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Protecting people from the humanitarian impacts of extreme climate and weather events: Working together to strengthen anticipatory action

DRAFT ZERO RESOLUTION

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Protecting people from the humanitarian impacts of extreme climate and weather events: Working together to strengthen anticipatory action

The 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

expressing deep concern about the impacts of extreme climate and weather events described in the [Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) and *noting* that drivers such as climate change, biodiversity loss, population growth and environmental degradation will increase these impacts, especially on individuals and communities with pre-existing vulnerabilities, unless action is taken,

highlighting that vulnerability to extreme climate and weather events differs substantially among and within regions and is often highest in fragile and conflict-affected settings,

having considered the findings of the [Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) which show that, in most cases, forecast information about extreme climate and weather events is available before they happen and *recognizing* that the accuracy of such information has improved considerably over the years due to technological progress, providing States and the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement), namely the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), with the opportunity to act ahead of the impact of extreme events to reduce humanitarian needs,

highlighting the need to strengthen forecasting and risk analysis to better predict multi-hazard situations and their cascading, simultaneous and cumulative impacts through impact-based forecasting and international, regional and national collaboration, among other actions,

clarifying that, for the purpose of this resolution, anticipatory action refers to “actions taken to reduce the humanitarian impacts of a forecast hazard before it occurs or before its most acute impacts are felt; the decision to take action is based on a forecast or collective risk analysis of when, where and how an event will unfold” and that anticipatory action can be most effective if triggers, actions, decision-making and funding are pre-agreed in a participatory manner,

recognizing the role that anticipatory action can play in reducing disaster risk and in limiting the impact of extreme climate and weather events on people, thereby reducing suffering and losses,

highlighting that anticipatory action provides an important bridge between longer-term prevention and response efforts within the disaster risk management (DRM) continuum, complementing preparedness and readiness efforts,

highlighting that anticipatory action can contribute to averting or minimizing climate-related losses and damages and should be considered in relevant frameworks, mechanisms and discussions,

welcoming the global and regional momentum around anticipatory action, notably the [ASEAN Framework on Anticipatory Action](#), the [Intergovernmental Authority on Development's Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action](#), the [G7 statement on strengthening anticipatory action](#) and the [Early Warnings for All](#) initiative,

recalling the different commitments made by States to engage in anticipatory action through the [Political declaration of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction \(A/77/L.70\)](#), the [African Union's Institutional and Operational Framework for Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System](#) and the [EU Council Conclusions on addressing the humanitarian funding gap \(9282/23\)](#), among other instruments, and reaffirming the Movement's collective commitment set out in the Council of Delegates resolution "Strengthening anticipatory action in the Movement: Our way forward" ([CD/22/R2](#)),

Further recalling the resolution 33IC/19/R7 adopted at the 33rd International Conference, 'Disaster laws and policies that leave no one behind' which encouraged the States to integrate innovative approaches to DRM such as anticipatory approaches in their laws, policies, strategies and plans, and welcoming the call to States to strengthen their legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and plans for DRM in the 34th International Conference proposed resolution titled 'Strengthening disaster risk governance through comprehensive laws, policies and plans',

recognizing the leading role played by National Societies, in developing and implementing anticipatory action plans as part of their crucial work to reduce disaster risks as auxiliaries to public authorities, thereby reducing suffering and losses in affected communities and acknowledging the technical expertise and support provided by the IFRC and the ICRC according to their respective mandates,

highlighting that anticipatory action has been implemented successfully but needs to be scaled up by increasing coordination and collaboration with national and local authorities across the humanitarian, development and climate sectors so that more people can be protected from climate and weather extremes,

1. encourages States to fully integrate anticipatory action into their domestic frameworks and systems relating to DRM and climate change and calls on Movement components to support this process, notably by providing technical advice, supporting the development of triggers, undertaking data collection and analysis, identifying the best possible anticipatory actions and setting up procedures and teams to implement anticipatory action;
2. invites States to strengthen anticipatory action to address extreme climate and weather events in fragile and armed conflict-affected settings, in particular in situations of protracted crises, including through improved early warning systems for weather and climate events, with support from the Movement components;
3. encourages States to strengthen their multi-hazard early warning systems in a holistic manner, in line with their commitments under the [Sendai Framework](#) and United Nations General Assembly Resolutions [A/RES/72/132](#) and [A/RES/74/218](#), to ensure information needed to enable anticipatory action is available, accurate and easily accessible at the local level, particularly by enhancing disaster risk knowledge and forecasting capacities, and calls on the Movement components to support these efforts;
4. calls on States to strengthen the capacities of local actors, including National Societies, to implement anticipatory action, leveraging existing resources and community early warning and preparedness systems to ensure warnings and actions reach even the hardest-to-reach communities and emphasizing the importance of people-centred, inclusive, participatory and gender-equal processes which provide for the participation of marginalized groups and other groups at risk of being disproportionately impacted by disasters;

5. *calls on* States to create, increase and facilitate access to financial mechanisms enabling anticipatory action at the national and local level by establishing pre-agreed financing arrangements, adapting existing funding mechanisms, including innovative ones, to enable funds to be used in anticipation of extreme climate and weather events and, where appropriate, making use of climate and development financing and existing regional and multilateral financial mechanisms;
6. *encourages* States to work jointly with their respective National Societies on anticipatory action, make use of their experience and technical expertise in this field and give them a strong role in its implementation as they do for response;
7. *encourages* States to support the Movement components in their work on anticipatory action specifically and on DRM generally, by investing in capacities and preparedness, sharing expertise and technical inputs and contributing to relevant international financial mechanisms, among other measures;
8. *invites* States to use the [Anticipation Hub](#)¹ as a central platform for enhancing and sharing their knowledge;
9. *requests* the IFRC to submit a progress report on the implementation of this resolution to the 35th International Conference.

¹ The Anticipation Hub is an initiative of the German Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre.