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**XXIst
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
RED CROSS**

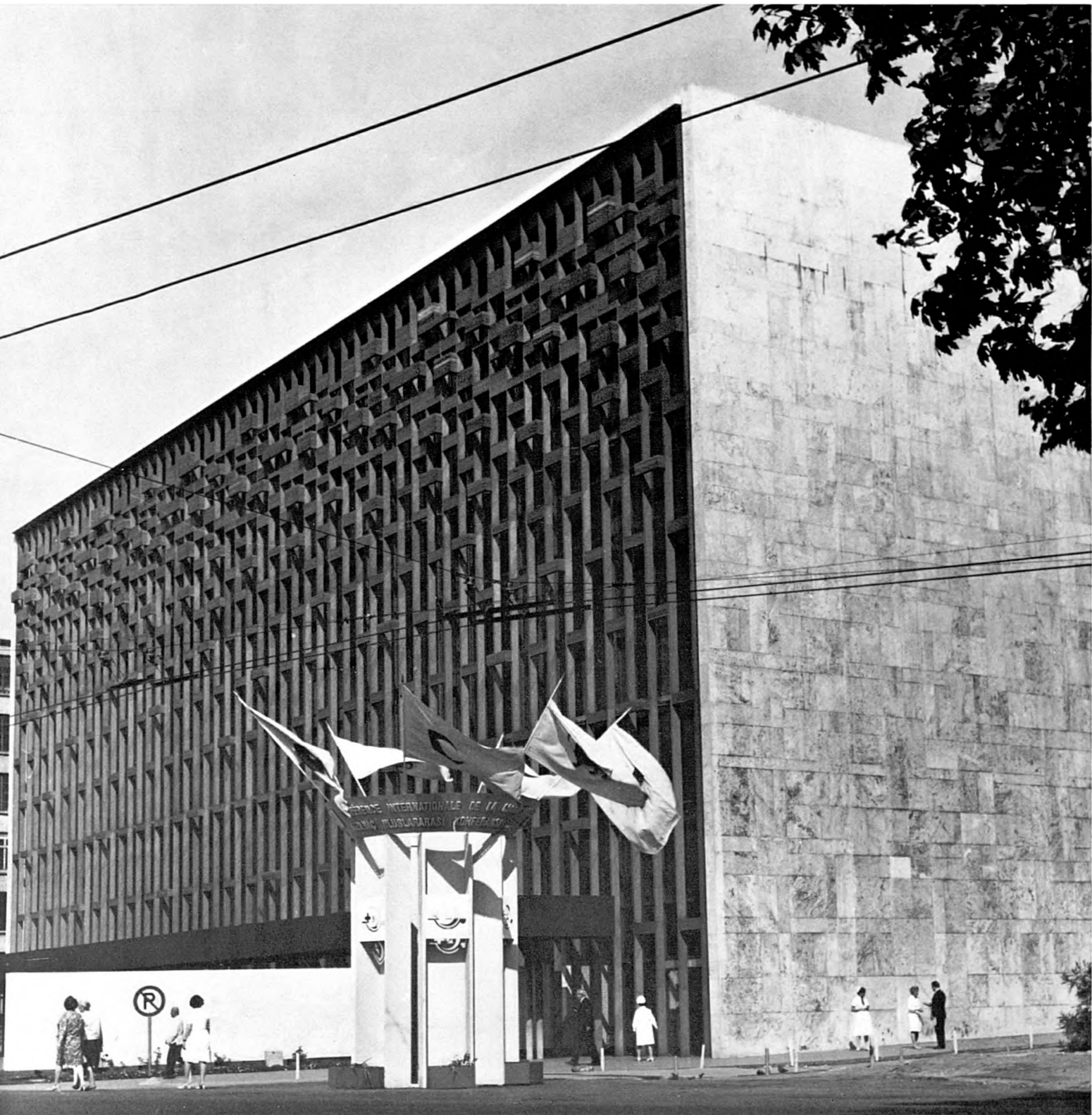


REPORT

**ISTANBUL, SEPTEMBER 6-13, 1969
PALACE OF CULTURE - OPERA**



*The Palace of Culture - Opera, where the Conference was held
(1969, architect: Mr. Hayati Tabanlıoğlu)*



*H.E. Mr. Cevdet Sunay, President of the Republic of Turkey
Honorary President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society*



*Mr. Riza Çerçel
Chairman of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross
and President of the Turkish Red Crescent*



Mr. J. Barroso
Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies



Mr. M. A. Naville
President of the International Committee of the Red Cross



Lady Angela, Countess of Limerick
Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross

The conference hall



*First plenary meeting
Official declaration of the basic Red Cross principles*



The conference hall



PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE

LETTER ADDRESSED TO NATIONAL RED CROSS, RED CRESCENT, RED LION AND SUN SOCIETIES AND TO GOVERNMENTS OF STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

Ankara, January 15, 1969.

The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, meeting in Vienna in 1965, has accepted our Society's offer to receive the next International Conference in Istanbul in 1969.

The Turkish Red Crescent has therefore the honour to inform you that, with the agreement and the assistance of the Turkish Government, the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross will be held in Istanbul from September 6 to 13, 1969. It will be preceded as from August 29 by various meetings of the Red Cross.

In accordance with the Statutes of the International Red Cross, the following are members by right of the Conference :

1. States parties to the Geneva Conventions, a list of which, drawn up by the Standing Commission, is attached ;
2. National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies duly recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (list attached) ;
3. The International Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies.

In addition, in conformity with current usages of International Conferences of the Red Cross, a certain number of observers are invited to attend the sessions of the Conference. A provisional list of these is herewith annexed.

We also enclose a provisional programme and agenda, as adopted by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross (7, Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland). Subsequently proposed additions or amendments to the agenda should be submitted to that Commission.

The Turkish Red Crescent, which in 1968 celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its creation, takes great pleasure in welcoming the XXIst International Conference to Turkey. It trusts that it will make a decisive contribution to the further development of the work of the Red Cross throughout the world.

Yours sincerely,

Riza ÇERÇEL,
President of the Turkish Red Crescent ¹.

¹ A similar letter has been sent to organizations and persons invited as observers.

AGENDA

I

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretaries of the Council of Delegates.
2. Proposals to be made for the Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary General and Assistant Secretaries General of the Conference.
3. Approval of the Draft Agenda of the Conference drawn up by the Standing Commission.
4. Proposals of Procedure submitted by the Standing Commission.
5. Information on the activities of the Henry-Dunant Institute.
6. Information on the ICRC/League Agreement.

II

PLENARY MEETINGS

1. Report of the Council of Delegates.
2. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary General and Assistant Secretaries General.
3. Appointment of the Commissions of the Conference :
 - (a) Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts ;
 - (b) General Commission ;
 - (c) Drafting Committee.
4. Opening of the Procedure for the Election of Members of the Standing Commission.
5. Formal Reading of the Red Cross Basic Principles.
6. The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace ¹.
7. Activity Report of the International Committee.
8. Activity Reports of the League and of National Societies.
9. Activity Report of the Standing Commission.
10. Report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee.
11. (a) Report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund ;
 - (b) Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Allocation of the Income of the Augusta Fund ;
 - (c) Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Awards of the Florence Nightingale Medal.

¹ At the request of the Standing Commission, this subject has been added to the Draft Agenda of the General Commission under Item 7.

12. Reports of Commissions :
 - (a) Report of the Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts ;
 - (b) Report of the General Commission.
13. Election of Members of the Standing Commission.
14. Place and Date of the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross.

III

MEETINGS OF COMMISSIONS

A. COMMISSION FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND RELIEF TO CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN ARMED CONFLICTS

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteur, Secretaries and the Drafting Committee.
2. Report on the Action taken on the Resolutions of the XXth International Conference.
3. Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.
4. Reaffirmation and Development of the Laws and Customs applicable in Armed Conflicts :
 - (a) Protection of the essential Rights of the Human Being ;
 - (b) Protection of Civilian Populations against the Dangers of Indiscriminate Warfare ;
 - (c) Status of Civil Defence Services ;
 - (d) Protection of Civilian Medical and Nursing Personnel ;
 - (e) Other Fields.
5. Protection of Victims of Non-International Conflicts :
 - (a) Role of the Red Cross ;
 - (b) Possible Developments.
6. The presence, functions and relief operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies in areas of armed conflict, with special reference to the civilian population.

B. GENERAL COMMISSION

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteurs, Secretaries and the Drafting Committee.
2. Reports on the Action taken on the Resolutions of the XXth International Conference.
3. The Red Cross and Developing Countries.
4. International Relief Actions in Natural Disasters :
 - (a) Planning and Co-operation ;
 - (b) Revision of Principles.
5. Red Cross Adult and Youth Volunteers in the Community in Evolution :
 - (a) Nature of Red Cross Voluntary Service and its Motivation in 1969 ;
 - (b) Use of Red Cross Adult and Youth Volunteers in the Community :
 - in the health field,
 - in the social welfare field,
 - in the education field ;
 - (c) Recruitment and Training of Adult and Youth Volunteers.
6. International Health Teams.
7. The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace.

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST

- 9.30 a.m. Meeting of Regional Groups (Development Programme). — Permanent Scale of Contributions of the League.
- 3 p.m. Meeting of Regional Groups (Development Programme). — Permanent Scale of Contributions of the League.

SATURDAY 30 AUGUST

- 9.30 a.m. Meeting of Regional Groups (Development Programme). — Permanent Scale of Contributions of the League.
- 3 p.m. Meeting of Regional Groups (Development Programme). — Meeting of the President and the Vice-Presidents of the League.

SUNDAY 31 AUGUST

- 9.30 a.m. Standing Finance Commission of the League. — Relief Advisory Committee.
- 3 p.m. Standing Finance Commission of the League. — Relief Advisory Committee.

MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Standing Finance Commission of the League. — Relief Advisory Committee.
- 3 p.m. 30th Session of the Board of Governors of the League.

TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Board of Governors of the League.
- 3 p.m. Board of Governors of the League.

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Board of Governors of the League.
- 3 p.m. Board of Governors of the League.

THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Board of Governors of the League.
- 3.30 p.m. Board of Governors of the League.

FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Standing Commission of the International Red Cross. — Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
- 3 p.m. Board of Governors of the League. — Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the League of Red Cross Societies.

SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Council of Delegates.
- 12 a.m. Opening Meeting of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross.
- 3 p.m. Plenary meeting.

MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. General Commission. — Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.
- 3 p.m. General Commission.
- 4 p.m. Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.

TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

- 8.30 a.m. General Commission.
- 2 p.m. Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.

WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

- 8.30 a.m. General Commission.
- 2 p.m. Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.

THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

- 9 a.m. Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.
- 2.30 p.m. Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts.

FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

- Morning Free for preparation of Commission reports.
- 3 p.m. Plenary Meeting.

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

- 9 a.m. Plenary Meeting.
- 3 p.m. Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.

LIST OF DELEGATES

AFGHANISTAN

Government

Dr. Abdul Samed Hamed, Minister of Planning.

Red Crescent

Dr. Abdul Samed Hamed, Secretary-General.
Dr. Abdul Ahad Barekzoy, Director of Health and Social Affairs.

ALGERIA

Red Crescent

Mr. Mouloud Belaouane, President.
Mr. Mohamed El-Kechai, Vice-President.
Mr. Ahmed Hamiani, Secretary-General.
Mr. Mustapha Khodja, Assistant Secretary-General.
Mr. Mahmoud Hijazi.
Mr. Djillali Djaffari.
Mr. Ghazi Saudi, Adviser.
Mr. Husam Katib, Adviser.

AUSTRALIA

Government

Mr. R. A. Walker, Secretary, Australian Embassy.
Mr. Startup.

Red Cross

Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris, Chairman.
Mrs. R. C. M. Kimpton, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. I. Connell, Member of the National Council.
Miss M. Waddell, Member of the National Council.
Mrs. Porter, Member of the National Council.
Mr. L. G. Stubbings, Secretary-General.
Miss N. Minogue, Assistant Secretary-General.
Dr. J. P. Morris, Director, Blood Transfusion Service.

AUSTRIA

Government

Mr. Franz Herbatschek, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Richard Havlasek, Ministry of Social Affairs.
Mr. Karl Knapp, Ministry of Education.
Mr. Friedrich Griessler, Ministry of Defence.

Red Cross

Mr. Hans von Lauda, President.
Mr. Fritz Wendl, Adviser.
Mr. Walther Ehalt.

BELGIUM

Government

Mr. André Wendelen, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. de Breucker, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
General E. Evrard.

Red Cross

Mr. Albert Geldof, Treasurer-General.
Mr. Raymond Vermeylen, Director-General.
Miss Simone Vercamer, Secretary-General.

BRAZIL

Government and Red Cross

Mr. C. Paiva Gonçalves, President, Red Cross.
Mr. Rui Barbosa de Miranda, Minister-Counsellor.
Mr. T. W. Sloper, Delegate-General.
Dr. F. Cardoso de Souza, Member of the Central Committee.

BULGARIA

Government

Mr. Mateeva, Foreign Affairs.
Dr. Cyrille Ignatov, Consul-General at Istanbul.

Red Cross

Mr. George Gospodinov, Vice-President.
Mr. Petre Iordanov, Head, Foreign Relations.
Mr. Ivan Puchkarov, Foreign Relations.
Mr. Sava Penkov, Adviser.

