happened to loved ones reported missing. To better serve migrants and their families, the FLN has adjusted its services to their specific needs, to the challenges of RFL across numerous borders and to the complexities related to missing migrants and the consequences for their families as well as working with persons in transit. In recent years, this adjustment has been accompanied by a growing number of RFL initiatives.

The ICRC's work in immigration detention includes monitoring and seeking to improve treatment, conditions and respect for due process of law through constructive dialogue with and support to authorities. In addition, it provides RFL services and assistance where those are needed. ICRC supports the work of National Societies by organizing workshops on immigration-related detention, exploring best practices and ways the Movement can help detained migrants more effectively. In armed conflict, the ICRC continuously seeks, through a bilateral and confidential dialogue, to ensure that all authorities, including non-State actors, comply with their obligations under domestic and international law to protect the lives, preserve the dignity and alleviate the suffering of all civilians, including vulnerable migrants.

Operational Paragraph 2: States grant migrants access to appropriate international protection and ensure their access to relevant services

The 2013 interim report found that the provision of humanitarian services to migrants had improved as a result of increased partnerships between National Societies and governments. The provision of these services is primarily the responsibility of States. National Societies as auxiliaries should not be relied on as the main service providers. The independence of National Societies and in particular their role as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field is an important element that can create a framework for a working relationship between the Movement and governments, always in accordance with the Fundamental Principles.

Forty-seven National Societies reported steps had been taken to encourage governments to ensure safeguards were in place to protect migrants, and 56 States reported that action had been taken to ensure protection at international borders and more generally the access to services.⁷

Working with Public Authorities

The British Red Cross is working closely with the UK Home Office to streamline and customize the family reunion application form. Presently, applications are made using a form not specifically related to family reunion, which has caused families great difficulty. Additionally, the British Red Cross is assisting the Home Office in the development of new guidance by providing examples of cases that require clarification. This includes complex cases such as adoption and de facto adoption.

⁷ IFRC (2013)

In this current 2015 Progress Report, 20 National Societies and 14 States noted action had been taken to ensure safeguards at international borders. Some National Societies reported they faced challenges when accessing and providing support to migrants especially in detention. In addition, some authorities use detention as a preferred solution while processing asylum claims, in some cases leaving people without access to family reunification, health care and legal assistance.

Positive examples include the **French Red Cross**, which has an emergency humanitarian reception centre open through the night in the waiting area of Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport, and a refugee service at Roissy Airport to receive and advise persons in the waiting area. **Luxembourg Red Cross** noted its role in providing humanitarian assistance to persons requesting asylum. In **Ecuador**, government legislation states that a person cannot be deemed irregular due only to his or her immigration status. The State's concerns around human mobility are being addressed through the United Nations post-2015 Development Agenda, with emphasis on a development vision that rethinks migration in a comprehensive way for migrant-sending societies and migrant-receiving societies. In **Argentina**, the State has reported that its migration policy has shifted away from state centric security, towards a more human rights based approach to migrants. This approach to regular and irregular movement, not only puts humanitarian concerns at the forefront of national security; it also removes barriers to humanitarian assistance and protection to migrants at risk. The **Belgian Red Cross and German Red Cross** shared information on their art therapy support programme for migrant women who are highly vulnerable from experiences such as torture or trauma, highlighting the benefits of using art as therapy.

Operational Paragraph 3: Cooperation to promote social inclusion of migrants through cultural awareness, humanitarian values, and engagement with civil society organizations

A number of National Societies reported an increase in xenophobia and racism in some communities, often leaving those already marginalized in societies, including victims of forced labour and trafficking, in a precarious situation.⁸

The 2013 Progress Report noted that 49 National Societies had taken steps to promote enhanced cooperation with public authorities to promote respect for diversity. Programmes, campaigns, volunteering activities and community engagement frameworks have been developed to enhance respect for diversity, cultural awareness, and benefit the livelihoods, health and well-being of migrants.

