33rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

Geneva, Switzerland
9–12 December 2019

Act today, shape tomorrow

Resolution
RESOLUTION

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The 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

recalling and celebrating the establishment 100 years ago of the League of Red Cross Societies, now the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), by its founding National Societies, the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the French Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross and the Japanese Red Cross Society, amidst a devastating influenza pandemic, with the stated goals “to strengthen and unite, for health activities, already-existing Red Cross Societies and to promote the creation of new Societies”,

commending the IFRC network for its 100 years of service before, during and after crises, for bringing hope to vulnerable persons and aid to those in need, and for raising its voice on behalf of peace, dignity and the safety and well-being of communities to the highest level of government and international diplomacy,

celebrating the 70th anniversary of the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, and recognizing and reaffirming their acute relevance to the protection of victims of armed conflict and to reducing war’s cost to humanity,

expressing its appreciation for the measures undertaken by States and by the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) in the implementation of the commitments adopted at the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (International Conference),

taking note of the Factual Report on the Proceedings of the Intergovernmental Process on Strengthening Respect for IHL (Resolution 2 of the 32nd International Conference), prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Switzerland, and of the progress report Strengthening International Humanitarian Law: Protecting Persons Deprived of their Liberty (Resolution 1 of the 32nd International Conference), prepared by the ICRC,

taking note also of the 2019 report International Humanitarian Law and the Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts: Recommitting to Protection in Armed Conflict on the 70th Anniversary of the Geneva Conventions,

taking note further of the outcomes of the 2019 Council of Delegates of the Movement, as referenced in the report delivered to the 33rd International Conference by the chair of the Council, in particular:

- Resolution 1, “Movement-wide commitments for community engagement and accountability”
- Resolution 2, “Statement on integrity of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement”
- Resolution 8, “Adopting a Movement statement on migrants and our common humanity”,

expressing appreciation for the individual and collective pledges made by members and observers of the 33rd International Conference,
taking note of the International Conference chair’s paper, the report by the chair of the Drafting Committee and the report on the work of the 33rd International Conference as delivered by the Conference rapporteur,

1. recognizes that trust in principled humanitarian action is indispensable to the Movement’s ability to serve vulnerable persons, and encourages all members of the 33rd International Conference to act to preserve and develop this trust;

2. calls upon all members of the 33rd International Conference to act upon and to make their best effort to fully implement the resolutions of the International Conference and the individual and joint pledges to which they have subscribed;

3. takes note of Resolution 4 of the 2019 Council of Delegates which urges all the members of the International Conference to take into account, in all future elections of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission), the candidates’ personal qualities, the principle of fair geographical distribution and the equitable balance between men and women;

4. requests the ICRC and the IFRC to report to the 34th International Conference on the follow-up by International Conference members on the resolutions and pledges of the 33rd International Conference;

5. decides to hold an International Conference in 2023, the date and place of which shall be determined by the Standing Commission.