BURMA

Government and Red Cross

Dr. Maung Maung, President of the Red Cross.
Mr. San Maung, Vice-President.
Col. Hla Moe, Secretary.

BURUNDI

Government and Red Cross

Dr. François Buyoya, President of the Red Cross.
Mr. Prime Niyongabo, Vice-President.

BYELORUSSIA

Government

Mr. Vladimir Semoukha, President of the Red Cross
of Byelorussia.

CAMBODIA

Red Cross

Dr. Ber Keng Hean, Governor.
Mr. Kiou Bonthonn, Secretary-General.

CAMEROON

Red Cross

Mr. Yaya el Hadj Wadjiri, Vice-President.
Mr. Jean-Baptiste Tsogo, Admin. Secretary.

CANADA

Government

Mr. M. H. Wershof, Ambassador to Denmark.
Major General D. G. M. Nelson.
Dr. R. W. Tooley, Ministry of Health.
Mr. P. H. Stehelin, Ministry of Health.
Mr. A. R. Wright, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. J. M. Simpson, Ministry of National Defence.
Mr. L. S. Clark, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. L. O. Bailey, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Jacques Corbeil, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Brig. I. S. Johnston, President.
Mr. Bruge Shaw, Vice-President.
Mr. G. Aitken, Vice-President.
Mr. J. Alan Broadbent, Former President.
Mr. John MacAulay, Former President.
Dr. G. Gingras, Member of the Board.
Maj. General Arthur E. Wrinch, National
Commissioner.
Mr. John Dunlop.
Mr. John A. Partridge, Former President.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Government

Mr. A. D. Magale, Minister of Health.
Miss Jocelyne Jourdet, Assistant Secretary-General
to the provisional Red Cross Committee.

CEYLON

Red Cross

Mr. A. D. H. Samaranyaka, Chairman of the
Council.

CHILE

Government

Mr. Angel Gonzales, Ambassador to Turkey.

Red Cross

Dr. Agustin Inostrosa, President.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Government

Mr. Cheng Pao-Nan, Ambassador to Geneva.
Mr. Wei Jieh-Leun, Secretary.
Mr. Ho Chung-Ho, Chancellor to the Embassy
in Turkey.

COLOMBIA

Red Cross

Mr. Hernan Restrepo Isaza, President of the
Antioquia section.

CONGO
(Democratic Republic)

Red Cross

Mr. Jean-Philémon Bompese, President.

CUBA

Government and Red Cross

Dr. Angel Luis Torres, National Director,
Red Cross.
Mr. Enrique Camejo-Argudin, Ambassador,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Oscar Biosca, Provincial Director, Red Cross.

CYPRUS

Government

Mr. Cleanthis Vakis, Director, Social Services.
Mr. Fenercioglu Necdet, Attaché to the Embassy
in Turkey.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Government

Dr. Fridrich Kuchar, President of the Red Cross.
Mrs. Marta Slamova, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Milan Prosek, Civil Defence.

Red Cross

Dr. Fridrich Kuchar, President.
Mr. Miloslav Hlach, Member of the Central
Committee.
Mr. Josef Lukaci, Member of the Central
Committee.
Mr. Zdenek Krejci, Member of the Central
Committee.
Mr. Karel Blaha, Head of External Relations.

DENMARK

Government

Mr. Harry Toyberg-Frandzen, Ambassador
to Turkey.
Mr. E. Schultz, Director, Civil Defence.
Mr. Louis Anker Heegard, Ministry of Interior.
Dr. K. F. Meldahl, Ministry of Health.
Mr. Per Fergo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Dr. Erik Husfeldt, President.
Prince Henrik of Denmark, Commissioner.
Dr. C. C. Joergensen, Vice-President.
Dr. Jens Larsen, Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Arne Fremm, Secretary-General.
Professor Isi Foighel.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Government and Red Cross

Mr. Izzet Akosman, Honorary Consul in Istanbul.

ECUADOR

Government and Red Cross

Mr. Jeronimo Aviles Alfaro, Governor.
Mr. Hugo Merino Grijalva, Secretary-General.

ETHIOPIA

Government

Mr. Aberra Jembere, Vice-Minister.
Mr. Tafese D. Akale, Second Secretary to the
Embassy in Cairo.

Red Cross

Mr. Aberra Jembere, Honorary Secretary-General.
Mr. Getatchew Araya, Associate Secretary-General.
Mr. Makonne H. Mariam, Delegate.

FINLAND

Government

Mr. Henry Brunberg, First Secretary to the Embassy
in Turkey.
Mr. Erkk Hyvarinen, Ministry of the Interior.

Red Cross

Lt.-Gen. A. E. Martola, President.
Mr. Tor-Erik Lassenius, Member of the Central
Committee.
Mr. Kai Warras, Secretary-General.

FRANCE

Government

Mr. Pierre Charpentier, Ambassador.
Mr. Francis Raoul, Director, Civil Defence.
Mr. Francis Pavard, Ministry of Health.
Mr. André Houdart, Adviser, Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mr. Marcellin Carraud, President.
Mr. H. de Truchis, External Relations.
Gen. Georges Glain, External Relations.
Miss Jane Martin, Director, Nursing Service.
Mr. Roger Angebaud, Member of the Board.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Government

Mr. Georg Stibi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Rolf Fischer, Ministry of the Interior.
Professor Bernhard Graefrath.
Mrs. Hildegard Kiermeier, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Rolf Felber, Ministry of National Defence.
Mrs. Anita Neidhardt, Interpreter.

Red Cross

Dr. Werner Ludwig, President.
Dr. Wolfgang Weitbrecht, Vice-President.
Mr. Werner Dopieralsky, Legal Adviser.
Mr. Werner Horney, International Relations.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Government

Mr. R. Thierfelder, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. H. Muller-Dethard, Adviser.
Mr. H. Platz, Adviser.
Mr. J. Hinz, Adviser.
Mrs. M. L. Schneider, Adviser.
Mr. V. Haak, Second Secretary.
Mrs. M. Kaufmann.
Mr. Rudolf Koppenhöfer, Embassy in Turkey.

Red Cross

Mr. Walter Bargatzky, President.
Mrs. Beate Bremme, Vice-President.
Mr. Wolfgang Büsselberg.
Mr. Dietrich Bloss.
Princess Margaret of Hesse.
Mr. Anton Köchling.
Mr. Anton Schlögel, Secretary-General.
Mr. Kurt Wagner, Assistant Secretary-General.

GREECE

Government

Mr. Jean Tzounis, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Georges Karagiorgos, Consul General, Istanbul.
Gen. Forinos Vakirtziz.
Major Menelaos.

Red Cross

Mr. Michel Pasmazoglu, Governor.
Mr. E. Spiliotopoulos, Secretary-General.
Miss Stavroula Papamicrouli.
Miss Maria Demertzi, Secretary.
Mrs. Aleca Mantzoulinos.

GUATEMALA

Government and Red Cross

Mr. Albert Dupont-Willemin, Delegate to Geneva.

HOLY SEE

Msgr. André-Jaques Fougerat, Bishop of Grenoble.
Rev. Nicola Frank, Assistant Secretary,
Caritas Internationalis.
Msgr. Audrys Backis, Nunciature in Turkey.

HUNGARY

Government

Mr. László Réczei, Ambassador.
Mr. Erno Hars, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Tibor Nemeth, Legal Adviser.

Red Cross

Mr. Istvan Rostás, Secretary-General.
Mr. Joseph Czivisz, International Relations.
Mr. Imre Pasztor, International Relations.
Mr. Rezso Sztuchlik, International Relations.

ICELAND

Red Cross

Mr. Eggert Asgeirsson, Secretary-General.

INDIA

Government

Mr. K. K. Shah, Minister of Health.
Mr. Sinh, First Secretary.

Red Cross

Mr. K. K. Shah, Chairman.
Major-General S. S. Maitra, Secretary-General.
Dr. J. N. Vazifdar, Secretary-General, Bombay.
Mr. Y. Ramakrishna, President, Mysore.

INDONESIA

Government

Mrs. Mantria Hutasoit, Vice-Chairman, Red Cross.
Mr. Soemarto.

Red Cross

Mrs. Mantria Hutasoit, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Soehanda Ijas, Secretary-General.
Mr. Rachmat Muljomiseno, Treasurer.

IRAN

Government

Dr. Abbas Naficy, Vice-President,
Red Lion and Sun.
Mr. Massoud Moadel, Consulate, Istanbul.

Red Lion and Sun

Dr. Abbas Naficy, Vice-President.
Dr. Hossein Khatibi.
Mr. Parviz Ayromlou.
Mr. Habibollah Echargi, Director, Ispahan.
Mrs. Pery Shahidi.

IRAQ

Government

Dr. Izzat Mustafa, Minister of Health.
Mr. T. Shabib, Ambassador to Turkey.
Dr. Marda Ali, Director General, Health.
Dr. Abdullah Sipahi, Dean of the College
of Dentistry.
Mr. Al-Zahawi Wisam, Advisor to the Embassy.

Red Crescent

Dr. Izzat Mustafa, President, Ministry of Health.
Dr. Fouad Hassan Ghali.
Dr. Ghanim Al-Saffer.
Dr. Jihad Shahin.

IRELAND

Government

Mr. George Crean.
Mr. Eamonn Otuathill, Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mrs. Tom Barry, Chairman.
Miss Mary Murphy, Secretary-General.

ISRAEL

Government

Mr. M. R. Kidron, Ambassador to Geneva.
Mr. Joel Barromi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Theodor Meron, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mrs. Miriam Lambert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Arie Eilan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Dov. Shefi, Ministry of Defence.
Mr. Zvi Bar-Zakay, Legation in Turkey.
Miss Pauline Cooperstone, Secretary.

ITALY

Government

Mr. Mario Mondello, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Giuseppe Migliove, Ministry of the Interior.
Professor Giuseppe Basile.
Mr. Calogero Geraci, Ministry of Health.
Mr. Vincenzo Aurigemma, Ministry of the Interior.
Mr. Enrico Pietromarchi, Embassy in Ankara.

Red Cross

Mr. Giuseppe Potenza, President.
Mrs. Bianca Lanzara, Inspector of Nursing Services.
Mr. Enrico Ciantelli, President, Florence Section.
Miss Luciana Corvini, External Affairs.

IVORY COAST

Government

Mrs. M. A. Berah, Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mrs. Edmond Basque, Secretary-General.
Mr. Jones Dungan.
Mr. Palenfo Lassana.

JAPAN

Government

Mr. Mitsuo Tanaka, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Hiroshi Masuda, First Secretary,
Japanese Embassy.
Mr. Shinji Kaneda, First Secretary,
Mission to Geneva.

Red Cross

Dr. Ryotaro Azuma, President.
Mr. Noboru Takasugi, Director, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Michiyoshi Hata, Director, Social Affairs.
Mr. Koichi Watanabe, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Kazuo Takeichi, Vice-President, Tokushima.
Mr. Akira Kokeyuchi, Director, Tokyo Sections.
Mr. Kaisumi Umezaki, Director, Fukuoka Section.
Mr. Susumu Watanabe, Director, Narita Hospital.

JORDAN

Government

Dr. Nabulsi Ismail, Ministry of Health.

Red Crescent

Dr. Ahmad Abu Goura, President.
Mr. Fadil Dalgamouni.
Mr. Motlaq El-Hadid.
Miss Kawla Abu-Qura.

KENYA

Government

Dr. Z. Onyango.

Red Cross

Mr. Charles W. Rubia, President.

KOREA
(Republic)

Government

Mr. Sung Ga Lee, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Kun Park, Minister, Embassy in the United
Kingdom.
Mr. In Seh Myung, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mr. Hak Mook Kim, Secretary-General.
Dr. Yeun Joo Kim, Director, Health Service.
Mr. Sung Kyu Park, Section President.

KUWAIT

Government

Mr. Fouad Hamzed, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Crescent

Mr. Abdul Aziz El-Sager, President.
Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Awadi, Secretary-General.
Mr. Yusuf Ibrahim Al-Ghanim, Director.

LEBANON

Government

Mr. Katchik Babikian, Ministry of Health.

Red Cross

Mrs. Issa-El-Khoury, President.
Mrs. Sarah Daouk, Secretary of the Central Council.
Mrs. Hassana Daouk, Secretary of the
Central Council.
Mrs. Leila Anid, Secretary of the Central Council.
Mrs. Renée Araman, Member of the Central
Committee.
Mrs. Elly Nucho, Member of the Central Committee.
Mrs. L. G. Tabet, Treasurer.
Mrs. N. S. Saab, Secretary of the Central Committee.
Mrs. M. Hochar, Secretary of the Central
Committee.
Mr. Ahmed Baki, Secretary of the Central
Committee.

LIBERIA

Government

Mr. Nathan Ross, Commissioner.

Red Cross

Mrs. Jeannette King, President.
Mrs. Nancy Ross, Director, Junior Red Cross.
Mrs. Anna Marshall.
Mrs. Francies P. Dennis, Vice-President.

LIBYA

Red Crescent

Dr. Raouf Benamer, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.
Mr. Mohammed Elkwafi, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.
Dr. Abdussalam Sharajadin, Ministry of Health.
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shakra, Adviser.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Red Cross

Princess Gina von Liechtenstein, President.
Prince Hans-Adam von Liechtenstein.

MADAGASCAR

Government and Red Cross

Mr. René Rakotobé, President, Red Cross.

MALAYSIA

Red Cross

Mr. Ruby Lee, National Secretary.

