COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Geneva, Switzerland
8 December 2019

Provisional Agenda and Programme

Document prepared by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

Geneva, October 2019
Council of Delegates
of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Sunday, 8 December 2019

Provisional Agenda
and Programme¹

Wednesday, 4 December 2019
Joint opening ceremony for the Council of Delegates and the IFRC General Assembly followed by the awards ceremony for the Henry Dunant Medal, the Prize for Peace and Humanity, the Henry Davison Award and the Volunteering and Youth Awards, followed by a cocktail reception.

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Sunday, 8 December 2019

I. Opening and procedural matters
   1. Opening of the Council by the Chair of the Standing Commission
   2. Election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretaries of the Council
   3. Adoption of the Agenda of the Council of Delegates

II. Items for discussion and decision

Accountability and integrity

4. International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Statement on Integrity

   The Statement will propose a firm expression of the Movement’s commitment to integrity. It will address individual and institutional integrity and ethical behaviour, calling for the promotion and strengthening of accountability to people and communities, governments, donors and the components of the Movement. The Statement should then be brought to the attention of the 33rd International Conference to signal the Movement’s commitment to this issue and to anchor the Movement’s position during the planned discussions on “Trust in Humanitarian Action” at the International Conference.

¹ The numbering of items is not indicative of the running order of the items during the meeting, which is the prerogative of the Chair of the Council of Delegates.
5. Movement approach to strengthening National Society statutory and constitutional base and complementary frameworks

The resolution proposes that the Movement adopt the new Guidance for National Society Statutes, following its adoption by the IFRC Governing Board at its October 2018 session. The tool sets the new standards within the Movement that National Societies should abide by and implement in their own statutory and policy base frameworks and related rules, mechanisms and processes. It also invites the Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes to actively use the new Guidance Document in supporting National Societies in strengthening their legal and statutory texts. The background report will include the report of the Joint Statutes Commission on the revision of National Society statutes and legal base.

6. Movement-wide commitments for community engagement and accountability

Through a series of Minimum Commitments and Actions, the proposed resolution aims to adopt a common Movement approach to Community Engagement and Accountability. By recognizing the different roles, responsibilities and mandates of each component of the Movement, the Minimum Commitments will ensure more consistent, harmonized and meaningful engagement with vulnerable and crisis-affected people throughout the programme cycle, leading to better quality assistance and more effective results.

7. Movement coordination and cooperation

7.1 Seville Agreement and Supplementary Measures

Based on Article 10.6 of the “Agreement on the Organization of the International Activities of the Components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement” (the Seville Agreement) adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1997, the Council of Delegates will be informed of the decision of the Governing Board of the IFRC to review in the coming year the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures “Supplementary Measures to Enhance the Implementation of the Seville Agreement” (Supplementary Measures) adopted in 2005. The ICRC will inform about its collaborative process to review implementation and possible policy issues around the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures. The IFRC and the ICRC may seek the support of the Standing Commission to facilitate the dialogue in preparation of the 2021 Council of Delegates where the findings will be given due consideration and/or decision.

7.2 Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC 2.0)

The proposed resolution provides new transformational impetus, while building on the work and achievements of the SMCC since the commencement of the SMCC process in 2013. The objective of the new resolution is: a) to continue the incremental transformational changes when it comes to coordination and cooperation within the Movement both at leadership and operational level; b) to reflect National Society priorities in the areas of data sharing, complementary capacities, local response and capacity enhancement, c) to give National Societies increased ownership in SMCC processes and workstreams in order to maximize the direct collective operational impact. The resolution reflects the
need for increased efficiency and cohesion in the Movement in order to effectively scale up operations. It proposes a number of workstreams to achieve this, underpinned by two cross-cutting themes: responsibilities conferred on Movement components and Movement-wide visibility and resource mobilization.

8. Enhancing transparency, gender balance and rotation in the election and composition of the Standing Commission

Building on the Profile for the candidates for election to the Standing Commission adopted in 1995 by the Council of Delegates, the proposed Guidelines are intended to ensure the improved transparency and quality of nominations. They seek to encourage a better gender balance among candidates and members and to recommend an earlier submission of nominations as well as a limit on terms as a means to promote new candidacies. The Guidelines also aim to reinforce requirements in relation to the personal integrity of candidates and contribute to the Council of Delegates' commitment in 2017 “to address the question of gender equality and equal opportunities at all levels of […] leadership” in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Addressing needs and vulnerabilities

9. International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Policy on Addressing Mental Health and Psychosocial Needs

As requested by the 2017 Council of Delegates, this resolution proposes the adoption of a new Movement policy on addressing mental health and psychosocial needs. The policy aims to build a more harmonized, integrated and contextually appropriate Movement response to mental health and psychosocial needs whilst being cognizant of the respective capacities and mandates of different Movement components.

10. Restoring Family Links: Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement 2020-2025

As mandated by the 2017 Council of Delegates, the proposed resolution calls for the adoption of the new Restoring Family Links Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for the period 2020–2025. The new strategy will have a strong focus on preventing family separation and disappearances, increasing accessibility to and availability of RFL services, improving case resolution and ensuring support to families of missing persons and separated families. At the same time, it also purports to ensure the protection of personal data by strengthening cooperation with State authorities in order to allow the components of the Movement to continue to carry out their humanitarian mandate effectively and efficiently.

11. Strengthening implementation of the Movement Policy on Internal Displacement: Ten years on

Building on the momentum created by the 20th Anniversary of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the 10th Anniversary of the Kampala Convention, the proposed resolution identifies three main areas of a renewed commitment to action, namely urban displacement outside of camps, protection
from and during displacement, and identification and provision of durable solutions. It will recommend a set of concrete measures to enhance the quality and coherence of the Movement’s response in these specific areas in order to further strengthen the implementation of the 2009 Movement Policy on Internal Displacement.

12. Movement Statement on Migrants and our Common Humanity

The proposed resolution would adopt a Movement statement on migration. This Statement reaffirms the Movement’s commitment to addressing the protection and assistance needs of vulnerable migrants and the significant amount of work undertaken by the components of the Movement in this area. The proposed resolution also focuses on the preservation of humanitarian space in the field of migration and reassert the Movement’s role in meeting the needs of migrants.

Other topics for decision

13. Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement on Operational Arrangements, dated 28 November 2005, between the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Magen David Adom in Israel

14. 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
   a. Adoption of the agenda of the 33rd International Conference
   b. Proposal of officers for the 33rd International Conference

III. Follow-up and progress reports

The reports listed below will be submitted as working documents to all members of the Council 45 days prior to the opening of the Council.

Members of the Council wishing to comment on these reports are invited to send written submissions to the Conference organizers. None of the following reports will be introduced during, or discussed by, the Council unless a request to do so is submitted in advance by a member.


18. Report on “Strengthening Civil-Military Relations (CMR) in Disaster Management” following up to Resolution 7 of the 2005 Council of Delegates


21. Report on Resolution 4 of the 2015 Council of Delegates “Strategic Framework on Disability Inclusion by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement”

22. Report on the Empress Shôken Fund by the Joint ICRC/IFRC Commission

23. Report on the work of the Standing Commission (including reporting on the Vision for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement)

IV. Closing of the Council

Announcement of the place and date of the 2021 Council of Delegates.