In 2015, many, but not all National Societies, reported having engaged in the promotion of social inclusion with public authorities. **Polish Red Cross** highlighted its public awareness campaigns on migrant rights. Others acknowledged an increase in school education programmes related to tolerance and cultural competency building workshops with employers of migrant workers.

A number of National Societies reported that they are engaged in the delivery of capacity building in psychosocial support and casework practice. **Australian Red Cross** noted the leadership role it plays in sector development by hosting practitioner forums and sharing good practice guides as well as delivering schools education to address myths and misconceptions about the issues faced by people seeking asylum.

Although National Societies have made contributions to the development and advocacy of social inclusion of migrants, irrespective of their legal status, it was reported that social fragmentation is still demonstrated through continued barriers to employment and essential services. Some National Societies reported greater levels of stigmatization of migrants,

⁸ IFRC (2013), 26.

which may be attributed to more restrictive government policies and how particular migrant groups are portrayed to the public. As a means to foster social inclusion and access to the labour market, **New Zealand Red Cross** launched a new national employment service in partnership with the government, to support resettled refugees to enter employment, assisting 107 people into jobs since its inception in 2014. Amongst other commitments, **PERCO's** strategy 2015-2016 prioritises eliminating xenophobia and racism towards migrants, and addressing challenges linked to integration and social inclusion.⁹ **The 12th San Marino Mediterranean Conference of Red Cross Red Crescent**, agreed to engage public authorities on the plight of migrants along the migratory route and on the importance of assisting those made vulnerable as a result of this movement.¹⁰

As an example of supporting people made vulnerable through statelessness, **Turkey** provides a Stateless Person identity card, which is distributed to stateless persons to enable mobility and work rights and avoid deportation. The **British Red Cross** reported on its advocacy work around the "Azure Card," a government provided form of cashless support for asylum seekers who were unsuccessful in their protection claims.

Partnerships to better protect vulnerable migrants

'Rights of Migrants in Action' is a 42-month long project designed to promote and protect the human rights of migrants. Co-funded by IFRC and the European Union, the initiative aims to build and strengthen relationships between CSOs, through sharing experiences, achieving common goals and developing quality services that benefit migrants, particularly the most vulnerable groups including victims of human trafficking, migrant domestic workers, women and children. Fifteen countries are participating in the globally coordinated civil society action.

Operational Paragraph 4: Establishing partnerships

Establishing partnerships and strengthening relationships between all components of the Movement, States and national, international non-government organizations (INGO) and CSOs, is more important than ever to ensure the dignity and well-being of all migrants.

In the 2013 Progress Report, almost all National Societies stated they were cooperating with key international organizations including UNHCR, IOM and ILO to better protect migrants at risk. Stronger partnerships were acknowledged between national governments on migration issues, as was an increase in CSOs working together with National Societies to promote social inclusion and diversity. However, many National Societies highlighted the need for stronger external engagement from INGOs to cooperate with National Societies when advocating with government on the humanitarian needs of vulnerable migrants along the migratory route.¹¹

In the period 2013-2015, partnerships have continued to progress around programme development, service delivery and protection mechanisms designed to support migrants at risk. **Australian Red Cross** and **Bulgarian Red Cross** have both strengthened relationships with their respective governments that support the monitoring of migrants in detention. **Belgian Red Cross** has focused on community awareness campaigns and education initiatives with government agencies in order to strengthen support for the rights and protection of migrants and **Uzbekistan Red Cross** has collaborated with IOM to support victims of human trafficking. **American Red Cross** has formed stronger partnerships with

⁹ PERCO, *Strategy 2015-2016* (2015)

¹⁰ RCRC, Article on the Conference in San Marino (2015)

¹¹ IFRC (2013)

organizations working to identify migrant remains, so that when it is contacted to help reconnect families abroad with a missing migrant, they can refer the families to these partners for assistance.

National Societies have also collaborated amongst themselves to share information and work together on joint initiatives guided by the principle of universality, and the mandate of the Resolution. **PERCO and the APMN** (see box) highlight the benefits of collaborative progress through regional platforms.