MAURITANIA

Government

Mr. B. Ould Soueid Ahmed, Secretary-General, Ministry of Health.
Mrs. Tokosselle Sall, Director, Medico-Social Affairs.

MEXICO

Government

Mr. E. Soto Reyes, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Arif Akdogan, Consul.

Red Cross

Dr. Senen E. Gonzalez, Vice-President.
Mr. Rafael Minor Franco.
Mr. Thomas Barrio Gabriel.
Mr. José Barroso Montul.
Mr. Huillerma Barroso Montul.
Mr. Luis Barroso.
Mr. Juan I. Menchaca.
Mr. Attilio Bon Bustamente.
Mr. Juan Aguilera.

MONACO

Government

Dr. E. Boeri, Adviser.

Red Cross

Mrs. Auguste Settimo, Vice-President.
Mrs. R. Sanmori, Public Relations.
Dr. E. Boeri, Secretary-General.

MONGOLIA

Red Cross

Mrs. Damdina Tumendelger, Chairman.
Mr. Erden-Ochir Vandish, Foreign Relations.

MOROCCO

Government

Dr. M. Benbouchaib, Ambassador to Turkey.
Dr. Djebli-Elaydouni, President, Red Crescent.
Mr. Omar Belkoro, Adviser to the Embassy.

Red Crescent

Dr. Djebli-Elaydouni, President.
Mr. Abdenbi Bouacherine, Vice-President.
Mr. Mustapha Lotfi, Secretary-General.

NEPAL

Government

Mrs. Bhinda Shah, Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mr. Y. P. Pant, Vice-Chairman.
Dr. Jaya Giri, Secretary-General.
Professor Jagat Mohan Adhikari.

NETHERLANDS

Government

Mr. A. R. Tammenoms-Bakker, Ambassador to Turkey.
Gen. Klaas Luitje Bakema.
Mr. Johann Heinrich Klatte.
Mr. Adriaan Bos, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Mr. F. H. Jager.

Red Cross

Mr. G. Kraijenhoff, President.
Princess Margriet of the Netherlands,
Executive Committee Member.
Mr. van Emden, Director General.
Mr. J. D. Schepers.
Miss Louise Bezemer, Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

Government

Mr. A. D. McIntosh, Ambassador to Italy.

Red Cross

Mr. E. L. Button, President.
Mrs. Isobel Button.
Miss Janet H. Studholme, Director, Junior
Red Cross.
Mrs. Jean McCormick, Member of the Central
Committee.

NICARAGUA

Red Cross

Mr. Ricardo Bermudez, Director General.

NIGER

Dr. Tahirou Bana, Secretary-General.

NIGERIA

Government

Chief E. A. Enahoro, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. S. Kolo, Ambassador to Geneva.

Red Cross

Sir Adetokunbo Ademola, President.
Mr. Joseph Adetonji Adefarasin, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. S. Ade Ojo, Chairman.

NORWAY

Government

Mr. Edward Hambro, Ambassador to New York.
Mr. E. F. Ofstad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Ketil Børde, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Maj. Gen. Torstein Dale, President.
Mr. Arnold Rörholt, Secretary-General.
Mr. Jens Meinich, Assistant Secretary-General.

PAKISTAN

Government

Mr. Justice B. A. Siddiky, Chairman, Red Cross.

Red Cross

Mr. Justice B. A. Siddiky, Chairman.
Begum Nisa Noon, Chairman, Western Branch.
Mr. Justice Akm Nurul Islam, Chairman,
Eastern Branch.

PERU

Red Cross

Mr. Enrique Garcia Sayan, President.
Mr. Antonio Ayllon Pastor, Governor.
Mr. Manuel Davila.

PHILIPPINES

Government

Mr. Jose Alejandrino, Ambassador to Italy.

Red Cross

Mr. Fernando Sison, Vice-President.
Mr. Pio Pedrosa, Member of the Council.
Mrs. G. T. Pecson, Member of the Council.
Mr. Gabriel Daza, Member of the Council.
Dr. Vene Pe Benito, Member of the Council.
Mrs. Loreto Paras Sulit, Secretary-General.
Dr. Generoso C. Caridad, Assistant
Secretary-General.
Mr. Rhodora J. Laurea.
Mr. Constancia Diokno Perez.

POLAND

Government

Mr. Stanislav Piotrovski, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Tadeusz Mallik.
Mr. Slavomir Dabrova.

Red Cross

Mrs. Irena Domanska, President.
Miss Danuta Zys, International Relations.
Mr. Tadeusz Mallik, Member of the Council.

PORTUGAL

Government

Mr. Henrique da Silva Martins, Ambassador
to Turkey.
Mr. J. D. Nunes Barata, Secretary to the Embassy.

Red Cross

Brig. Gen. Ricardo Horta, National President.
Mrs. Maria Ribeiro De Mello, President
of the General Council.

RUMANIA

Government

Mr. Gricore Geamanu, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Ilie Tudor, Consul-General in Istanbul.

Red Cross

Mr. Anton Moisesco, President.
Mr. Trajan Patrasco, External Relations.

SAN MARINO

Government

Dr. Enea Suzzi Valli, Medical Adviser.

Red Cross

Comte F. Dompe Di Mondarco, Governor.

SAUDI ARABIA

Red Crescent

Dr. Abdul Aziz Mudarres, President.
Dr. Al-Chaly Abdul Rahman.
Dr. Hashm Dabbagh.
Mr. Fadl Akasha Fadl.

SENEGAL

Government

Mr. Keba M'Baye, President of Supreme Court.
Dr. Simon Senghor, Director, Social Affairs.

Red Cross

Mr. Rito Alcantara, President.
Mrs. Fatou Niang, Vice-President.
Mr. Keba M'Baye.
Mr. Jean Desplats, Assistant Secretary-General.

SOMALIA

Government and Red Crescent

Mr. Hassan Adan Kalinleh, Secretary-General,
Red Crescent.

SOUTH AFRICA

Red Cross

Dr. L. R. B. Birt, President.
Dr. B. A. Armitage, President Designate.
Mr. K. B. Hartshorne, Director, Junior Red Cross.
Mr. J. X. Roos, National Secretary.

SPAIN

Government

Mr. Emilio Garcia-Gomez, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. C. Reparaz Madinaveitia, 1st Secretary
to the Embassy.
Dr. Miguel Parilla Hermida.
Dr. Cesar Galvez Brunengo.
Mr. E. De No Luis.
Lt. Col. Mariano Lancha Azana.

Red Cross

Mr. Enrique de la Mata, President.
Mr. Eustasio Villanueva-Vadillo, Vice-President.
Duc de Hernani, Governor.
Mr. Trino Hurtado de Mendoza,
Secretary-General.
Dr. Fernandez de la Vega, Special Commissioner.
Mr. Antonio Oyarzabal Marchesi.

SUDAN

Red Crescent

Mr. Sayed Mohamed El Mahdi Musa, President,
Finance Committee.

SWEDEN

Government

Mr. Stig Marcus, Ministry of National Defence.
Mr. Lennert Myrsten, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Ivar Muller, Civil Defence.

Red Cross

Dr. John Philipson, Vice-President.
Dr. Gerd Blume-Westerberg, 2nd Vice-President.
Mr. Olof Stroh, Secretary-General.
Mr. C. Källenius, Director, International Relations.
Dr. G. Svedlund.

SWITZERLAND

Government

Mr. Friedrich T. Wahlen, Former Federal Councillor.
Mr. Arturo Marcionelli, Ambassador to Turkey.
Dr. Reinhold Kaeser, Head Army Physician.
Miss Denise Werner, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Joseph Martin, Department of Justice.
Mr. Jean Cuendet, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Dieter Chenaux-Repond, Embassy in Turkey.
Mr. Henry Burnier, Consul.

Red Cross

Professor Hans Haug, President.
Mr. Marc Maison, Vice-President.
Mr. Henri Perret, Chief Medical Officer.
Mr. Hans Schindler, Secretary-General.
Mr. Jean Pascalis, Assistant Secretary-General.

SYRIA

Government

Mr. Adib Asfari, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Nizar el Jaundi, Consul-General in Istanbul.

Red Crescent

Professor Ahmad Chawkat Chatti, President.
Mr. Chawki Atassi, Secretary-General.
Mr. Ziad Darwiche, Director.
Mr. Abdallah Moussalli, Secretary-General, Aleppo.
Mr. A. Dajani, Adviser.
Mrs. Sumayan Shaker.
Mrs. Nazela Sheila Fadli.

TANZANIA

Government

Mr. A. K. Tibandebage, Ambassador to France.

Red Cross

Mr. J. Rupia, Deputy President.
Miss M. L. Mackeja, Secretary-General.

THAILAND

Red Cross

Prince Sukhuma Paribatra, Vice-President.
Princess Aditya Abhakara, Financial Committee.
Dr. Kashetra Snidvongs, Hon. Secretary-General.

TOGO

Red Cross

Mr. Benjamin Dosseh, Vice-President.
Mr. Richard Ohin, Secretary-General.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Red Cross

Dr. Stephen Moosai-Maharaj, Secretary-General.

TUNISIA

Government

Mr. Ahmed Ben Arfa, Ambassador to Turkey.

Red Crescent

Dr. Ali Fourati, President.
Dr. Abderahmen Dziri, Secretary-General.
Mr. Taieb Miladi, Assistant Secretary.
Miss Lina Migdadi.

TURKEY

Government

Mr. Talât Benler, Ambassador.
General Mustafa Bilhan,
Ministry of National Defence.
General Ali Büyükçakmak,
Ministry of National Defence.
Col. Ahmet Kerse,
Ministry of National Defence.

General Necmi Koral, Ministry of the Interior.
Mr. Lemi Kemalyeri, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Remzi Erkoç, Ministry of Education.
Dr. Nedim Coskun, Ministry of Health
and Social Welfare.
Doç. Dr. Gazanfer Bingöl, Ministry of Health
and Social Welfare.
Mr. Selahaddin Çağlayan, Ministry of
Reconstruction.
Mr. Hikmet Aslanoglu, Technical Adviser.
Mr. Nevzat Temizer, Technical Adviser.

Red Crescent

Mr. Rıza Çerçel, President.
Mr. Mecdi S. Sayman, Vice-President.
General Cahit Tokgöz, Vice-President.
Mr. Talât Alpay, Secretary-General.
Dr. Ziyaeddin Fati, Member of Executive
Committee.
Mr. Gökalp Köymen, Member of Executive
Committee.
Mr. Ihsan Saraçlar, Member of Executive
Committee.
Professor Nusret Karasu,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Fikret Pamir,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Mehmet Nomer,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Nermin Kunter,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Sükrü Ansay,
Member of the Central Committee.
Professor Muhterem Gökmen,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Nihat Zaloglu,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Nihat Danisman,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Yavuz Kadioglu,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Hayreddin Vardar,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Kemal Sansal,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Nedim Akçer,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Sabahaddin Tulga,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Enver Atabek,
Member of the Central Committee.

Mr. Sait Calay,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Ahmet Karakus,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Cafer Aydin,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Fethi Gençkal,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Osman Pekin,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Hihat Hürcan,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Mehmet Kengerli,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Osman Hatay,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mrs. Nermin Arpacioğlu,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Kemal Koçak,
Member of the Central Committee.
Professor Ekrem Serif Egeli,
Member of the Central Committee.
Dr. Mediha Eldem,
Member of the Central Committee.
Mr. Abdaj, President of the Adana Committee.
Professor Seha Meray, Adviser.
Professor Bülent Nuri Esen, Adviser.
Professor Fahreddin Kerim Gökay, Adviser.
Professor Süheyl Ünver, Adviser.
Mrs. Fahrünnisa Seden, Adviser.
Mrs. Esmâ Deniz, Adviser.
Mr. Muzaffer Akin, Director General.
Admiral Kemalettin Bozkurt, President
of the İstiklal Provincial Division.
Mr. Sekip Piriñçioğlu, President of the İzmir
Provincial Division.
Dr. Mirat Olgaç, President of the Bursa
Provincial Division.
Mr. Dua Sertkaya, President of the Bafra
Provincial Division.
Mrs. Asuman Türer, Director of the
Nursing School.
Dr. Cemal Büyükyüksel, Director of İstanbul
Blood Transfusion Centre.

UGANDA

Red Cross

Mr. K. James Kasule, National Committee Member.
Miss Monica Byrne, National Committee Secretary.

UKRAINE

Government

Mrs. Valentina Zoubko, President of the
Ukrainian Red Cross.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Government

Dr. G. Miterev, President of the Red Cross.
Mr. Ivan Grouchine, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Fedor Kojevnikov, Professor of International
Law.

Red Cross and Red Crescent

Dr. G. Miterev, President.
Mrs. Valentina Zoubko, President of the
Ukrainian Red Cross.
Mr. Vladimir Semoukha, President of the
Byelorussian Red Cross.
Mr. Mikail Vetrov, Head of External Relations.
Mrs. Lilia Tcherkasskaya, International Relations.
Mrs. Linaida Patkevitch, Head of Information.

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

Government

Dr. Ahmed Osman, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Abdel Aziz El Kadi, Adviser.
Mr. Adli Cherif.
Mrs. Merva El Tallawy.

Red Crescent

Mr. Mohamed Safwat, Director General.
Dr. Ahmed H. Shahine.

UNITED KINGDOM

Government

Mr. R. A. Burrows, Consul-General, Istanbul.
Col. G. I. A. D. Draper, Delegate.
Miss A. F. Lush, Foreign Office.
Mr. B. L. Barder.

