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

22-23 June 2022, Geneva

SUMMARY REPORT ON WORKSHOP

Protection in the Movement

Date and time: Tuesday, 12 April 2022
09:00–10:30 and 17:00–18:30 (CET)

Facilitators: Lisa Akero, Gender and Diversity Coordination and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) in Emergencies Lead, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); Agnieszka Cholewinska-Nielsen, Protection in the Movement Adviser, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); Stephen Wainwright, Social Inclusion and Protection Coordinator, IFRC; Vincent Ballon, Protection in the Movement Manager, ICRC

Presenters: Kamil Erdem Güler, Programme Coordinator, Turkish Red Crescent Society; Lily Bowman, Director-General, Belize Red Cross Society; Kaja Sannerud Andersen, Protection Team Leader, Norwegian Red Cross

Speakers: Sarah Epprecht, Deputy Director of Operations, ICRC; Frank Mohrhauer, Director, National Society, Policy and Knowledge Development, IFRC; Tabu Grace, Protection Manager, South Sudan Red Cross; Sophie Marsac, Deputy Protection Coordinator, South Sudan, ICRC; Milanoi Koiyiet, PGI Coordinator Africa, IFRC; Raef Goubraïl, Volunteer Humanitarian Observer, Immigration Detention Monitoring Programme, Australian Red Cross; Alice Bloomfield, Migration Adviser for Eurasia, ICRC; Hannaleena Polkki, PGI Coordinator Asia Pacific, IFRC; Valentina Rivera Ortega, Head of National Migration Programme, Mexican Red Cross; Jose Felix Rodriguez, PGI and Migration Coordinator, Americas, IFRC; Lorena Guzman, Migration Regional Coordinator, Americas, ICRC; Yenni Medina, Restoring Family Links Coordinator, Colombian Red Cross; Rafael Segura, Deputy Protection Coordinator, Colombia, ICRC; Gurvinder Singh, Global Child Protection Adviser, IFRC

Executive summary

This workshop, convened by the Movement Protection Advisory Board,¹ was an opportunity to highlight cooperation initiatives between different components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) that are built on a common understanding of and complementary approaches to protection. Leaders at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) started by providing an overall background to protection work in the Movement and the work of the advisory board, including the Minimum Protection Approach and the development of a PGI policy and approach. They also shared their views on the complementarity of these approaches with respect to protection work. Four National Societies then presented their respective programmes – on immigration detention, community-based protection, migration and Restoring Family Links – with a focus on Movement collaboration.

Finally, participants were consulted about key aspects related to Protection in the Movement, which built on the conclusions of the preparatory workshop in February 2022, with approximately 25 protection-related Movement working groups taking part. This workshop represented an important milestone in the process to enhance the coherence of the Movement's protection response and it laid the groundwork for the potential adoption of a Movement-wide resolution on Protection at the 2024 Council of Delegates.

¹ The Movement Protection Advisory Board was established in 2018 and comprises the ICRC, the IFRC and the National Societies of Australia, Belize, Lebanon, Nigeria, Norway, South Sudan, Sweden and Turkey.

General observations and highlights

The workshop examined the challenges and opportunities related to collaboration between the Movement components in their protection work.

In **part 1** of the workshop, the panellists presented global initiatives aimed at enhancing Protection within the Movement and gave an update on recent developments. Representatives from the ICRC and the IFRC described the vision pursued by the Movement Protection Advisory Board: to have more people better protected. To achieve this, it is important to build a common understanding of what protection work is, and to strengthen collaborative and complementary approaches and meaningful coordination. Both speakers praised the protection work carried out by Movement components, as surveyed in recent years, and commended the many contributions from National Societies, such as those in support of the Movement Minimum Protection Approach and the consultations on the PGI policy within the IFRC's network.

In **part 2** of the workshop, four National Societies shared their experiences. The Australian Red Cross presented its Immigration Detention Centre Monitoring Programme, the South Sudan Red Cross presented its Community Protection Programme, the Mexican Red Cross presented its Migration Programme and the Colombian Red Cross presented the response to the data breach that affected its Family Links Programme. The panellists gave an overview of their programmes, providing information about affected populations, protection needs and risks, the activities covered, and the main benefits and lessons learned from collaboration with other Movement partners. Peer-to-peer discussions and exchanges, coordinated training sessions for staff and volunteers, supporting guidelines and methodologies, and synergies between capacity-building and good programming were among the examples provided.

Part 3 of the workshop included consultations with participants on five key questions derived from the [preparatory workshop with protection-related working groups](#), held in February 2022. Through their answers, participants reconfirmed the need to strengthen the common, comprehensive Movement standards on protection, increase support from leaders and ensure sufficient resources are allocated to implement protection work. These steps would help fill the gaps highlighted by the workshop participants in terms of coordinating programme design at national level, through technical support, training and capacity-building. It was also highlighted that this requires support from senior management and that there is a need to find ways to cut through organizational complexities.

Conclusions and recommendations

The polling results described above indicate that the collective opinion of the respondents was a clear endorsement of the need for and the benefit of continuing the Protection in the Movement process, with a stronger focus on programmatic implementation, enabled by leadership engagement and sufficient resources for implementation.

The workshop demonstrated that there is widespread interest in the impressive range of protection activities carried out by Movement components and in the potential for increased cooperation to achieve more and better protection outcomes. It also reconfirmed the view that improving the Movement's approach to protection can only be achieved through increased cooperation, shared understanding and peer exchanges.

The Movement Protection Advisory Board should develop concrete proposals for the next stages of the initiative, taking the results, practices and lessons learned from the field into consideration, including considering the proposal for a Movement-wide resolution on protection at the 2024 Council of Delegates.

In line with the findings, the next steps should include practical actions at field and other levels. These steps should reconfirm the Movement's mission to address protection risks and needs, and highlight the value of the Movement's protection action compared with other humanitarian and protection actors.