

# STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

## FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

### OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

#### Important notice:

- To be valid, this Statement of Candidacy must **be completed and signed by the candidate** who must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: [election@standcom.ch](mailto:election@standcom.ch)

I, the undersigned Helen Durham,

hereby declare and submit my candidature for election to the Standing Commission by the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2024.

I hereby confirm that I am a member of the

Australian Red Cross,

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I am fully aware of the functions assigned to the Standing Commission by Article 18 of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) and that members of the Standing Commission are elected in a personal capacity.

I confirm that I satisfy the requirements, profile and qualifications for candidates established in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement as well as in the "Guidelines for Candidates for election to the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent" adopted by the Council of Delegates in 2019 (Resolution 4).

I confirm that:

- a. I have a duty to promote and comply with the rules and standards applicable to the election, including without limitation, the requirement to:
  - adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement and to respect its ideals and values,
  - not accept a binding mandate from anyone, enter any form of commitment that could affect my freedom of decision or action in the future if elected, or receive any form of campaign support or financial or material aid or contributions from any actor external to the Movement,
  - not to act in any way that would amount to a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest.

Nominations for the Election to the Standing Commission  
ANNEX 1

- b. I must provide full cooperation to the Electoral Committee, in particular with regard to any requests for information and enquiries relating to my candidacy.
- c. all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this declaration and in my Nomination Form are truthful and accurate.
- d. I will immediately notify the Electoral Committee if, after the date of signature of this declaration:
  - I am no longer able, for any reason, to fulfil any of the requirements, profile and qualifications applicable to this position, or
  - any of the statements in this declaration or in my Nomination Form, are no longer true or accurate for whatever reason, or
  - there is additional information in relation to this declaration or my Nomination Form.

I understand that any (a) false declaration or statement or omission of relevant information in this declaration or my Nomination Form, (b) failure to notify the Electoral Committee as required above, or (c) failure to fulfil any of the requirements set out in this declaration, may lead to my disqualification as a candidate.

I hereby authorize the Electoral Committee to carry out a background check for purposes of evaluating whether I satisfy the requirements, profile, and qualifications for election to the Standing Commission. I consent to the processing of my personal information as necessary and relevant for these purposes. I understand that the Electoral Committee may engage the services of an external third-party firm(s) for these purposes. Finally, I also understand that I may withhold my permission and that in such case, no background check will be conducted, and my candidature will not be processed.



Melbourne, Australia - 7 Oct 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place and Date

# 1. Candidate motivation

As a member of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, I have spent 30 years of my professional and personal life passionately dedicated to humanitarian action, the fundamental principles and international humanitarian law (IHL). Being elected to the Standing Commission would be an honour and allow me to apply my extensive leadership experience and Movement knowledge to strengthen a **cooperative, effective and influential** Movement in the face of growing humanitarian needs. The issues the world is facing, including climate crises, challenges to neutrality, mis/dis information, the shirking humanitarian space, lack of respect for IHL and tightening funding, are pressing and need practical action and humanitarian diplomacy. I have the skill set and vision to work towards addressing these and many other thematics, as well as ensuring we have successful and diverse statutory meetings, an **impactful International Conference** and even closer **Movement alignment**.

I have served across the Movement, spanning numerous roles within the Australian Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross. I have worked closely with many National Societies, civil society and the United Nations. I have engaged at the highest level with States, leading major negotiations and working constructively on issues of dire humanitarian concern. I deeply understand the importance of the International Conference, especially in an increasingly polarised world. I am passionate about the auxiliary role played by National Societies and the need to share and build within the National Society network, best practice on issues such as governance reform, the implementation of localisation, and the invaluable engagement of volunteers. In a Movement where women play a significant role, it is vital and appropriate that this is reflected in leadership positions. I have been working to empower women for decades and this is another reason why I would be honoured to serve on the Standing Commission at this time.

Concerning the task of **planning for the 35th International Conference** I have direct experience that would contribute. I attended my first International Conference in 1999 as a young member of the Australian Red Cross, where I was deeply inspired by the opportunities presented for humanitarian discussions. From this time, I have been involved in every Conference since in varied roles, from supporting regional National Societies' follow up of resolutions, to being a member of the official Australian Red Cross delegation. I have been a member of a the Australian National IHL Committee and worked with numerous governments in preparations for International Conferences. As the Director of International Law and Policy for the ICRC, I attended the last two Conferences as a key part of the leadership team advising on and debating issues such as IHL, migration, healthcare in danger, protection of women and other critical themes.

