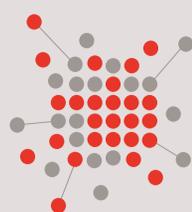


The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent:

Strengthening disaster laws



Power of humanity

32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
8-10 December 2015, Geneva



International assistance is crucial for the recovery of communities affected by major disasters. Unfortunately, aid does not always reach those in need as promptly as it should. Relief efforts are often held up by a number of issues, usually related to entry visas, registration of personnel, customs clearance and transport permits.

These problems are getting worse. Strong and pertinent legislation is critical for reducing disaster risks. The law can either be of great help in various areas – early warning, financing, community empowerment and accountability – or it can be obstructive. Supportive legislation concerning first-aid training is also essential, to ensure that large parts of the population are properly trained and willing to provide assistance in an emergency.

What conclusions did the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement reach on the subject of strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid?



It adopted Resolution 6, “Strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid”

Some of the actions to be taken in the next four years, following the 32nd International Conference, are listed below.

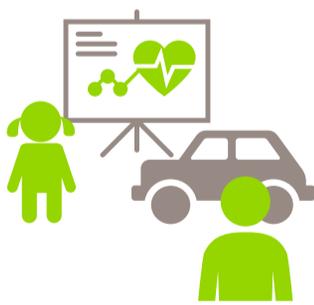
BY STATES



Redouble efforts to **strengthen domestic laws, rules and procedures for managing international relief.**



Promote first aid education.



Organize **mandatory first-aid training for schoolchildren and teachers, and for people applying for driving licences.**

Update official guidelines for first-aid instruction, specifying what must be covered as a minimum and taking into account standards already in use.



Exchange **good practices in first aid**, including regarding the use of digital communication.



Grant at least partial **legal protection from liability for lay persons** (particularly volunteers) who have had first-aid training and have provided first aid in emergencies.

BY THE MOVEMENT



Work with States to **inform the public** about the kinds of goods that should be donated.



Encourages **National Societies and States to consider ways to enhance their cooperation** to achieve sustainable development goals, targets and priorities.



Increase awareness among the **general public of such matters as disaster risk reduction** and the rights and responsibilities of pertinent actors under domestic and international law.

BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Take courses in first aid.



Become volunteers.



Raise awareness in their communities of disaster risk.