The **IFRC South-East Asia Delegation** is supporting National Societies to collaborate with governments and CSOs. In addition, **Hellenic Red Cross** has distributed emergency relief for migrants arriving to its islands through close collaboration with IFRC, ICRC, Hellenic Ministry of Internal Affairs and other Greek authorities, IOM, UNHCR, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Médecins du Monde (MDM).

The Red Cross Red Crescent **Doha Dialogue on Migration** is a series of events hosted throughout Asia Pacific and the Middle East North Africa. The events brought together a range of stakeholders involved in labour migration including humanitarian organisations, non-governmental organizations, government, academics, research institutions and more, with the aim to address best practices and methods of collaboration. The goal was to also evaluate ways to improve relevant labour laws, policies and programmes to protect the rights and interests of expatriate workers. As part of the Doha Dialogue, the Manila Conference on Labour Migration took place over two days in the Philippines, from 12-13 May 2015. Hosted by the **Philippine Red Cross** and IFRC, the event emphasized the importance of reducing vulnerabilities of women working as domestic workers through engaging a range of stakeholders.

4. Conclusion

Resolution 3 on Migration highlighted the Movement's concern to provide "more coherent, comprehensive, and better-coordinated approaches of the Movement and States in addressing the humanitarian and protection needs of vulnerable migrants and in working with migrants and host communities towards respect for diversity and social inclusion".¹²

The four-year life of Resolution 3 on Migration has seen the Movement better comprehend the issue and developing a large range of activities contributing to the humanitarian response and progress has been made in partnership particularly with local authorities.

Asia Pacific Migration Network

The APMN was established in 2012 as a regional platform for National Societies to explore critical issues, develop actions and contribute to a growing body of knowledge for the benefit of migrants.

The recently drafted APMN Foundation Paper, 'Migration Issues in the Asia Pacific' describes key migration concerns for the region relating to migration, including:

- The Asia Pacific region has one of the highest levels of migration in the world, including the highest level of irregular movements, with approximately 43 per cent of Asian migrants estimated to migrate between neighbouring borders (IOM).
- Based on survey responses from 26 out of 39 National Societies, 86 per cent of National Societies reported migrant workers were the migrant group of greatest concern.
- Migration was identified as an emerging priority for most national societies in the region. National Societies identified significant barriers to assisting migrants include resources, support and information.

Research has highlighted where further work can be carried out between National Societies and with guidance from the Movement, to ensure the rights of migrants in the region are protected.

However, the response needs to intensify in order to realize the intent of the Resolution and it is essential that States continue to establish and enforce laws that provide National Societies with effective and safe access to all migrants and migrants with adequate safeguards to protect their dignity and ensure their safety and their access to relevant services.

The Movement has strengthened collaborative ways of working through regional approaches focusing on platforms in the Caribbean, Central America, Central Asia, Russia, Centre for Cooperation (CCM) Mediterranean platform, APMN, PERCO, and the IFRC Migration Coordination Cell.

With National Societies in 189 countries, representing almost every origin, transit and destination country, it is incumbent upon the Movement to implement a coordinated, principled and collaborative global approach to addressing the vulnerabilities of migrants.

The development of a strategic plan, informed by more in-depth progress mapping, will build on the outcomes to date and assist in harnessing our efforts to ensure a more focused approach.

Working alongside and in partnership with others in line with our Fundamental Principles provides the Movement with the opportunity to build on our expertise in the field of migration, identify strategic responses, advise on essential services and deliver support. The scale of humanitarian needs and types of intervention require us to work closely with policy makers and influencers.

Our success in enhancing social cohesion necessitates collaboration with public authorities at all levels and local communities to pursue inclusion and practical actions in formal and informal settings.

Migrants approach us voluntarily having identified Movement actors as key supporters of their humanitarian and protection needs. National Societies are uniquely placed along the migration routes as a primary interface at key transition points; providing essential assistance, collecting information to deepen comprehension of the migration experience, building capacity and engaging in humanitarian diplomacy as a respected auxiliary to the public authorities. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's relationships with people over time, across the globe and in diverse situations, allow us to see the vulnerability, strength and potential of migrants and on this basis work towards respect for migrants' fundamental rights.

