



Power of humanity

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

7 December 2015, Geneva



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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Geneva, Switzerland
7 December 2015

Movement statement on migration: Ensuring Collective Action to Protect and Respond to the Needs and Vulnerabilities of Migrants

Resolution

Document prepared by
the Swedish Red Cross

RESOLUTION

Movement statement on migration: Ensuring Collective Action to Protect and Respond to the Needs and Vulnerabilities of Migrants

The 2015 Council of Delegates,

Expressing its deep concern about the increased vulnerability of migrants mainly due to armed conflict and other emergencies, but also triggered by poverty, climate change and the increasingly dangerous journeys they are forced to take.

Recognizing that the diverse capacities, needs and vulnerabilities of migrant girls, boys, women and men must be taken into account to address their protection and assistance needs effectively.

Recognizing that the primary responsibility to assist and protect migrants resides with States; *and reaffirming* the importance of the international and national legal frameworks applicable for the protection of migrants which confer obligations on States;

Recognizing the respective roles and mandates of the different components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in working to ensure humane and dignified treatment, protection and assistance for migrants; including working to support states to meet their primary responsibility to protect and assist migrants;

Confirming the specific auxiliary status and role of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

Emphasizing the importance of humanitarian values and the Fundamental Principles in promoting respect for diversity, non-violence and social inclusion of all migrants;

Acknowledging that the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement must always work in accordance with its Fundamental Principles, including assisting migrants irrespective of their legal status;

Recalling and reaffirming Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement commitments to act collectively to protect and respond to the needs of migrants in the resolutions adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (especially in Resolution 1, Annex, Declaration: Together for humanity, Geneva 2007; Resolution 3, Geneva 2011) and the resolutions adopted by the Council of Delegates (Resolution 9, Budapest, 1991; Resolution 7, Birmingham, 1993; Resolution 4, Geneva, 2001; Resolution 10, Geneva 2003, Resolution 5, Geneva 2007; and Resolution 4, Nairobi 2009);

1. *Commits* to increase and sustain our Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement response aimed at saving lives and improving the protection, health and dignity of migrants without discrimination and irrespective of their legal status, and, where possible, to restoring contact and reunification between separated family members, recording and promoting the search and identification of the missing and dead, and advocating to ensure that protection and humanitarian needs are met;
2. *Calls upon* States to ensure fulfilment of their existing obligations under international refugee law, international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as

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applicable, as well as national law, in order to protect and ensure protection of migrants and to continue to collaborate with all components of the Movement in this regard;

3. *Calls upon* States to ensure that their national procedures include adequate safeguards to protect the dignity and ensure the safety of all migrants and to grant to migrants, in accordance with relevant international law and national legislation, appropriate international protection and access to relevant services;
4. *Calls upon* States to address the causes of forced displacement and to increase their efforts to guarantee effective access to international protection, in accordance with applicable international law and national legislation, and to find durable solutions for persons in need of international protection;
5. *Calls for* sustained co-operation between States, at all levels, and the components of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to provide services, within their respective mandates, to address the humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities of migrants, and to promote respect for diversity, non-violence, and social inclusion regardless of their legal status along the length of the migratory routes.

Co-sponsors: Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Belgian Red Cross, Belize Red Cross, British Red Cross, Bulgarian Red Cross, Burundi Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Colombian Red Cross, Costa Rica Red Cross, Cyprus Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Dominican Red Cross, Ecuadorian Red Cross, Ethiopian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, French Red Cross, Guatemalan Red Cross, Guyana Red Cross Society, Haiti Red Cross Society, Hellenic Red Cross, Honduran Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Irish Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, Kenyan Red Cross, Lebanese Red Cross, Mexican Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Nicaraguan Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Palestine Red Crescent Society, Somali Red Crescent, South Sudan Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Sudanese Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, Turkish Red Crescent, Vietnam Red Cross Society, Zambia Red Cross