Red Cross

Countess of Limerick, Vice-President.
Dame Anne Bryans, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. A. B. Hodgson, Deputy Director General.
Mr. I. D. M. Reid, Director, International Affairs.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Government

Mr. Graham Martin, Ambassador.
Mr. Douglas Heck, Consul-General.
Mr. George Aldrich, Adviser.
Miss E. A. Brown, State Department.
Mr. James L. Carlin, US Mission to Geneva.
Mr. Charles Hawens III, Defence Department.
Mr. Frank Sieverts, State Department.
Mr. Stephen Tripp, AID.

Red Cross

Mr. William Stevenson, Vice-Chairman.
General F. Collins, President.
Miss Margaret Hickey, Assistant to Chairman.
Mr. Harold Starr, Adviser.
Mr. Ramone Eaton, Vice-President.
Mr. Samuel Krakow, International Services.
Mr. Fred G. Siegrist, International Services.
Mr. Harold Berentson, Director, Oregon Chapter.
Mr. William C. Lucey, Director, Mid-America.
Dr. Tibor Greenwalt, Director, Medical Service.

UPPER VOLTA

Government

Mr. Malick Zorome, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Ouedraogo Kango.

Red Cross

Mr. Charles Bila Kabore, Vice-President.
Mr. P. M. A. Nyamweogho, National Director.
Mr. Bruno Ilboudo, Director, First-Aid Service.

VENEZUELA

Red Cross

Dr. J. R. Lopez Gomez, President of the Provincial
Committee.

VIETNAM (Republic)

Government

Mr. Phan-Van-Thinh,
Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria.
Professor Le-Dinh-Chan.
Professor Nguyen-Manh-Hung.
Mr. Nguyen-Quang-Phuc, Adviser to the
Embassy in Ankara.

Mr. Nguyen-Hai-Tan, Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Le-Dai-Toan, Legal Adviser.
Mr. Nguyen-Tri-Vang, National Defence.

Red Cross

Mr. La-Thanh-Trung, Vice-President.
Mr. Dang-Tran-Loi, Secretary-General.
Mr. Phan-Van-Nhan, Member.

YUGOSLAVIA

Government

Mr. Muhiedin Begic, Ambassador to Turkey.
Mr. Milos Moraca, Minister Plenipotentiary.

Red Cross

Dr. Djura Mesterovic, President.
Dr. Nikola Georgievski, Vice-President.
Mrs. Mara Rupena-Osolnik, Vice-President.
Mrs. Stefa Spiljak, Secretary-General.
Mr. Obren Stisovic, External Relations.
Mr. Bosko Jakovljevic, Adviser.

ZAMBIA

Red Cross

Mr. M. S. A. Tembo.
Dr. Allan Haworth.

International Committee of the Red Cross

Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President.
Mr. Hans Bachmann, Vice-President.
Mr. Jacques Freymond, Vice-President.
Mrs. Denise Bindschedler, Member.
Miss Marjorie Duvillard, Member.
Mr. Roger Gallopin, Member.

Mr. Jean Pictet, Member.
Mr. Frédéric Siordet, Member.
Mr. Claude Pilloud, Director.
Mr. Pierre Gaillard, Assistant Director.
Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, Assistant Director.
Mr. Jean Wilhelm, Assistant Director.

League of Red Cross Societies

Mr. José Barroso Chavez, Chairman.
Mr. G. Aitken, Vice-Chairman.
Chief S. A. Ojo, Vice-Chairman.
Professor H. Haug, Vice-Chairman.
The Countess of Limerick, Vice-Chairman.
Professor G. A. Miterev, Vice-Chairman.
Ambassador W. E. Stevenson, Vice-Chairman.
Baron van Zeeland, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General.
Mr. Nedim Abut, Deputy Secretary-General.
Mr. W. Dabney, Under-Secretary-General.
Mrs. J. Sheppard, Representative to the UN.
Mr. B. Bergman, Controller.
Mr. W. Cassis, Director.
Mr. M. Gazay, Director.
Dr. Z. S. Hantchef, Director.
Miss Y. Hentsch, Director.
Mr. G. Kirchoffer, Director.

Mr. H. Mathiesen, Director.
Mr. C.-A. Schusselé, Director.
Mr. K. Seevaratnam, Head of Section.
Mr. P. Tischhauser, Director.
Mr. J. Meurant, Special Assistant.

Experts

Miss C. Camoletti.
Miss M. Esnard.
Mr. J. Gomez.
Mr. G. Gordon-Lennox.
Miss E. Olson.
Mr. A. Schmid.
Mr. P. Stanissis.

Observers

A. RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN PROCESS OF FORMATION

Central African Republic

Mr. André D. Magale.
Miss Jeanne Helen Lerat.
Mrs. Jocelyne Jourdet, Assistant Secretary-General.

Gambia

Dr. Charles Brooke.

Mauritania

Mr. Ahmed Brahim Ould Soueid.
Miss Tokoselle Sall.

Southern Yemen

Red Crescent

Dr. Hamdani Achmed Ali, President.
Mr. Tarig Achmed Ali, Vice-President.
Miss Z. D. Jawee.

Singapore

Mr. Fook Choon Fok.

B. ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

World Alliance of YWCA

Miss Ruud van Hoogevest.

World Alliance of YMCA

Mr. Charles Webster.

World Medical Association

Dr. Nurettin Otmar-Savci.

Caritas Internationalis

Mr. Leopold Ungar.
Mr. Thaddee Szmitkowski.

Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration

Mr. Raymond Rodie.

International Committee for Military Medicine and Pharmacy

Mr. Paul de la Pradelle.

International Council of Nurses

Miss M. Duvillard.

World Council of Churches

Mr. Dominique Micheli.
Mr. Jan August Ørner.

FAO

Mr. G. H. W. Hutton.

UNICEF

Mr. Henry R. Labouisse, Director General.
Mrs. Gertrude Lutz.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Mr. Henri Schindler.

Magen David Adom

Dr. Eliahu Elath, President.
Dr. Joseph Kott, Chairman.
Mr. David S. Teshler, International Relations.
Mr. Itzhak Shany, Executive Director.
Mrs. Esther Spira, International Relations.
Mr. Ludwic Klezewski.

United Nations

Mr. Vittorio Winspeare Guicciardi,
Assistant Secretary-General.
Mr. Marc Schreiber, Director,
Human Rights Division.
Mr. Theodore D'Oultremont.
Mr. Roy Lee.

Sovereign and Military Order of Malta

Comte J. de Noue.

Order of St. John

Baron F. G. Akerhielm.

International Standardization Organization

Professor Haldun Gürmen.

World Health Organization

Mr. F. Gutteridge.
Dr. E. De Oliveira.

International Social Service

Mr. Reinhard Schnabel.

International Union for Health Education

Dr. Werner Ludwig.

International Union for Child Welfare

Mrs. Meliha Dinçel.

Mr. Yildirim Mehmet.

Mr. Yücebas Talat.

Mr. Keceli Yasar.

C. PRIVATE OBSERVERS

Mr. Ingvar Berg.

Dr. Gheith Khereldin Elzerikly.

Dr. Mahmoud Hijazi.

Mr. Sean MacBride.

Mr. Alexander Squadrilli.

Miss Yvonne von Stedingk.

Members of the Conference with official functions

Chairman :

Mr. Riza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent.

Vice-Chairmen :

The Chairman of the Standing Commission ; the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross ; the Chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies ; the Heads of Delegations of National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies.

Secretary-General :

Mr. Mecdi S. Sayman, Vice-President of the Turkish Red Crescent.

Assistant Secretaries :

Mr. Claude Pilloud, Director of the ICRC Department of Principles and Law ;
Mr. Nedim Abut, League Deputy Secretary-General.

Conference Bureau

Mr. Riza Çerçel, Chairman of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross ;

The Countess of Limerick, Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross ;

Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross ;

Mr. José Barroso-Chavez, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies ;

Mr. Keba M'Baye, Chairman of the Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts ;

Mr. G. Kraijenhoff, Chairman of the General Commission ;

Mr. Mecdi S. Sayman, Secretary-General of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross.

Council of Delegates' Bureau

Chairman :

Mr. Marcel A. Naville (ICRC).

Vice-Chairman :

Dr. Irena Domanska (Poland).

Secretaries :

Mr. Mecdi S. Sayman (Turkey).

Mr. Claude Pilloud (ICRC).

Mr. Nedim Abut (LRCS).

Commissions' Bureaus

A. COMMISSION FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND RELIEF TO CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN ARMED CONFLICTS

Chairman :

Mr. Keba M'Baye (Senegal).

Vice-Chairmen :

Dr. Ahmed Osman (UAR).

Mr. Fédor Kojevnikov (USSR).

Miss Margaret Hickey (USA).

Dr. Maung Maung (Burma).

Dr. Agustin Inostrosa (Chile).

Secretaries :

Mr. J. Mirimanoff-Chilikine (ICRC).

Mr. A. Schmid (LRCS).

Rapporteur :

Dr. Etienne Boeri (Monaco).

Drafting Committee :

Mr. T. W. Sloper (Brazil).

Mr. R. Angebaud (France).

Mr. R. Bermudez (Nicaragua).

Mr. J. Corbeil (Canada).

B. GENERAL COMMISSION

Chairman :

Mr. G. Kraijenhoff (Netherlands).

Vice-Chairmen :

Mrs. M. Hutasoit (Indonesia).

Professor W. Ludwig
(German Democratic Republic).

Dr. A. Naficy (Iran).

Dr. G. Potenza (Italy).

Mr. Ch. W. Rubia (Kenya).

Secretaries :

Mr. P. Tacier (ICRC).

Mr. J. Meurant (LRCS).

Rapporteur :

Mr. L. G. Stubbings (Australia).

Drafting Committee :

Mr. T. W. Sloper (Brazil).

Mr. R. Angebaud (France).

Mr. A. Ayllon-Pastor (Peru).

Dr. S. Moosai-Maharaj (Trinidad and Tobago).

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

6 September 1969

SUMMARY: Opening of the meeting by Mr. Riza Çerçel. — Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Secretaries of the Council. — Proposals for the Chairmanship, Vice-Chairmanship and Secretariat of the Conference. — Approval of the Conference Agenda. — Proposals on Conference procedure. — Admission of the press. — Nominations for elections to the Standing Commission. — Information on the activity of the Henry-Dunant Institute. — Information on the ICRC/League Agreement.

The meeting was opened at 9.30 a.m. by Mr. Riza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

Mr. Riza ÇERÇEL (President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society): — Ladies and Gentlemen. As President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, I have the great honour of opening this session of the Council of Delegates on the occasion of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross. In the course of the Opening Ceremony which will take place at noon, I shall have the opportunity to tell you how pleased we are to offer you Turkish hospitality; but I wish right away to extend to you all a hearty welcome. In accordance with established practice at International Conferences of the Red Cross, I propose that you elect as Chairman of the Council of Delegates Mr. Marcel A. Naville, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. I suggest you signify your approval of his election by acclamation. (*Applause.*)

I conclude from your applause that the proposal is accepted. I therefore thank you and ask President Naville to take the chair.

Mr. NAVILLE (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am grateful for the honour you do me and the International Committee of the Red Cross, by calling upon me to take the chair. Our task is relatively simple and I hope we can discharge it in the time available to us. May I remind you that the opening meeting of the Conference is to be held at 12 noon in the main hall of the Opera House and that, therefore, it would be well if we finished our work by 11.30 a.m. at the latest.

I would first of all request you to appoint a Vice-Chairman of the Council of Delegates, a Secretary and two Assistant Secretaries. In agreement with the Turkish Red Crescent, I propose Mrs. Domanska, President of the Polish Red Cross as Vice-Chairman of this Council. (*Applause.*)

Thank you. I declare Mrs. Domanska elected Vice-President and invite her to take her place at the Conference table.

For the Secretariat of our Council, in accordance with the custom followed at our International Conferences, I propose that Mr. Sayman, Vice-President of the Turkish Red Crescent, be elected, assisted by Mr. Pilloud, of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Mr. Abut, of the League of Red Cross Societies. (*Applause.*)

Are there any other proposals? I consider that you have ratified these proposals and that, the officers of the Council of Delegates having thus been elected, we may pass on to the task incumbent upon us. In this connection, I shall read out to you paragraph 3 of Article IV of the Statutes of the International Red Cross:

“3. The functions of the Council of Delegates shall be :

- (a) to meet, prior to the opening of the Conference, in order to propose the names of persons to fill the posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-General and Assistant Secretaries-General ; these proposals shall be submitted to the Conference,
- (b) to determine the order in which questions and proposals submitted to the Conference are to be brought up for discussion,
- (c) to give an opinion upon, and, where necessary, take decisions in respect of such questions and proposals as may be referred to it by the Conference or by the Standing Commission.”

I would remind you that the Council of Delegates is composed of delegates of duly recognized National Societies, of the League of Red Cross Societies and of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Each of these institutions has one vote.

It is a pleasure for me, on this occasion, to greet several new National Societies which have been recognized by the ICRC and admitted to membership of the League since the Twentieth International Conference. I personally extend to them, and in your name too, a very hearty welcome. This is their first attendance at an International Conference of the Red Cross, and they include, in chronological order of entry :

- in 1965, the Red Cross Society of Niger ;
- in 1966, the Kenya Red Cross Society and the Zambia Red Cross ;
- in 1967, the Mali Red Cross ;
- in 1968, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society and the Guyana Red Cross ; and
- in 1969, the Somali Red Crescent Society.

