



Power of humanity

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

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Towards a Movement strategy on migration

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and
the International Committee of the Red Cross in cooperation with the other members of the Migration Leadership
Group (23 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) and in consultation with the Global Migration Task Force
(including 43 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies)

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Towards a Movement strategy on migration

The Council of Delegates,

acknowledging that migration is a diverse and large-scale phenomenon and offers important opportunities for empowerment and well-being for migrants and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination,

expressing deep concern about the risks, harm, discrimination and vulnerability faced by many migrants, including refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons, for example, when travelling along land- and sea-based migratory routes,

acknowledging that diverse factors – including, but not limited to, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, nationality, racialized identity, colour, language, disability, political opinions, religious beliefs, social background and legal status – can have an impact on migrants' needs and conditions of vulnerability,

recognizing that existing and emerging disasters and crises, including those related to the effects of climate change and public health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and their compounding effects can exacerbate migrants' vulnerabilities and, in some situations, lead to population movements, including migration,

recalling that all migrants – including those in an irregular situation – enjoy protection under international human rights law, international humanitarian law, when in situations of armed conflict, and other bodies of international law as well as under relevant regional and domestic law and that, in addition to this, refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons are entitled to specific protection under international and regional law,

reiterating that, although it is within the sovereign prerogative of States to regulate the presence of non-nationals within their territory and to decide on the criteria for their admission and expulsion, this is not absolute and must comply with international obligations,

stressing that the vulnerabilities of migrants can be reduced when States adopt and implement migration-related laws, policies and practices that are in line with their obligations and take into account the needs of migrants, including persons with specific vulnerabilities, such as children, women, victims of trafficking, persons with disabilities and persons in need of international protection,

bearing in mind that there are situations where a continuum exists between internal displacement and cross-border movements and that such situations require comprehensive and coordinated responses to maximize protection and assistance for all those in need, with the participation of the affected people, whenever possible,

recalling and reaffirming past resolutions on topics relating to migration adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (including Resolution 21, 24th International Conference, Manila, 1981; Resolution 17, 25th International Conference, Geneva, 1986; Resolution 4, 26th International Conference, Geneva, 1995; Resolution 1, Annex, Declaration "Together for Humanity", 30th International Conference, Geneva, 2007; Resolution 3, 31st International Conference, Geneva, 2011; Resolution 4, 33rd International Conference, Geneva, 2019) and by the Council of Delegates (including Resolution 9, Budapest, 1991; Resolution 7, Birmingham, 1993; Resolution 4, Geneva, 2001; Resolution 10, Geneva, 2003; Resolution 5, Geneva, 2007; Resolution 4, Nairobi, 2009; and, in particular, the "Movement Call for Action on the Humanitarian Needs of Vulnerable Migrants", adopted by Resolution 3, Antalya, 2017, and the "Movement Statement on Migrants and our Common Humanity", adopted by Resolution 8, Geneva, 2019) as well as the Policy on Migration adopted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2009 (which was also welcomed by the Movement in Resolution 4 of the

Council of Delegates, Nairobi, 2009) and the IFRC's Global Strategy on Migration 2018–2022,

acknowledging the important work carried out by the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), collectively comprising the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement), to address and advocate for the needs of migrants in vulnerable situations and those impacted by migration, including host communities and those who stay behind, and *underlining* the added value of the Movement in carrying out this work, thanks to its local to global presence across countries of origin, transit and destination and its people-centred, vulnerability-based and purely humanitarian approach guided by its Fundamental Principles,

recognizing the role of National Societies as crucial local actors working directly with and for affected communities, including migrant communities, as demonstrated, for example, in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

recalling the respective and complementary mandates, roles and responsibilities of the components of the Movement, based notably on the Statutes of the Movement and resolutions of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, including the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, the IFRC's humanitarian mission to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, and the ICRC's key areas of activity in the field of migration which include protecting and assisting migrants, primarily in contexts of armed conflict and internal strife, and its role as coordinator, technical adviser and provider of support to National Societies in restoring family links and in detention and other protection matters,¹

highlighting the role of the Movement in contributing to the implementation of relevant international and regional frameworks, including the humanitarian objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, which recognizes this role in paragraph 44, the Global Compact on Refugees and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

taking note of the results of the survey conducted in early 2020 to capture National Society views on emerging migration-related trends and challenges and recognizing the development of a Movement strategy on migration as the most important priority in which the Movement should invest moving forward,

welcoming the establishment in 2020 of the Movement Migration Leadership Model, consisting of the Migration Leadership Group, the pre-existing Global Migration Task Force, whose work is closely connected to regional migration networks (Asia Pacific National Society Migration Network, Sahel+ Migration Network, Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants, and Middle East and North Africa Migration Network), and the Global Migration Lab, and *emphasizing* the critical role of this model in fostering effective and inclusive leadership, strong engagement, long-term commitment and capacity and ensuring that the Movement's evidence-based work and advocacy on migration are "fit for purpose" so that it is ready to take on future challenges,

1. *agrees* on the need for and importance of a Movement strategy on migration that focuses on the most pressing migration-related challenges, while considering the link with internal displacement where relevant, in order to ensure strong, coordinated and coherent Movement action in support of migrants in vulnerable situations, based on the distinct and complementary mandates, roles and responsibilities of the different Movement components and in full conformity with the Fundamental Principles;
2. *endorses* the Migration Leadership Group's role of developing a Movement strategy on migration as the centrepiece of their workplan and the work it has undertaken so far in this regard and *welcomes* the supporting role and work of the Global Migration Task Force and the Migration Lab, the involvement of National Societies, including through regional migration networks, in supporting the development of the future strategy, and cooperation with other Movement-led initiatives, such as the

¹ The respective roles and activities of the different components of the Movement for the benefit of migrants will be further clarified in the future Movement Strategy on Migration, the development of which is entrusted to the Migration Leadership Group under this resolution.

RFL Leadership Platform, to establish synergies at the leadership level;

3. *mandates* the Migration Leadership Group to continue its work and to submit the Movement strategy on migration for adoption at the 2023 Council of Delegates;
4. *recommends* that the development of the future Movement strategy on migration be informed by the broad participation, experience and expertise of National Societies, including through regional migration networks, and by migrants' priorities and lived experience and draw on learning from the IFRC Global Strategy on Migration 2018–2022 and other similar Movement-led processes, and *highlights* the need to ensure complementarity and synergies between the future strategy and the Movement's Restoring Family Links Strategy 2020–2025;
5. *calls upon* all components of the Movement to further strengthen the implementation of existing commitments in this area, including the IFRC Global Strategy on Migration 2018–2022 and Strategy 2030, while the Movement strategy on migration is being developed, and to dedicate adequate human, financial and technical resources to that end.