Concerning the Standing Commission's responsibility of supporting the **cooperation and coordination within the Movement**, my career has honed my competencies to be able to productively contribute and I have directly worked on these issues for many years. My deep attachment to the fundamental principles, which have guided my professional career, provide a strong foundation of unity for the necessary and complex discussions required in the chapter ahead. My experiences over decades with the Australian Red Cross on matters such as governance reform, and my wider roles in the Movement, have informed my understanding

that we must elevate the gravitas of our extraordinary history, whilst embracing new ways of working, especially in our practice of localisation. The need to respectfully and effectively implement Seville Agreement 2.0 will require calm, intelligent and experienced guidance. I understand many of the challenges faced by National Societies as well as the strengths and opportunities, and I would bring these into discussions. Throughout my career I have developed significant facilitation and negotiation experience, excellent public representation skills, strong knowledge of the Movement and Statutes, and I work in a principled and positive manner. If elected I would employ all my years of learning and practice to uphold our commitments to humanity and fortify our Movement for the challenges ahead.

## 2. Curriculum Vitae



Insert or attach photograph

<b>Personal Details</b>	
<b>FAMILY NAME &amp; TITLE:</b>	Dr Durham
<b>FIRST NAME(S):</b>	Helen
<b>GENDER :</b>	Female
<b>NATIONALITY(-IES) :</b>	Australian
<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b>	23 March 1968
<b>MEMBER OF :</b> <i>(Name of National Society)</i>	Australian Red Cross
<b>PRESENT FUNCTION(S) IN THE MOVEMENT AND/OR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY:</b>	Member of Australian Red Cross (with Distinguished Staff award and International Service Award)

<b>PRESENT FUNCTION(S) OUTSIDE THE MOVEMENT:</b> <i>(when applicable)</i>	Honorary Professorial Fellow, Melbourne Law School; CEO RedR Australia; Board member Sphere; Board member Geneva Call; Senior Fellow Lieber Institute
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<h2 style="color: #0070C0;">My domestic and international experience with the Red Cross and Red Crescent</h2> <p>(including professional and volunteering activities in the National Society of origin and other components and bodies of the Movement, as well as special achievements at a national and international level)</p>	
Year	start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
<b>2024 - current</b>	<b>Domestic and International experience with the Red Cross and Red Crescent</b> Member Australian Red Cross <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing support on governance issues and IHL</li> </ul>
<b>2022-2014</b>	Director International Law and Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (Geneva) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for a large network of policy, diplomatic, armed forces, international lawyers, and academic advisers. Engaging with National Societies, governments, multilateral processes and preparing/leading input for Statutory meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>2022-2014</b>	Director of International Law, Strategy, Planning and Research, Australian Red Cross (Melbourne) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for development and implementation of external relations with governments and the Movement, policy, strategy, dissemination of IHL, planning and reporting..</li> </ul>
<b>2012 – 2008</b>	Head International Law and Principles, Australian Red Cross (Melbourne) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for all IHL activities, engagement with government, support to sister National Societies in the Pacific, co-ordination of IHL Committees and representation at Movement meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>2006-2002</b>	Head of Office Australia and Regional Legal Adviser, International Committee of the Red Cross Regional Delegation for the Pacific (Sydney/Suva) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with regional governments to implement IHL treaties, legislation to protect the emblem, field work doing detention visits in Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines.</li> </ul>
<b>2002 - 1996</b>	National Manager IHL, Australian Red Cross (Melbourne)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible for IHL dissemination, engagement with Movement on principles and IHL.</li> </ul>
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<b style="color: #0070C0;">Other experience and achievements</b> (any other relevant functions, roles or special achievements outside of the Movement)	
Year	start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
<b>2024 current</b>	- Teaching Master of Law Classes at Melbourne Law School on International Humanitarian Law (IHL)
<b>2024 current</b>	- Advisory member for META Human Rights regular roundtable (providing input on human rights, IHL and new technologies)
<b>2023 current</b>	CEO RedR Australia, an organisation that identifies, trains and deploys humanitarian experts into UN partners and civil society
<b>2022 current</b>	- Advisory Board member Humanitarian Horizons Research (sector wider research, in particular across Indo-Pacific, on thematic such as localisation, greening the humanitarian system, governance and accountability, real time analysis and influence)
<b>2018</b>	Appointed as a Fellow at the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA)
<b>2017</b>	Awarded Order of Australia, Officer of the Order (AO), Australian honour that recognises outstanding achievement and service
<b>2015</b>	Awarded Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Australian Centenary Peacewomen
<b>2014</b>	Appointed to the Victorian Honour Roll of Women Australian Red Cross International Service Award

Election to the Standing Commission  
Nomination Form

<b>2014</b>	Women in Law Awards, Melbourne
<b>2013</b>	Australian Red Cross Distinguished Staff award
<b>2012</b>	Evans Grawemeyer Scholarship (awarded by Australian Foreign Minister)
<b>1997</b>	Queen's Trust Scholarship
<b>1996</b>	Academic Council of the United Nations Scholarship
<b>1995</b>	