Would you please express, by your applause, the satisfaction and pleasure we all feel at having them present with us here. (*Applause.*)

The next item on the agenda concerns the proposals to be made to the Conference with regard to the Chairman and Secretariat of the Conference. I have great pleasure in proposing Mr. Rıza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, who has kindly accepted to act as host to the Conference, to be Chairman. You all know very well Mr. Çerçel's personality, qualities and qualifications, and I am sure that you will approve unanimously my proposal. (*Applause.*)

With regard to Vice-Chairmen, the Standing Commission has suggested that the procedure of previous conferences might be followed, and that the heads of all National Society delegations represented here, as well as the Chairmen of the Standing Commission and of the League of Red Cross Societies and the President of the ICRC should be appointed as Vice-Chairmen of the Conference. Do you approve this suggestion ? (*Applause.*)

As Secretary-General of our Conference, I think that Mr. Mecdi Sayman, Vice-President of the Turkish Red Cross, who has taken part in all the preparatory work for our meeting is most particularly qualified. His devotion to the work of the Red Crescent, over which he has presided and of which he has been a Central Committee member for many years, singles him out quite naturally for this assignment. I suggest that he be assisted in his task by two Assistant Secretaries-General, Mr. Pilloud of the ICRC and Mr. Abut of the League. (*Applause.*)

I thank you for having ratified these suggestions.

We have now to approve the draft agenda of the XXIst International Conference, which the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross has prepared very carefully, on the basis of proposals made by the International Committee, the League and several National Societies. At yesterday's meeting, the Standing Commission added to the General Commission's agenda a proposal put forward by the Canadian and Norwegian governments relative to international relief actions, and which the Board of Governors had already noted. I think that the draft agenda will meet with your approval but am prepared to give the floor to anyone wishing to speak on this point. If no one has anything to declare, I take it that you have approved the agenda as drawn up by the Standing Commission. Thank you.

I shall now ask you to consider some proposals by the Standing Commission concerning the procedure to be followed in the course of the Conference. The first proposal is the creation of two commissions : the General Commission and the Commission on International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in the Event of Armed Conflict. All the preparation for this Conference has been based on this division of work, so I do not think there should be any need to revert to that point. The Standing Commission has requested that each Commission should constitute a drafting committee composed of three members, and that each one of these should be fluent in one of the three working languages of the conference. The two drafting committees would sit with the General Secretariat after the Commission sessions so as to constitute the Drafting Committee of the Conference. Do you approve this proposal ? I take it that this proposal is approved. Thank you.

With regard to the presence of the press at our meetings, the Standing Commission has suggested that, on the lines of what was done at Vienna and New Delhi, the press be admitted, in so far as material considerations permit, to all plenary meetings of the Conference and also to the Commission sessions, each Commission having discretion to decide which of its sessions shall be private. Do you approve this suggestion ? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

Concerning the election of the elected members of the Standing Commission, they are five in number ; the Commission proposes the following procedure :

1. at the plenary session, on 6 September, the Chairman will announce that the election of the five members of the Standing Commission will take place at the last plenary session ;
2. names of candidates must be handed in to the Bureau of the Conference not later than noon, 11 September, and each proposal must contain a biographical note on the candidate, giving details, in particular, of his experience in Red Cross work ;
3. the Bureau will submit on 13 September, at the closing plenary session, a complete list of all candidates, indicating those five who, in their opinion, carry the highest qualifications to take up these important duties ;
4. the number of proposals made in favour of a candidate will carry no weight on the recommendations formulated by the Bureau, which are based solely on the candidates' merits ;
5. elections will be held by secret ballot.

Do you approve these suggestions ? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

We have now on our agenda two items, which were submitted by the Standing Commission to the Council of Delegates. The first concerns information on the work of the Henry-Dunant Institute, and I have pleasure in asking Mr. Pierre Boissier, Director of the Institute and member of the delegations of the three institutions that have founded it, namely the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and the Swiss Red Cross, to take the floor. Mr. Boissier, you have the floor.

Mr. BOISSIER (Henry-Dunant Institute) (*Original French*) : — Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, if the Red Cross is, in many respects, an original institution, that must be ascribed in large part to the very special manner in which it evolved.

The Red Cross was not created in response to the formulation of an abstract concept, it did not arise out of a charter or an organization chart which laid down from the start its aims and organs. Quite the reverse, its beginnings were modest. Its first purpose was to go to the aid of the wounded. From one success to another, one failure to another, ways were found to introduce improvements. Action led to new kinds of activities, which, in their turn, were the cause of further groping and experimentation. This alternation may be observed all along. At first, a fact is found to exist, then a need, and only after that is an appropriate body created. Hence, the efficacy and flexibility but also the apparent complexity of the overall structure.

The Henry-Dunant Institute fits very closely into this prudent and realistic trend.

Here again, the contact with realities has given rise to new needs, and therefore to new tasks. In order to come to grips with these, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and

the Swiss Red Cross have created a sort of "technical bureau" which has received the name of Henry-Dunant Institute.

These needs, in keeping with contemporary trends, are evident. They concern research, training and information.

There is no need, Ladies and Gentlemen, to insist on the importance of research. If you take any large undertaking, factory, church or political party, you will find that, in order to speak the language of our time, to adapt themselves to new techniques, to anticipate the problems that will arise, they all multiply, sometimes feverishly, their research activities. The Red Cross, which faces similar problems cannot solve them otherwise, hence the importance of having a place where one may meditate and foregather.

The Henry-Dunant Institute is already busy with a number of long and exacting labours which call for deep and prolonged study : relation of the Red Cross to the great religions and ideologies, practical action for peace, research, and that which the Red Cross expects from youth and youth from Red Cross.

You are aware that exactly one year ago the Institute organized a colloquium on the Modern State and the Red Cross. A good number of ideas very well worth pondering upon were aired during those three days. The papers that were read and the discussions that took place have just been printed in a publication that will be distributed, immediately after the Conference, to all National Societies.

A varying number of students, between five and twelve, revolve around our Institute. They come to seek documentary material or advice for the book or thesis they may be preparing. The Institute busies itself with finding for them accommodation in Geneva that is not too dear, a task which is harder than one might think, travel expenses are refunded to some, while others receive a small grant.

But there are other students all over the world who will be just now taking decisions of great importance to themselves, since they will affect the substance, interest and value of their lives for the next two, three or four years : they have to choose a subject for their doctorate. It so happens that there are several questions to which the Red Cross would like to have an answer, and which need extended study in a variety of fields. It has only to turn research workers in the direction which is likely to be most useful and fruitful. That is what we have in mind : to establish and to regulate contacts and co-operation between the Red Cross and the University, between action and thought. For this, we had to start by drawing up a short list of the main subjects of research that concern the Red Cross. We next sent a circular on to all National Societies. The result of this enquiry was crystal clear ; not a single reply came in. But was that a reason for getting discouraged ? Not at all. An institution which today believes that it can do without research just shows that it needs it more than others. The question is to bring it to understand this, and that, Ladies and Gentlemen, we shall manage to do.

And now, I would like to tell you something, rather more briefly, about training, to which we also attach very great importance.

There exists what could be called a Red Cross (cultural) tradition, moulded by a long past marked by action, events and heroism. There is a particular spirit, there are principles, a certain way of seeing man, a certain fashion in which thought and action are oriented. There is a considerable sum of studies and surveys, in short an impressive stock of intellectual acquirements, and there are the techniques of action and administration. I ask you now, how many Red Cross men exist who, before taking on responsible posts in our organization, have received a systematic training in depth, enabling them to acquire rapidly and lastingly the sum of knowledge that is necessary for carrying out their tasks ? I think that the answer is contained in the question itself.

Many lectures have already been given at the Henry-Dunant Institute, which has also set up a detailed training programme, and the following year, it is intended to provide some solid services of a very practical nature in this domain.

The Institute has already available for you a booklet of a quite novel concept intended to display clearly and at a glance what the Red Cross does and what are its means of action.

Ladies and Gentlemen, without going into a multitude of details, it only remains for me to speak of the books printed by the Henry-Dunant Institute.

Just now, I mentioned research. Its natural complement is the "Collection scientifique" of the Henry-Dunant Institute. Next year, we intend to publish several volumes of a high scientific standard. We wish to demonstrate in that way that the Red Cross does not merely signify good will patched up with sticking-plaster, as some people, even very cultured folk, too often seem to think, but that it is on the loftiest intellectual plane, comparable to the big international organizations.

We shall be publishing, first, two theses that were presented for doctorate degrees. It is a happy coincidence that the first will be most likely that of a Turkish student. Next will appear two most significant compendiums of texts : first, the whole of the law of war, with carefully-arranged notes and cross-references ; and, secondly, the law of peace, comprising all the legal texts that were intended to prevent war and consolidate peace. We must be very grateful to two eminent writers on international affairs, Professor Schindler and Professor Zurek, who have assumed these substantial and delicate studies.

I mentioned a little earlier the expression "Red Cross cultural tradition" ; I could have added that a literature of the Red Cross also exists. It is desirable that these writings, many of which are admirable, should be made available to members of the Red Cross and also to the general public. That is the aim of another series of publications which we have called simply "Collection de l'Institut Henry-Dunant".

The first book in this series has just come out. It is a new edition of "Un Souvenir de Solférino", attractively presented, published by us in Lausanne. This is not only a compliment raised to the man whose name was given to our institute. It is much more than that ; it is the revelation that we have here an author who had remained long ignored. For twenty years of Dunant's life were spent in writing, and we know practically nothing of all the effort he put into his work.

In this same volume, all Dunant's other writings on war, in addition to "Un Souvenir de Solférino", have been collected so that we have at last the thoughts of the founder of the Red Cross on war. They are explosively fierce ; never have those men who bring war about been attacked with so much lucidity, insight and force. For many people, these unpublished writings will come as a revelation.

We shall bring out next spring, in the same series, a book that will serve as a working tool and as a mine of information : this will be the French translation of a book, entitled "The Red Cross", written by Professor Hans Haug, President of the Swiss Red Cross. To my knowledge, it is the fullest and most accurate study made of the Red Cross, viewed in all its various aspects : its history, structure, action, principles and its link with international law.

Later, a second book by Dunant, his Memoirs, will be published. For the last two years, Professor Gagnebin, Dean of the "Faculté de Lettres" at Geneva University has been at work on this edition which will constitute an event in the literary world. Dunant had a remarkable personality, his life was a succession of extraordinary adventures, and it is high time that the Red Cross made the best possible use of this.

As for the fourth book that will appear in the "Collection de l'Institut Henry-Dunant", you will provide it for us, Ladies and Gentlemen. There lie hidden away with National Societies many excellent writings which only have to be translated in order to be brought before the notice of a wider circle of readers. Do not hesitate therefore to send us stories, essays, memoirs, thoughts. The instrument exists ; it is up to you to make use of it.

The Henry-Dunant Institute has at last revived an idea that was launched at the Red Cross Centenary for a set of books which we have called the "Collection du Centenaire". After having published last year the first supplement to the General Catalogue of Red Cross Stamps, we have just brought out in the same series the account of our Colloquium on the Modern State and the Red Cross. In the months to come, we intend to publish two further work-reference books. The first will be a bio-bibliographical essay on Dunant, for we found that no one today, I repeat, no one is able to draw up a full list of Dunant's writings and of all that has been written on Dunant himself. That is a gap that we intend to fill, and, to add to this publication's appeal, it will contain reproductions of all extant portraits of Dunant.

Finally, Professor Toman is at present at work on an index to the Geneva Conventions. Here, too, we shall be meeting a need, for, as you know, wars move more and more swiftly. Between the time that a general issues a command and the time it is executed, jurists have no more than a few hours, sometimes not much more than a few minutes, to provide answers, whether positive or negative. It is essential that they should not lose more time than the very minimum required for looking up the relevant articles.

It is in this fashion, Ladies and Gentlemen, that through research, training and the dissemination of our common intellectual heritage, we hope to serve the Red Cross in its entirety, the Red Cross considered as a whole, that which corresponds to the special vision of the Henry-Dunant Institute.

Mr. NAVILLE (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank Mr. Boissier for his interesting account. I would also like to thank him, on behalf of all of us here, for the work he is carrying out at the head of the Henry-Dunant Institute. We trust that this Institute, the utility of which will become increasingly apparent and which to some extent represents the spearhead of the Red Cross movement, will develop as brilliantly as we expect it to do. Are there remarks on this point?

If there are none, then we come next to the item entitled "Information regarding ICRC/League Agreement". You will recall that the Council of Delegates at its Hague meeting in 1967, adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION II

The Council of Delegates,

considering the important changes during the two last decades in the conditions for international Red Cross work, referring to the increasingly recognised and respected need to accelerate the development of Red Cross activities and their co-ordination,

requests the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League to consider a revision of the Agreement of December 8th, 1951, in order to obtain a fully co-ordinated effect of the knowledge and capabilities of both organizations in the different situations where Red Cross action is required.

Since that time, discussions have taken place between the League and the ICRC with the intention of arriving at a result. On 25 April 1969, I had the pleasure of signing, together with the Chairman, Mr. Barroso, this Agreement, subject however to ratification by the Board of Governors and the ICRC. As you know, the Agreement was ratified by the Board of Governors at its meeting of 3 September. I am happy to inform you that the International Committee of the Red Cross has granted me powers to ratify this Agreement, which I have the very great honour of signing today in front of you. We shall not fail, where the ICRC is concerned, particularly in the field of relief, to take all measures of organization and liaison desired by National Societies in order to give greater efficacy to the actions of the International Red Cross. Is there a League representative who would also like to say something on this subject? Mr. Beer.

