

2022 Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

WORKSHOP

Protection in the Movement

OUTLINE

Context

Protection work is increasingly important for the Movement, and the links with gender and diversity and inclusion work are ever more apparent. Millions of people continue to suffer violence, discrimination and exclusion of all kinds in armed conflicts, other situations of violence, health crises and natural disasters. The COVID-19 pandemic has cast a harsh spotlight on inequalities within societies and how they put people who are marginalized or potentially “left behind” at disproportionately higher risk.

Since 2018, several strategic and operational initiatives have been implemented by all components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement), aiming to achieve greater coherence and collaboration on Protection issues. These include the Movement Protection Framework;¹ the Minimum Protection Approach; the forthcoming IFRC Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) policy and operational framework; the Movement strategy on migration; the Restoring Family Links (RFL) platforms; and the 2019 Council of Delegates resolution “Strengthening implementation of the Movement Policy on Internal Displacement: Ten years on”.

Based on these experiences, the Movement Protection Advisory Board has launched a process for the possible adoption of a resolution on Protection in the Movement at the Council of Delegates in 2023. The following elements should be considered:

- Determining the main rationale: How can the Movement’s actions support better protection for more people?
- Establishing a common understanding of what the Movement considers Protection work and how these activities can be made more coherent and complementary
- Acknowledging what is already being done in the field of Protection by each of the Movement components
- Presenting, internally and externally, the concrete advantages of the Movement components doing Protection activities
- Recognizing the need to further increase the capacity of the Movement components, including National Societies, to carry out Protection activities.

¹ Approved by the Movement Protection Advisory Board in March 2018.

The 2022 workshop is an opportunity to gather information and build on existing Movement tools, such as the 2008 Protection Policy of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); the PGI policy of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), which is scheduled for approval in May 2022; the 2018 *Professional Standards for Protection Work*; and the 2018 IFRC *Minimum Standards for Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies*. The workshop will focus particularly on what greater coherence and collaboration in Protection work will mean in practical terms, in order to develop a common understanding among the Movement components.

Overall objective and expected outcomes

The workshop will aim to discuss a common Movement approach to Protection, laying the groundwork for the possible adoption of a resolution in 2023. The event should consolidate the outcomes of previous consultations on key Protection issues (see “Format” below) and explore how these issues can be most effectively addressed collectively by the Movement through the key questions outlined below.

Key questions to be considered

1. How can we build on existing agreement and common understanding and practice (such as the tools and processes mentioned above) while ensuring that the entire Movement can engage meaningfully, to guarantee that we hear from a diverse range of voices from within the different components?
2. What changes would be needed to the Movement’s collective Protection approach to ensure that more people are better protected?
3. What are the barriers and facilitators to establishing more complementary and better coordinated approaches and to putting this into practice, based on the tools referred to above?
4. What is the collective and individual place of the Protection work of the Movement components within the wider humanitarian sphere?

Format

1. There will be a communication and engagement process prior to the workshop, likely focused on projecting into the future and forward planning related to Protection. The workshop will aim to present the key findings of these enquiries for interactive discussion.
2. The workshop will be highly interactive, with the use of a variety of online discussion facilitation tools – the specific mechanisms and activities are still to be determined (based on the engagement process) but would include such tools as white boards, voting, commenting, quizzes, etc.

Supporting documents, resources or graphics

- The [Movement protection framework](#) (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))
- Study on Protection elements of past resolutions (being finalized)
- Movement Protection Advisory Board, [Minimum Protection Approach](#), short version, June 2019. (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#))
- IFRC PGI policy (scheduled for approval at the May 2022 General Assembly)

Additional detailed online resources

- ICRC, [*Professional Standards for Protection Work*](#), 2018. (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))
- IFRC, [*Minimum Standards for Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies*](#), 2018. (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))
- PGI operational framework (not yet available)
- Movement Protection Advisory Board, *Survey on National Societies' Protection Activities*, 2019. (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#))
- Movement Protection Advisory Board, *Mini-survey of National Societies on their Protection and Inclusion Activities in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic*, September 2020. (available in [AR](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))