## Working languages of the Standing Commission

(Tick the relevant boxes as applicable)

<b>ENGLISH</b>	Xmother tongue	fluent	working knowledge
<b>FRENCH</b>	mother tongue	fluent	working knowledge
<b>SPANISH</b>	mother tongue	fluent	working knowledge
<b>ARABIC</b>	mother tongue	fluent	working knowledge

## Education

(academic, professional or social diploma(s) and distinctions)

Year	Start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harvard Graduate School of Education; Certificate, Strategies for Effective Facilitation</li> </ul>
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mount Eliza Business School, Management for Managers</li> </ul>
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University of Melbourne and New York University; Doctor of Juridical Science (PhD in law - focus on international law and IHL)</li> </ul>
1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Admission as an Australian Legal Practitioner, officer of the Supreme Court of Victoria and High Court of Australia</li> </ul>
1992	
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Law with Honours and Bachelor of Arts (major in international relations)</li> </ul>

**I confirm the accuracy of all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this Nomination Form.**

Helen Durham

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's name



7<sup>th</sup> October 2024, Melbourne

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Place and Date

## DECLARATION OF INTEGRITY

### FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

### OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

#### Important notice:

- To be valid, this Declaration of Integrity must **be completed and signed by the candidate** who must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: [election@standcom.ch](mailto:election@standcom.ch)

I, the undersigned , Helen Durham

member of the Australian Red Cross ,

hereby make the following declaration of integrity, as part of my candidature for election to the Standing Commission by the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2024.

#### **I declare that I have not been:**

- involved in the commission of any violation of international humanitarian law or of internationally recognized standards of human rights law,
- involved in offences related to child labour or human trafficking,
- the subject of a conviction for a criminal offence or conduct which gave rise to a civil penalty which would otherwise risk the reputation or standing of the Movement,
- sanctioned by any component of the Movement for:
  - violations of any Movement component's Code of Conduct,
  - the display of character, morality, interests or unethical conduct incompatible with the seven Fundamental Principles,
  - fraudulent or corrupt conduct, or
  - failure to declare a conflict of interest,
- sanctioned for the violation of laws or policies relating to sexual or gender-based exploitation, abuse, or discrimination, harassment or bullying of any kind,
- involved in any conduct, dispute or controversy in or outside the Movement that would risk the reputation or standing of the Movement,
- involved in any act which could be deemed to be a breach of the Fundamental Principles,

**which has not been disclosed in my candidature in the space below.**

Please include in the space below **any relevant information you deem necessary in respect of the above declaration.**

I confirm the truth and accuracy of all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this declaration and in my Nomination Form.

If elected, I declare that I will –

- a. fulfill all the functions required by this elected position,
- b. serve in my personal non-partisan capacity and in the sole interest of the Standing Commission and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement), and to work towards their humanitarian general object,
- c. adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement,
- d. not act in any way that would amount to a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest.

I will immediately notify the Electoral Committee, if after the date of signature of this declaration, (a) any of the above statements in this declaration, are no longer true or accurate for whatever reason, or (b) there is additional information in relation to this declaration.

I understand that any (a) false declaration or statement or omission of relevant information in this declaration, or (b) failure to fulfil the above requirement to notify the Electoral Committee may lead to my disqualification as a candidate.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Melbourne, Australia - 7 Oct 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place and Date

## MEMBERSHIP AND INTEGRITY ATTESTATION

### FOR A CANDIDATE TO THE 2024 ELECTION

### OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

#### Important notice:

- To be valid this attestation must **be completed and signed by a duly authorized representative of the candidate's National Society** and the candidate must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- This attestation is not an endorsement or expression of support for the candidate who is running for election to the Standing Commission in a personal capacity.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: [election@standcom.ch](mailto:election@standcom.ch)

I, the undersigned Charles Burkitt ,

in my position as President

of the Australian Red Cross ,

declare the following:

1) The candidate Helen Durham

is presently a member of the Australian Red Cross

2) To the best knowledge of the National Society, the candidate

- has not been sanctioned by the National Society in the past for:
  - Violating any Code of Conduct of the National Society,
  - Display of character, morality, interests or unethical conduct incompatible with the seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement,
  - Fraudulent or corrupt conduct,
  - Failure to declare a conflict of interest, or
  - Violating laws or policies relating to sexual or gender-based exploitation, abuse or discrimination, harassment or bullying of any kind.
- has not been involved in any conduct, dispute or controversy within or outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement that would risk the reputation or standing of the Red Cross or Red Crescent network.



Signature and stamp

Darwin, NT | 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Place and Date