Mr. BEER (LRCS) (*Original French*): — Mr. Chairman, I wish only to repeat and to confirm what you have already said. Our Board of Governors has unanimously ratified this Agreement and we wish to tackle these problems in the same spirit that you yourself have underlined. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. NAVILLE (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank you.

I am happy to find, Ladies and Gentlemen, that, even before reaching the limits that had been set, we have been able to get through our agenda. I shall present, in your name, the proposals we had established for the XXIst International Conference at the beginning of the plenary session to be held this afternoon at 3 p.m.

Our work is now finished. I thank you for the attention with which you followed these discussions. My task was thereby greatly facilitated.

I therefore close this meeting of the Council of Delegates. (*Applause.*)

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONY
6 September 1969, noon.
Palace of Culture, Istanbul

SUMMARY: Welcome address by Mr. Rıza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent. — Speeches by H. E. Mr. Cevdet Sunay, President of the Republic of Turkey; Lady Limerick, Chairman of the Standing Commission; Mr. M. Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Mr. J. Barroso, Chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies; Mr. Rıza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent.

H. E. Mr. Cevdet Sunay, President of the Republic of Turkey, was accompanied to the rostrum by Lady Limerick, Mr. Rıza Çerçel, Mr. Marcel Naville and Mr. José Barroso.

The meeting rose for the Turkish national anthem.

Mr. Rıza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, greeted the delegates and asked the President of the Republic to take the floor.

H. E. Mr. Cevdet SUNAY (President of the Republic of Turkey): — It is a pleasure for me to welcome with gratitude the distinguished members of this assembly, who kindly chose our country for the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, and thus honour the city of Istanbul with their presence.

While performing this pleasant duty on behalf of the Turkish Nation and State I feel also particular joy in my capacity as Honorary President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, which celebrated its centenary last year.

The Turkish nation, which throughout its history considered itself duty-bound to alleviate suffering in all forms of human distress, and the Republic of Turkey, which pursues firmly the policy of "Peace at home and peace in the world" set forth by Atatürk its venerated founder, were overjoyed and immensely proud at the decision of the International Red Cross, which unites in the services of mankind 112 National Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies representing 210 million members, to hold this Conference, the supreme body of the organization, in our country which founded the first National Society having the Red Crescent as its emblem.

I avail myself of this occasion to thank the Turkish Red Crescent, the International Red Cross, the eminent delegates present here and the Societies they represent, for giving us the opportunity to render mankind a service in which we have faith.

On this occasion, I should like to pay respectful tribute to the unforgettable memory of Henry Dunant, the great philanthropist, who won the eternal esteem of mankind by the torch of compassion which he lit at Solferino in 1859 and which heralded a new era of civilization.

Your charitable institutions, which since that date have tended the wounds of their nations and of all mankind in wars and natural disasters, have achieved remarkable progress deserving of the highest praise for the services they have rendered and for the noble causes espoused by the whole Red Cross in so far as circumstances and opportunities allowed.

The efforts exerted by the newly independent nations to set up a Red Cross or Red Crescent Society and to join your League as soon as possible are irrefutable proof of the prestige which your example and your successes have acquired in the eyes of mankind.

I hope that, on the one hand, subjects such as international humanitarian law and assistance to civilian populations in armed conflicts—which have been emphasized from the outset—the protection of life and health,

the development of youth and social services and that, on the other hand, ideas promoting the necessary conditions for maintaining world peace will be discussed at this Conference, as was the case at the Vienna Conference, and that our peace-loving aspirations will be brought closer to fulfilment.

Despite the sufferings and unhappy experiences of the past, the probable escalation of present conflicts, the arms race, the use of outer space for military purposes and the recurrence of natural disasters may make the tasks of your organization even more onerous.

I should like, in particular, to affirm that your movement, by speedily fulfilling, nationally and internationally, the obligations arising out of all these tasks, on the basis of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross which are well known to you all, will achieve further progress in the service of mankind. I should also like to affirm that the Turkish Nation and its Red Crescent will participate with enthusiasm in discharging these tasks and will carry out the duties devolving upon them to the best of their ability.

I also wish to thank, on behalf of the Turkish Nation, those who have served this cause, to encourage those who have devoted themselves to it, and to express once more our gratitude for the assistance so generously extended to my country by your States and your Societies following various events and at every opportunity.

Madam Chairman, Honorable Delegates, before concluding, I extend to all of you my congratulations on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the League of Red Cross Societies which was celebrated yesterday.

I now declare open the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, to which 112 National Societies, 136 States and 49 organizations have been invited, and I trust that your work will be fruitful and express my most sincere wishes for your full success.

Musical interlude by the Istanbul Symphonic Orchestra conducted by Mr. Demirhan Altug : Mozart, Overture to the "Marriage of Figaro".

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross) : — We are indeed fortunate that the XXIst International Red Cross Conference is taking place in this beautiful and historic City of Istanbul where we are enjoying the renowned and gracious hospitality of our Turkish host.

The presence of so many distinguished guests is a measure of the importance attached to the occasion.

It has been my privilege to visit the Turkish Red Crescent on three previous occasions. I have been deeply impressed by the scope and variety of their work.

We realize the tremendous tasks the Society has been called upon to undertake. I think particularly of the disastrous earthquakes which have claimed so many victims and caused such widespread devastation. The Turkish Red Crescent has always been in the forefront in rendering aid to the victims and caring for the homeless. The organisation they have built up to provide swift relief at such time is a model.

Some of those present today will share the memorable experience last year of attending the Society's Century Celebration—100 years spent in the service of humanity with a record of which any National Society might well feel proud.

We are meeting today at a time when many parts of the world are torn by war, dissension and civil unrest. Indeed for many years now the world has been harassed by tension inseparable from the great changes we have seen in political boundaries, theories of government and the rate of scientific discovery. To many it must seem that the stress of human differences must always dominate thought and action.

But luckily the Red Cross stands apart from national, racial, religious or political difficulties. The ideals which inspire it spring from a wisdom which is indifferent to the ebb and flow of public opinion or the ideologies of the moment : they have outlived those who created them just as they will survive us.

The Red Cross is unique in its impartiality in offering practical help on an international level to the victims of war or natural disaster. It has one object only in mind—to organise human kindness to relieve human suffering irrespective of race, nationality, class, creed or politics. It is this which makes possible the successful partnership of 214 million people in 112 countries throughout the world.

We have not only an opportunity but a responsibility, at this Conference, of proving to the world that humanitarian considerations can overcome political differences : that the distinguished representatives of Govern-

ments and the leaders of National Societies gathered here today are animated by one purpose only—to seek practical humanitarian measures to solve some of the acute problems which confront and divide the world today.

International unity is the only way to dispel national insecurity. The present feeling of insecurity which haunts nations today springs largely from a loss of faith in the values of Treaties.

The Geneva Conventions are the greatest effort yet to safeguard the best interests of the human race. They appeal for compassion to combat nationalism, and their originator and guardian—the Red Cross—is accepted among nations as a bridge of practical goodwill. Since it concerns the whole human race it is more important than any group or nation.

The result of common action between peoples of all races are in themselves a force for peace. Common enterprise promotes friendship and understanding and makes for goodwill, showing that people with different ideologies can work together in amity and confidence.

We hear these days much talk about change and progress and we have certainly witnessed these in all things material.

But progress itself can never be a sufficient ideal for humanity. Progress is indiscriminating—it gives us better medical science, but it gives us more powerful bombs too.

We must learn to relate the Computer with Compassion. Knowledge itself is not enough because it can be used for any purpose—good or evil. Only wisdom and high ideals can ensure that knowledge is used for the benefit and not the destruction of mankind.

We must surely be agreed that there never has been a time when the ideals and principles which animate the Red Cross need more confident expression than they do today.

The time to show resolution in our faith in the Red Cross and all it stands for is not so much when things are going smoothly but when difficulties crop up.

History judges harshly, and rightly so, those who cannot rise to the level of events, who sacrifice tomorrow for today. Let it never be said of us, who know the strength of the Red Cross as a force for good in the world, that through expediency or negligence we have jeopardized the future potentialities of our movement.

If the world is being shaken by political events let us prove that the Red Cross, at least, cannot be shaken, but it will emerge strengthened in men's hearts and minds by the ordeals through which it has passed.

May we, through this XXIst International Red Cross Conference which is just opening, give a clear demonstration of our faith in the future of the Red Cross and all that it stands for in this troubled world.

Mr. Marcel NAVILLE (President of the International Committee of the Red Cross) : — Mr. President of the Republic, Mr. Chairman of the XXIst Conference, Ladies and Gentlemen, in assuming the responsibility of organizing and acting as host to the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Turkish Red Crescent Society have made an important contribution to the cause of peace. I should like to express to them the profound gratitude of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

A proud people whose reputation for hospitality is being most strikingly confirmed today, a city which is one of the world's historic landmarks and a countryside which is among the most beautiful in the world, these together provide perfect conditions for a Conference whose *raison d'être* is to defend a certain concept of man.

Every opportunity which is given members of the various Red Cross organizations to meet is to be welcomed. Such meetings make it possible to define more accurately this image of man which we wish to defend, and also to draw up an inventory of the intellectual, moral and legal resources which we are able to mobilize to this end. It is thereby possible for us to know each other better, to compare our experiences and to assess what divides us and what unites us.

I should like for my part to take this opportunity of submitting to you a few very brief reflections on the role and responsibilities of the ICRC vis-à-vis governments and the other charitable organizations.

The present activities of the ICRC are very diverse, fragmented and often modest for lack of adequate resources. While some of these activities can clearly only be performed by the ICRC, there are others which could in theory be taken over by other institutions. The ICRC has not, and in no way claims to have, a world

monopoly of respect for the human person and of relief for victims. It is only one instrument of the Red Cross, in the service of a cause, and it is not the only one.

Circumstances—indifference or passivity on the part of governments or charitable institutions—have too often compelled the ICRC to act alone in the field. The outcome has been that such actions have come to be regarded as part of its regular, quasi-mandatory functions. But they should only be transitory, either to substitute for the National Societies when they are unable to act themselves, or to initiate action by setting an example and providing the first emergency relief. By acting itself in the field, the ICRC accomplishes only a small part of Red Cross action. It would be betraying the very work which it initiated if it were to act as though in some way it were of necessity the “specialist” in direct relief to victims. It would then become, in effect, a pretext for governments to rest on their laurels, absolving them from respecting the commitments to which it has itself invited them to subscribe, and the National Societies from making, through their moral influence and material organization, a contribution for which it itself brought them into being.

The ICRC has a duty, as soon as it becomes necessary, first to seek out, in the Red Cross or elsewhere, the best means of providing for practical action : to instigate relief and to encourage and help the best qualified or best placed institution to act.

When circumstances require the ICRC itself to undertake practical action in the field, it should not be deduced that such action or type of action will henceforth become part of its normal sphere of activities. The ICRC should not lose sight either of its final goal, or of the unity of the Red Cross. Just as it should always be prepared to intervene, it should always be prepared to modify, to halt or to transfer the action once the compelling circumstances change.

The world lies under the threat of a universal nuclear conflict for which the great Powers are preparing themselves so as to be more certain of staving it off. But at the same time it is plunged into a series of conflicts and troubles which are agitating all the continents : conflicts resulting from national rivalries and aligning States against each other, civil wars which sometimes become internationalized, movements provoked by the desire for independence, liberation and secession, racial and tribal struggles, religious and social upheavals.

Although all such conflicts are of an international nature, in that the opposing parties seek and sometimes obtain foreign support, States take advantage of their sovereignty to protect themselves against intervention from outside. While denouncing foreign interference, they refuse to recognize the international nature of the conflict.

For this reason the ICRC finds itself in a delicate situation. The references made by the opposing parties to the international nature of certain internal troubles and the appeals made to the ICRC on behalf of the victims should induce it to intervene. But its overtures constantly come up against the obstacle of sovereignty. Rightly or wrongly, governments consider that its intervention, which has for them the disadvantage of transforming the refractory into victims, threatens to make the international nature of the conflict official.

Thus, the ICRC runs the risk of seeing itself gradually rejected from the field in which its action should take place and confined, alongside its undisputed role of guardian of the Conventions, to activities which are undoubtedly valid but marginal. It too is the victim of growing anarchy and of what might be called the degradation of international relations, the destroyer of all standards.

These difficulties are due, to a great extent, to the lack of understanding displayed by parties to armed conflict for the application of the Geneva Conventions, their tendency to ignore those Conventions when they consider them incompatible with their military objectives or with the means of achieving those objectives. War aims are given predominance over the humanitarian duties assumed when subscribing to the Geneva Conventions. Belligerents do not generally contest the existence of such duties, but they do in fact seek to evade them by subordinating, for example, their fulfilment to unacceptable conditions.

What attitude should be adopted when faced with all these obstacles ?

First, the validity of the Conventions and the value of their application to all forms of war must be reaffirmed. In this connection, the ICRC's role is capital. There is little doubt that the value of the work undertaken by its legal section has conferred on it an indisputable authority. Consequently, whilst continuing the studies which the changing situation demands, it is important to intensify the dissemination of the Conventions and make better known the Committee's position, through contacts with national and international private or public organizations working for the same objectives.