Appendix 1: Key IFRC documents on migration

Policy on Migration

The 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. 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.

Available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), German – [unofficial translation](#), and Russian - [unofficial translation](#)

The 10 Migration principles

Available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#).

Brief: overview of IFRC Policy on Migration. Available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#)

Migration at the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

The 31st Conference presented an opportunity for States and components of the Movement to debate the main issues, threats and vulnerabilities currently affecting migrants all over the world. Members of the Conference (National Societies, States, the IFRC, the ICRC and States Parties to the Geneva Conventions) Members of the Conference adopted a resolution that recognised the important role of the Movement on migration issues.

The Migration Resolution available in [Arabic](#) , [English](#) , [French](#) , [Spanish](#) , German – [unofficial translation](#)

Migration Reference Document. Available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#)

[Background Document for the 31st International Conference](#)

Pledges made during the International Conference by national governments
<http://www.icrc.org/pledges>

Migration Commission: [Concept Note](#) ; Report of the [morning session](#) ; Report of the [afternoon session](#) ; [Overall Report](#) on the work of the Conference

Progress Report on the implementation of the Resolution 3 on Migration and Migration Pledges 2011 to 2013.

Appendix 2: Questionnaire on the Implementation of Resolutions and Pledges of the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent - For National Societies

Please reply before 30th of June 2015

Resolution 9 of the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent requests the ICRC and the International Federation to report on the follow up by all Conference members to the resolutions and pledges of the 31st International Conference. This questionnaire is intended to facilitate the reporting by the National Societies on actions taken and progress made since 2011 to date. State authorities are receiving a similar questionnaire.

Please note that this questionnaire is part of a formal request for information which will feed into an implementation report that will be submitted to the 32nd International Conference in December 2015. This report, based on the feedback received will be compiled by the ICRC and the International Federation.

It is however our aim to complement this traditional reporting mechanism with a more personalised approach both in outreach and in the products we may produce. In order to include more individual voices into our reporting we would like to hold telephone interviews and thus to gain more insight into your experience. If you are available for an interview on a topic related to the 31st International Conference outcomes please inform us of a contact person in your institution. Also if you have other related materials, such as links to project websites or social media content, narratives, photos or short videos portraying programmes or campaigns that you would like to share please include them in the same response with this questionnaire.

The questionnaire can be completed electronically in English, French, Spanish, Arabic or Russian.

Please return the questionnaire electronically or as a hard copy to the following address:

International Committee of the Red Cross
Division for Cooperation and
Coordination within the Movement
19, avenue de la Paix, CH-1202
Geneva
Switzerland

OR

International Federation of Red Cross and
Red Crescent Societies
Governance Support, Policy
Implementation and Oversight Department
P.O. 372, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Email: reporting@rcrcconference.org
Tel: + 49 176 61088727

Resolution 3 – Migration: Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion

- For your reference please see the full text of the resolution on: http://www.rcrcconference.org/docs_upl/en/R3_Migration_EN.pdf
- We would like to encourage you to share highlights, lessons learned and recommendations as well as challenges you may have faced implementing this resolution.
- In case you would like to share more information on this topic in a personal interview please inform us who we can contact in your institution!

1. How do national laws and procedures in your country grant (or not) your National Society access to migrants irrespective of their legal status?

Please describe:

2. Which are the opportunities and challenges your National Society encounters in practice in accessing migrants irrespective of their legal status?

Please describe:

3. Has your Government adopted legislation which includes adequate safeguards in accordance with international law, and does it grant migrants appropriate protection and access to relevant services (including Restoring Family Links)? Has your National Society been consulted in the policy process and what were the results?

Yes

No

Please describe:

4. Which activities have there been in cooperation between public authorities and your National Society in regards notably to the promotion of respect for diversity, non-violence and social inclusion of all migrants.

Please describe concrete examples or comment on respective challenges:

5. In which areas have there been collaboration or partnerships between your National Society and public authorities, international Organizations, non-governmental Organizations or the private sector in the area of working with migrants?

Please describe or comment on challenges: