

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

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Strengthening anticipatory action in the Movement: Our way forward

Draft zero resolution

**Document prepared by
the German Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and
the International Committee of the Red Cross**

Geneva, September 2021

DRAFT ZERO RESOLUTION

Strengthening anticipatory action in the Movement: Our way forward

The Council of Delegates,

[PP1] *expressing* deep concern about the impacts of extreme climate and weather events, especially on pre-existing vulnerabilities among individuals and communities, and *noting* that climate change will increase these impacts unless action is taken,

[PP2] *stressing* that extreme climate and weather events occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic have recently shown how vulnerabilities are compounded and exacerbated when multiple hazards coincide,

[PP3] *highlighting* that vulnerability to extreme climate and weather events is often highest in fragile and conflict-affected settings and *noting* that the convergence of conflict and climate change can increase existing vulnerabilities and create new ones,

[PP4] *recognizing* that, in most cases, forecast information about extreme climate and weather events is available before they happen and that the accuracy of such information and risk analysis for potential impacts have improved considerably over the years, providing the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) and its components with the opportunity to act ahead of the impact to reduce needs,

[PP5] *noting* increasing opportunities to anticipate and act ahead of hazards and risks, such as epidemics, food insecurity and displacement of affected people, and the necessity to address compounding risks, in particular in fragile and conflict-affected settings,

[PP6] *recognizing* the role that anticipatory action can play in preventing or mitigating potential disaster impacts and in increasing people's resilience and *acknowledging* the Movement's responsibility to act in accordance with the Fundamental Principles and the respective mandates and roles of the Movement's components,

[PP7] *recognizing* the work of the Movement to reduce disaster risk, in particular the mandate and role of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) and the support and assistance provided by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in this area, and available instruments, such as the IFRC's Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and Preparedness for Effective Response Framework, and *highlighting* advances in Forecast-based Financing and anticipatory action,

[PP8] *highlighting* that anticipatory action has already been implemented successfully but needs to be scaled up and *noting* challenges faced with regard to resources, capacities and frameworks,

[PP9] *recalling* and *reaffirming* the different commitments of components of the Movement to improving the protection of individuals and communities most at risk from the impacts of climate change by adopting the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations and by investing in anticipatory action, in particular through the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership and the Anticipation Hub,

[PP10] *recognizing* the global momentum around anticipatory action and the leadership of the Movement in driving progress at the international level,

[OP1] *calls upon* the components of the Movement, in accordance with their mandates and roles, to increase their engagement on anticipatory action, particularly with a view to extending its geographical reach, either by establishing and strengthening systems, capacities and partnerships to operationalize anticipatory action within country contexts or by supporting National Societies to do so;

[OP2] *requests* the components of the Movement to take stronger steps to address slower onset and less visible climate- and weather-related events, such as heatwaves and droughts, in their work on anticipatory action;

[OP3] *commits* the components of the Movement to increasing the focus on compounding risks in their work on anticipatory action, enabling National Societies to protect individuals and communities at risk when multiple hazards occur at once or they experience cascading impacts;

[OP4] *requests* National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to strengthen anticipatory action in conflict settings, including through improved use of forecasts and early warning for extreme climate and weather events, thereby contributing to strengthening the resilience of conflict-affected communities in the face of compounding risks;

[OP5] *commits* the components of the Movement to further exploring opportunities to anticipate and act ahead of other hazards and risks, such as epidemics, food insecurity and displacement of affected people, and *reaffirms* that Resolution 3 of the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (“Time to act: Tackling epidemics and pandemics together”) reiterates the importance of prioritizing and investing in prevention and preparedness and of providing catalytic funding to support anticipatory action, including by National Societies, to respond to epidemic and pandemic threats;

[OP6] *encourages* the components of the Movement to create or adapt funding mechanisms for hazards and risks not covered by existing mechanisms, aimed at focusing efforts on reducing the impact on those in the most vulnerable situations at national and international level, with support from state, private sector and other actors;

[OP7] *requests* National Societies to integrate anticipatory action into their disaster risk management systems and processes and *calls upon* the IFRC and other components of the Movement to support this process by increasing investment in the anticipatory action capacities of National Societies, notably by supporting data collection and analysis, the co-development of triggers, identification of anticipatory actions, the setting up of procedures and training of staff and volunteers for anticipatory action implementation, in collaboration with local actors;

[OP8] *requests* National Societies, as auxiliaries to public authorities in the humanitarian field, and the IFRC to advocate for the integration of anticipatory action into national disaster risk management and climate change adaptation policies and structures and to increase investment in early warning systems;

[OP9] *invites* the components of the Movement to use the Anticipation Hub as a central platform for facilitating knowledge exchange, learning, guidance and advocacy around anticipatory action and to contribute to its work;

[OP10] *requests* a progress report to be submitted to the 2023 Council of Delegates and the issue of anticipatory action to be considered for inclusion in the agenda of the 34th International Conference.