It is not due to the inadequacy of humanitarian law that its application encounters difficulties. Nevertheless, during the 20 years which have elapsed since the 1949 Geneva Conventions were drawn up, new experience has been acquired, and new forms of conflict and warfare have made their appearance. A number of the States which have been founded in the meantime did not have the opportunity to share in the drafting of the Conventions, but they have disseminated them, thereby showing that they recognize the need for the Conventions.

The 1949 Conventions have lost nothing of their value and they deserve to remain valid. On the other hand, they could be examined for shortcomings and to see whether they could be supplemented by new provisions with a view to the strengthening of humanitarian law, and to ensure and broaden its application. As it did preparatory to the 1949 Conference, the ICRC would willingly draft texts and proposals for submission to a further international conference at which it would be desirable for all States to attend.

Pending such an event, the Committee must recognize that, faced with the generalization of internal conflicts of an international character, it must place a wide construction on the provisions of Article 3 of the Conventions. The world's decline to a state of belligerent co-existence which circumvents the law of war nevertheless causes victims everywhere which it is the ICRC's duty to take care of, whatever arguments governments may adduce to qualify the kind of war in which they are involved. Prisoners of war, suspected persons, those who submit to re-education, rebels, political detainees, and even populations seeking refuge in conflict areas which no other humanitarian institution is able to assist, all are victims within the purview of the ICRC.

However they are interpreted, the Conventions are the basis of Red Cross action, and the Red Cross, in turn, as an instrument and a set of values, was founded by nations and governments for the safeguarding of the principles of humanity. It is a duty of the Red Cross to continue as that effective instrument and to live up to what is expected of it.

Yet, in the final analysis, responsibility for the success or failure of humanitarian action rests squarely on the shoulders of nations and governments, as it is for them to decide whether the humanitarian principles shall prevail over other considerations. The Red Cross can and should be subject to criticism for its shortcomings. But only nations and governments can supply it with the means it requires for its action, or compel it to impotency.

In conclusion, I should like to quote you a passage of a French moralist of the XVIIIth century, a passage which I find beautiful in its formidable exactingness. Montesquieu said :

“If I knew something which was useful to me and which was prejudicial to my family, I would reject it from my mind. If I knew something which was useful to my family and not to my country, I would seek to forget it. If I knew something useful to my country and prejudicial to the human species, I would regard it as a crime.”

Honourable delegates, I call upon you to reflect on this passage and I hope that it will inspire you in your work.

Mr. José BARROSO (Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies) : — In the Constitution of Unesco it is said that, if wars are born in the minds of men, men should also be capable of preventing them.

In the course of this century war has exacted the following toll from mankind : more than 90 million persons killed, 130 conflicts on five continents, two thousand million dollars spent on armaments, and material damage valued at several times that amount. If we continue on this road of violence with war regarded as inevitable, our century will figure in history as the most humiliating in the existence of the human race.

The technological progress of our civilization has led man to accomplish marvellous feats. Man has already taken a definite step forward in the conquest of space. Thanks to the development of means of communication, millions of persons throughout the whole world were able to see the first human being reach the surface of the moon. This exploit has reduced the field of the unknown and as a result human power grows and reaches proportions never yet dreamed of.

It is therefore paradoxical that, whilst man takes pride in his conquests, we find ourselves faced with this tragic reminder of all that man has destroyed. It is also paradoxical that throughout the 20th century man has

now come to accept war, hatred, the domination over other men, hunger, ignorance and slavery as normal features of his destiny, and this at a time when he was capable of making conquests which are the admiration of all. It is sad to think that, if we do not change our ways, we shall not be capable of removing from our onward progress the stain of all these acts of violence and injustice.

There is no doubt that mankind has not learned much from the lesson of recent years. On the contrary, its path, as it advances towards maturity, is strewn with bodies ; and, whereas technical progress continues on its upward course, everything seems to indicate that the norms of international coexistence are being frittered away. The permanent desire for peace is each day on the wane and justice is ever more precarious.

What is the use of all this technical progress if it does not serve to improve human relations ?

I think that the moment has come for us to stop to reflect and think out our situation, that the time has come to ask all men of all countries and races, as a matter of urgency, to act in accordance with our needs and on the basis of peace, to seek justice, international cooperation, new codes of behaviour—should these be necessary—or a reappraisal of the old ones, in order to achieve the most important conquest of all, peace of mind.

The incongruity of our actions has in large measure produced a state of disillusionment in the younger generation who seek a peace they do not know as we have never given it to them. The younger generation reproach us for the lack of the love which we have cast aside. They passionately seek for justice, but not a justice enabling man to despoil and assassinate in its name. They want coexistence without humiliating strings attached ; they are hungry for sincerity and confidence . . . it is we who have neglected our duties as educators.

Against this background another question arises : have we failed as parents ? Has man already recognized his defeat and sought to free himself from the burden of parenthood ? Perhaps the very insistence on the destruction of lives is due to his manifest inability to direct these lives and guide them into the way of order and respect ? Does our failure perhaps lead us to accept the practice of euthanasia ?

It is against the very nature of things to encourage means of birth control, as it is our duty to protect human life. It is not logical to accept the idea of preventing birth to feel that we have done our duty.

As from the day when I was elected Chairman of the League, I have continually repeated on all rostrums that it is necessary to seek a state of balance which will lead us to peace both as a state of mind and as a vital contribution to mankind. And the echo of my words perhaps has been dulled and even reduced to silence by cries of anguish and suffering from civilians and soldiers who fall each day on the different battlefields where man continues to act against his own nature, as I have always held the deep conviction that human nature is basically good.

I have said that peace cannot be obtained by mere words. Action is required. We have appealed to the political systems which are every day more complicated and in certain cases seem to draw away from our essential aim. It is tragic to see how, for ever less important reasons, peoples resort to violence against other peoples. That is why this time we want our message to cross the frontiers formed by these systems and reach the men and communities which compose our society. It is addressed to families, to each and every one of our families as, if we have not been successful in our efforts to improve the world by the actions of institutions, we can perhaps proceed in the opposite direction, that is to say, instead of seeking a better world for men, let us educate better men for our world, men understanding and upholding justice, men understanding and respecting liberty, men concerned with the fate of other men. We have already said it but we shall again repeat : let us hope that our 220 million members adopt these ideas and make them their own, and let us be the first to put them into practice. This is a difficult and long-term task, but I am convinced that we have the time in which to accomplish it.

We must seek to imbue all sections of the community at all levels with our collective Red Cross ideal if we are to give reality to the words of our founder : “All men are brothers”.

Musical interlude : Mozart, Overture to the ballet “Les Petits Riens”.

Mr. Riza ÇERÇEL (President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society) : — Your Excellency the President of the Republic, honourable delegates and distinguished guests, I would like, in my own name and on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent Society of which I am the President, respectfully to greet our guests, who are the

esteemed representatives of voluntary organizations such as the Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies. These Societies are linked fraternally by their service to society and humanity, and have in this respect a natural federative character ; in other words, they represent both the army of men and women gathered under the flag of humanity who are highly respected for the sacred duty they have fulfilled for more than a hundred years, and the nations which, in their abundant goodness, have nurtured them. You have honoured the peace-loving land of that great man Atatürk, and I extend to you a hearty welcome.

I feel proud and honoured that the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross is being held in Turkey, and I would like to express, on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, my profound gratitude both to the personalities who have spared no effort in order to make this Conference as positive an event as possible, and to all delegates and observers who are honouring this Conference by their presence. We are gathered together in a friendly atmosphere under the aegis of the International Red Cross with the lofty ideal of investigating and deciding on the most effective means of serving humanity as a whole, and I count it a sacred duty of our Conference to commemorate with deep gratitude our founders and all devoted men and women of goodwill who are no longer with us. In doing so, I believe I am fulfilling the common wish of all our esteemed delegates and observers, and I commend them to God.

Since our guests, in whose presence I find myself, are the respected representatives of voluntary organizations and are altruistic individuals pursuing their sacred duty, I hope and believe that they will feel at home in our country in the same way that they believe that their own national frontiers overlap with those of all other countries, having in mind that the ideal of service to humanity covers the entire globe.

Florence Nightingale's philanthropic ideas and her ideal of social aid have become legendary and are symbolized by the Selimiye Hospital, which today is the Selimiye barracks in Istanbul. The role which she played was a basic inspiration of the foundation of the Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions, and I think it historically important to note at this Conference the far-reaching influence of her work at the Selimiye Hospital.

I hope that the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross will make effective and fruitful decisions which will be of benefit to all humanity, commencing with the nations you represent, in order to extend and give a fuller impact to means of helping human beings.

As a humble person who has always believed that lasting world peace will ultimately, however late, be achieved, and also as one of your colleagues who has been a constant witness of the unsparing efforts of your organization to that end, I would like to greet you again with deep respect and with profound pleasure at seeing the cross and crescent embraced, heralding thus the happy outcome which we all long for.

To conclude the ceremony the orchestra played the Overture to "L'Italiana in Algeri" by Rossini.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

6 September 1969

SUMMARY : Election of Conference Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Secretariat. — Admission of the Press. — Nominations for Commission Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and for the Standing Commission. — Official declaration of Basic Red Cross Principles. — Presentation of Henry Dunant Medals. — Message from United Nations Secretary-General. — ICRC Activities Report. — League and National Societies' Activities Report.

The meeting was opened at 3 p.m. by Mr. Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (President of the Turkish Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — Ladies and Gentlemen, as the President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, which has the honour and pleasure to act as host to this Conference, I declare the first plenary meeting open and proceed immediately to item 1 of the agenda.

I request the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Marcel Naville, to present the report of the Council of Delegates.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honour of submitting to you the proposals which the Council of Delegates decided upon this morning concerning the organization of this Conference. A Chairman must first be elected and the Council of Delegates proposes that you elect Mr. Rıza Çerçel, the distinguished President of the Red Crescent. It is hardly necessary for me to introduce him to you, for his outstanding qualities have been known to you all for many years. He has been associated with the Turkish Red Crescent and has displayed the highest dedication to that Society's activities and to other social work in Turkey. As you know, it is thanks to his tenacity and repeated efforts that our Conference can be held today in this magnificent building and have the benefit of its up-to-date equipment. I feel sure therefore that by your acclaim you will approve the Council of Delegates' proposal. (*Applause.*)

(Mr. Çerçel takes the chair.)

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank you all for your confidence in me and I shall endeavour to justify it. Already this morning I had occasion to welcome you on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent, so I shall not dwell on that point as we have before us a heavy agenda, and I shall therefore immediately request Mr. Naville to continue with the Council of Delegates' report.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Council of Delegates proposes that you elect, as in previous Conferences, all the heads of National Society Delegations present and also the Chairmen of the Standing Commission and of the League and the President of the ICRC as Vice-Chairmen. (*Applause.*)

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Do you approve this proposal? (*Applause.*)

The Vice-Chairmen having been elected, I request Mr. Naville kindly to proceed.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — We now come to the Conference Secretariat, and the Council of Delegates proposes for election as Secretary-General of the Conference Mr. Mecdi Sayman, Vice-President of

the Turkish Red Crescent, who hardly needs any introduction from me, as he is no doubt known to each one of you. He was born in this town, where he has spent the greater part of his life, and following a family tradition he was soon drawn to the Red Crescent by its activities. He is President of the Ankara Division of the Turkish Red Crescent, was elected to the Central Committee in 1960 and has since then served that institution as President, as Secretary-General and as Vice-President. He was also deeply involved in the organization of this Conference and I therefore recommend you to accept the proposal.

As Assistant Secretaries-General, the Council of Delegates proposes Mr. Claude Pilloud of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Mr. Nedim Abut of the League of Red Cross Societies.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Ladies and Gentlemen, you have heard the proposals of the Council of Delegates and if you approve them, would you please make this known. (*Applause.*)

The Officers are thus duly elected and we may pass on to the organizational questions. Mr. Naville, would you kindly continue.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Council of Delegates proposes that the work of the Conference be assigned to two Commissions: the General Commission and the Commission on International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts. The preparation for the whole Conference was based on this division and I think there will be no call to change that now.

On the question of the admission of the press, the Council of Delegates suggests that the press be admitted to all plenary sessions and all meetings of Commissions, the latter having, of course, discretion to decide which of their meetings or any part thereof shall be private, that is to say without the press.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Do you approve the Council of Delegates' proposals concerning the admission of the press? (*Applause.*)

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I see that the proposals are accepted and request Mr. Naville to continue.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — Next we have suggestions for the election of Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Conference Commissions and Drafting Committees. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that you ask Lady Limerick to let us know the Standing Commission's suggestions.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman of the Standing Commission): — Mr. Chairman, the suggestions put forward by the Standing Commission were, for the Law Commission: The Chairman, Mr. M'Baye from Senegal; as Vice-Chairmen, Dr. Osman from the United Arab Republic, Professor Kojevnikov from the USSR, Miss Hickey from the USA, Dr. Maung Maung from Burma and Dr. Inostrosa from Chile. These, I may say, were just suggestions. The Commissions will of course appoint their own Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen but these were just indications of what were thought to be suitable candidates. As far as the General Commission is concerned, the suggestion was that the Chairman should be Mr. Kraijenhoff from the Netherlands, the Vice-Chairmen Mrs. Hutasoit from Indonesia, Dr. Ludwig from the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Rubia from Kenya, Dr. Naficy from Iran and Dr. Potenza from Italy. Those, Mr. Chairman, were the suggested proposals for the Commissions to consider when they meet.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The last point submitted by the Council of Delegates is the election of members to the Standing Commission. That Commission has submitted proposals which the Council of Delegates has deemed appropriate and which have been circulated. I therefore think I need not read them out to you.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — You know the proposals for the election of members to the Standing Commission and I think that you will agree with them, so that, consistent with item 4 of our agenda, the procedure for the election of members to the Standing Commission is open.

