

Power of humanity

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

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**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES
OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS
AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT**

Geneva, Switzerland
8 December 2019

**Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation
(SMCC 2.0)**

RESOLUTION

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

Geneva, December 2019

RESOLUTION

Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC 2.0)

The Council of Delegates,

acknowledging the continuously growing demands on humanitarian actors to respond more effectively and efficiently to increasingly complex emergencies on a greater scale,

acknowledging the continued competition within the humanitarian sector, to which the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) is not immune,

confirming the imperative for the Movement to be a leading, well-coordinated and cost-effective humanitarian network that ensures, at all times, the best possible collaboration and complementarity between all Movement components in response and related preparedness for greater collective impact, including supporting the continued development of the operational and leadership capacities of the local National Society,

reaffirming the necessity for the Movement to be able to scale up and conduct coherent and measurable responses to medium and large-scale emergencies in order to maximize the support collectively provided to vulnerable and affected people and communities,

recalling Resolution 1 of the 2017 and 2015 Council of Delegates and Resolution 4 of the 2013 Council of Delegates, all of which tasked the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), together with National Societies, with continuing their joint work on strengthening Movement coordination and cooperation (CD/17/R1, CD/15/R1 and CD/13/R4),

further recalling Resolution 6 of the 1997 Council of Delegates, which adopted the “Agreement on the Organization of the International Activities of the Components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement” (the Seville Agreement); Resolution 8 of the 2005 Council of Delegates, which adopted the “Supplementary Measures to Enhance the Implementation of the Seville Agreement” (SA/SM); and their follow-up reports, which together have provided the foundations for Movement coordination and cooperation,

noting with appreciation the continuous and demonstrated improvements in Movement coordination and cooperation as well as the mindset change since the 2013 Council of Delegates and *thanking* all the Movement components concerned for their steady and concrete support and contributions,

welcoming the report on the implementation of the most recent Council of Delegates resolution on SMCC (R1/CD17), which is annexed to this resolution, and *acknowledging* the value of exploring, testing and critically evaluating new approaches, as was done for the One International Appeal fund-raising approach, in the spirit of working together,

mindful that the quality of Movement coordination in operations, which has seen a growing number of successes but has yet to reach its full potential, requires evidence-based understanding of the conditions that contribute to and positively or negatively influence the collective impact and cost-effectiveness of the Movement response,

acknowledging the need to continue transformational areas of work, such as achieving the interoperability of systems, as they require a continued longer-term commitment, while also exploring additional areas of work, given the growing importance of agile and interconnected systems in achieving operational complementarity and ensuring the readiness of the Movement to respond to future needs,

recognizing that, in order to reach its full potential, it is necessary for the SMCC process to be taken to a new level in terms of impact and scale, taking into account the expertise and resources available across the Movement; it must also maintain a purely operational focus, continue promoting and fostering the right mindset in all circumstances and be given a new impetus, with active participation, full ownership, and much more solid commitment and greater investment by all Movement components,

reaffirming the need for all components of the Movement to actively engage in the SMCC process to achieve a more coherent and impactful collective humanitarian contribution by the Movement as a whole,

resolves as follows:

1. *endorses* the report on the implementation of the 2017 Council of Delegates resolution on SMCC whose main findings are as follows:
 - a. the SMCC process has resulted in strengthened coordination in a number of response operations during the review period and has reinforced the Movement's reflex to coordinate in ways that were not considered five years ago
 - b. advancements in technical areas, such as improving interoperability in logistics, security and surge mechanisms, and the expansion of tools and training, help to facilitate operational coordination
 - c. SMCC progress has also helped donors and other stakeholders to see the "Red Pillar" as a more coherent and more predictable partner
 - d. coordination remains a complex endeavour, and principal challenges include ensuring that the right mindset is cultivated across the Movement, that political leadership is appropriate and sustained, that the benefits of coordination are well understood, that coordinated resource mobilization is efficient and results in increased funding, and that sound data is available on the operational dividends of coordination
 - e. with the foundations for inclusive and predictable Movement coordination in place, the Movement is now ready to pursue a greater ambition to fully achieve the potential of SMCC
 - f. better integration of National Societies at both the strategic and operational level is vital, as is securing stronger investment from all Movement components;
2. *accepts* the proposed rebranding of the initiative as Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation 2.0 (SMCC 2.0) which reflects continuity in the process to date while also demonstrating a willingness to elevate and bring a new impetus to SMCC that more effectively encompasses the Movement as a whole;
3. *endorses* the SMCC 2.0 priorities identified in the report which aim to improve the capacity of the Movement to efficiently provide complementary responses to medium- and large-scale emergencies, including by reinforcing and complementing the activities of National Societies in affected countries, with workstreams focusing on:

- a. ensuring efficient and well-coordinated use of the conferred responsibilities of Movement components in supporting the conduct of operations and other activities and in influencing stakeholders at every level
 - b. ensuring Movement-wide consistent data management to enhance operational response, ensure accountability and provide timely information on the Movement footprint to internal and external stakeholders, with a view to increasing our overall humanitarian funding and reinforcing the relevance and visibility of Movement operations
 - c. pursuing the development of the interoperability of systems to ensure agile and flexible support to operations
 - d. understanding and utilizing the capacities of Movement components to contribute to a response, including the domestic competencies of National Societies, with a view to ensuring services are provided efficiently and meet the required standard of quality
 - e. ensuring Movement readiness for response by employing existing SMCC tools to promote common planning and analysis and coordinated activities, reflecting on whether other tools are required, developing an evidence base on what works well in coordination and considering different operational models to suit different contexts
 - f. promoting complementary domestic and international response while ensuring the coherent and sustained development of local capacities, including in resource mobilization and in alignment with the localization agenda, emphasizing the need for operations that are as local as possible and as international as necessary
 - g. enhancing the scalability of the response in large-scale crises in a manner that reinforces the position of the Movement as a key global responder;
4. *requests* the existing Steering Group, in collaboration with National Societies, as further detailed in Article 5 below, to continue driving and monitoring the process, ensuring Movement-wide contributions and buy-in and reporting regularly to the Standing Commission and to all Movement components on progress;
 5. *requests* the active participation of all Movement components, especially National Societies, in the development and implementation of activities and mechanisms linked with the above priorities and therefore *calls for* the creation of a National Society Reference Group to advise and support the Steering Group on a regular basis on the general direction of SMCC 2.0 and to promote and advocate for its implementation;
 6. *recommends* the creation of an operational SMCC 2.0 cell reporting to the Steering Group and comprising personnel from the ICRC, the IFRC and National Societies, which will be responsible for guiding the implementation of this resolution by all Movement components, with the possibility of a National Society or National Societies being invited by the Steering Group to lead certain workstreams under its overall direction;
 7. *welcomes* the implementation of the new priorities over a four-year period, so that outcomes can be better evidenced, with a comprehensive mid-term progress report to be presented at the Council of Delegates in 2021.