I think the Report of the Council of Delegates is terminated and I thank Mr. Naville for having presented it to us.

Our administrative work being finished, I give the floor to our Secretary-General, Mr. Mecdi Sayman, and request him to read out the basic Red Cross principles.

(The meeting stood.)

Mr. SAYMAN (Secretary-General) (*Original French*): — Declaration of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross :

“The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross proclaimed the following fundamental principles on which Red Cross action is based :

HUMANITY

The Red Cross, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours—in its international and national capacity—to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

IMPARTIALITY

It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours only to relieve suffering, giving priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

NEUTRALITY

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Red Cross may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

INDEPENDENCE

The Red Cross is independent. The National Societies while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their Governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with Red Cross principles.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The Red Cross is a voluntary relief organisation not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

UNITY

There can be only one Red Cross Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

UNIVERSALITY

The Red Cross is a world-wide institution in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other.”

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Thank you Mr. Sayman.

It is indeed a good thing, before beginning our work, to recall the principles on which our whole movement is based, and I avail myself of this opportunity to express my gratification on observing that, in a spirit of humanity, a considerable number of governments and Red Cross Societies are represented here even though certain of them do not maintain relations and do not even recognize each other. They have risen above such considerations because this is an International Conference of the Red Cross and the usual criteria of recognition are not applicable ; all that counts is the desire to work together to achieve a common aim under the flag of the Red Cross. I am delighted at this large attendance which is in keeping with the spirit of our work.

We now come to the substance of our agenda : there are complicated and difficult questions to be dealt with and I think it would be expedient to confide the direction of our work to hands more expert than mine. That is why I request Lady Limerick, Chairman of the Standing Commission, to take this seat on the rostrum and to preside until the closing meeting. No one is more qualified than she for this office, for she combines a vast knowledge of the subjects to be dealt with, personality and the greatest possible courtesy. (*Applause.*)

(Lady Limerick takes the chair.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Mr. Çerçel, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I say how very greatly I appreciate the confidence which the President, Mr. Çerçel, has been good enough to show in me. I will do my best to justify it and to carry out the duties to your satisfaction and to the satisfaction of the Chairman. Thank you very much, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Now, the first thing which I would like to do is to make the awards of the Henry Dunant Medal. As this is the first occasion on which the Henry Dunant Medal is being presented, I would like to give you very shortly the origins of this award.

Through the initiative and the generosity of the Australian Red Cross, the Medal was designed to commemorate any outstanding service or any act of exceptional courage or devotion to duty on the part of any member of the Red Cross. Under the conditions laid down for this award, a maximum of five Medals is to be presented every two years. From this you will realize the great significance attached to this Medal, which is the highest award in the gift of the International Red Cross. Today, the first four presentations are to be made and I will now read the citations.

Dr. Frantisek Janouch was President of the Czechoslovak Red Cross from 1956 to 1965. During the war he was imprisoned in several concentration camps and carried out outstanding work, caring for his fellow prisoners in extremely difficult conditions without adequate medicaments or medical assistance. During this time he was able to save a great many lives. After the liberation, Dr. Janouch continued his public health work and in 1951 was appointed Assistant Minister of Health. At the same time he became a member of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Red Cross. Thanks to his untiring efforts the work of the Czechoslovak Red Cross was widely esteemed and in 1952 Dr. Janouch received the Order of Work in recognition of his services. Dr. Janouch died literally in the service of the Red Cross. He lost his life in an accident some twenty miles outside Prague while returning from a working meeting with the Hungarian Red Cross. The ideals and activities initiated by Dr. Janouch have not died with him. He remains an inspiration for the future to the Czechoslovak Red Cross. I will now ask Dr. Kuchar if he would come forward and receive this Medal on behalf of the Czechoslovak Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

Dr. KUCHAR (Czechoslovakia, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to express my warm thanks for the medal awarded posthumously to our late President Dr. Janouch. This decoration will be the high and deserved mark of appreciation for his lifetime's work. It is also a pledge of the Czechoslovak Red Cross Society's determination to carry on his great and generous work. May I thank you on behalf of his family and of our organization with its one and a half million members. I avail myself of this opportunity to assure you that our National Society will, even in the days to come, work in accordance with the generous principles proclaimed by Henry Dunant.

Thank you Madam Chairman. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — The second award is to Mr. Pierre-André Tacier who carried out his first mission for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Jerusalem at the end of 1967. It was suddenly interrupted by an incident which occurred near the Allenby Bridge during a meeting of the ICRC delegates. A number of families had crossed the Jordan in a family reunion operation and seeing them exposed to gunfire, Mr. Tacier left his tent to cross the river and reassemble the civilian refugees. Just as he reached the bridge, he was hit by a bullet. Two male nurses who came on the scene at that moment went to help him and were immediately struck down. Mr. Tacier tried to go to their aid and crouched behind them. As he turned round he received further bullet wounds. Mr. Tacier has still not recovered from his injuries and it is likely that he will be permanently disabled.

(*Mr. Tacier mounted the rostrum to receive the award.*) (*Applause.*)

The next two, I regret to say, are posthumous awards : one is to Dr. Hercog of Yugoslavia, the other to Mr. Carlsson of Sweden. Both these delegates were working for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Nigeria, in a very dangerous position. They were told that they could leave their posts if they wished to, but they could stay and continue their duty if they so desired. Both delegates chose to stay and continue their work

which cost them their lives. I think we can feel that the Henry Dunant Award could not have been made in a more worthy manner to these two delegates who died in the course of their duty.

May I ask the delegates from the Swedish Red Cross and from the Yugoslav Red Cross to come forward and receive these awards on behalf of their Societies.

Mrs. BLUME-WESTERBERG (Sweden, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Swedish Red Cross I would just say that we very much appreciate this reward to one of our workers in the field, in a dangerous field outside our country. And we are sure that this will be a great stimulation to all the other workers in the same position. Thank you. (*Applause.*)

Mr. MESTEROVIĆ (Yugoslavia, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Yugoslav Red Cross I thank you warmly for the decoration given to a young Yugoslav doctor, Dr. Dragan Hercog, who volunteered to go to help people suffering in war and who lost his life in carrying out the noble Red Cross mission during the armed conflict of Nigeria-Biafra. Thank you. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I am going to ask Ambassador Winspeare, representative of the United Nations, to give us a message from U Thant. Mr. Winspeare.

Mr. WINSPEARE (Director of the European Office of the United Nations) : — Thank you, Madam Chairman, for giving me the privilege of addressing you today on behalf of the United Nations, and to convey to you the Secretary-General's good wishes for the success of your Conference. Ladies and Gentlemen, much of our work is interdependent and all your preoccupations are also our concern. The Red Cross was born on the battlefield from the suffering of human beings. The United Nations was born from hope. Hope, that the member nations would have the will and the power to unite in preventing new wars. They are both expression of a world conscience of a philosophy opposed to violence and to the destructive effect violence has on human rights. They both work on the long road, towards the day when the United Nations will be able to dedicate all its efforts to the peaceful advancement of mankind and when the Red Cross will still face the challenge of natural disasters but will not have to assist victims of collective human folly.

But these are distant ideals. The United Nations and the Red Cross must think and operate in the present in a world where wars are still facts of life and where man seems to show increasing ingenuity in devising new means to destroy and mutilate his fellow beings. The approach of our organizations to the problems of war, to the problems of human sufferings, of sufferings of populations in armed conflicts, must therefore be a realistic and joint approach. The quest for peace and the commitment to general and complete disarmament must not prevent the United Nations from seeking at least a limitation of existing arsenals and a ban on the use of the most horrible weapons. The non-proliferation treaty, the pressing encouragement given by the United Nations to the partial measures under discussion by certain governments either bilaterally or in multilateral Committees for disarmament, the report of the Secretary-General on chemical, bacteriological and biological warfare, the prominent place reserved at the Teheran International Conference on human rights and also at your Conference for the question of the respect of human rights in armed conflict, these and all other steps which the international community allows us to take for its own protection are perhaps too slow and too modest a progress but do not contradict our belief that our final aim must be much higher. It must always be the prevention of war itself. Thus it is not a paradox if we declare : you, of the Red Cross in your Vienna Conference of 1965, we of the United Nations, by General Assembly Resolution of last December, if we declare, I repeat, that the right of the parties to a conflict to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited. This right should not exist at all in a perfect society, but we have to accept it, we have to accept its existence in our present world and we must begin by eroding it and by introducing limitations to it. The United Nations will follow your discussions and the results of your work with much more than attention and interest. All the items of your Agenda refer to fields in which the Red Cross and the United Nations already work together or are separately but directly involved. I have already mentioned our joint efforts to ensure respect for human rights in armed conflicts. The International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross, Red Crescent and other sister-societies have always offered their impartial and their efficient channel to our institutions, in particular to the

UNICEF, United Nations Children Fund, and to the World Food Programme, so as to enable us of the United Nations to do our share in the assistance of populations in need in many continents and on many occasions. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has had the benefit of constant Red Cross collaboration throughout the world in his action to find solutions to the many problems related to refugees. Last year our General Assembly adopted a resolution on assistance in cases of natural disaster. This resolution recognized with appreciation the great role played by the Red Cross as well as by the governments and by various UN Agencies in carrying out this joint work. This resolution urged pre-disaster planning by member States to the training of relief personnel, stockpiling and supplies and other ways. It appealed, as you did, to governments, to consider offering emergency assistance including stand-by disaster relief or service in foreign countries. The pilot project undertaken by the League of Red Cross Societies has been a key element in promoting such action. Many other examples of our joint work could be mentioned. Allow me to refer, for instance, to the item of your Agenda concerning youth volunteers. I do not need to stress the United Nations' keen interest in the problems of youth in general and in the specific field of volunteers. We must find new and original ways of communicating with the young. We must draw upon their freedom from narrow nationalism, from their generosity and we must give them a genuine purpose based on principles of solidarity. A volunteer service within the Red Cross and in a wider context of development assistance as suggested last July by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations might give the young this purpose. But, Mr. Chairman, allow me to conclude now by confirming that the Red Cross can always count on the United Nations' full support in all aspects of its humanitarian work. May I wish success also on behalf of the Secretary-General to your deliberations.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — We are most grateful to you, Ambassador Winspeare, for this very encouraging and heartening message which we all value and appreciate greatly.

Now the next item on our Agenda is "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace", but it has been decided that this matter should first, anyhow, be dealt with by a Commission rather than starting the discussion in the plenary, and therefore this matter will be referred to the General Commission.

Number 7 on our Agenda is "The Activity Report of the International Committee". And I shall ask Mr. Naville if he will be good enough to make that report.

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — At each International Conference of the Red Cross, it is the custom to report on the activities carried out since the previous Conference. After four years, we look back over the past and try to draw up an account. I shall not relate here in every detail the activity of the ICRC. It was contained in written reports which you have received, first the Summary Report of Activity from 1965 to 1968, bearing reference P.7/1 and the Provisional Report of Activity from 1st January to 30th June 1969, reference P.7/2. They have been distributed only in the English and Spanish versions, the case containing the French text having momentarily gone astray. This second report, due to its very topicality, could not be distributed before our arrival in Istanbul. Further details may also be obtained from the four Annual Reports, the last of which, for 1968, was dispatched some months ago to all Societies and all member governments of the Conference.

The events of the past four years have laid heavy responsibilities on the ICRC's shoulders and have involved it in far-reaching work in the field. It has accomplished these duties with the increasing help of National Societies, for it appealed to them for personnel much more so than in the past, particularly for Nigeria. I would make a point of expressing to them here my profound gratitude and I also wish to pay tribute to the personnel of the teams supplied for a large part by National Societies and who, under the international banner, have served with dedication beyond praise, a dedication which for twelve among them led to the supreme sacrifice. And I feel it is my duty to say here that the work of the Red Cross personnel in the field is becoming more and more difficult in these times characterized by a hardening of hearts and a decline in international moral values, when war is waged with ever greater hate and fanaticism and when sometimes even suffering becomes a political weapon. The Red Cross mission, we must realize, demands of those who carry it out ever greater courage. More so than in the past, they must be ready to pay with their own person. Today, to be faithful to the Red Cross might mean risking one's life. That the men of the Red Cross working to alleviate suffering know the value of human life and therefore of sacrifice too, is a source of great strength.

There are nearly always three aspects to ICRC work in the field. First : protection for war victims, prisoners of war and interned civilians ; in this field, the ICRC is helped by its delegates which it sends to countries torn by conflict or strife and who visit detention camps. The second aspect is information. This is the work of the Central Tracing Agency which patiently and discreetly carries on its useful work of forwarding news. The third aspect is the material relief, in which the ICRC co-operates with its sister institution the League of Red Cross Societies. Every time conflict breaks out in the world, the ICRC endeavours to discharge this three-fold mission. It is successful to the extent that it meets with the good will of the authorities concerned.

The ICRC's action in Vietnam began even before the previous Conference. It has continued to develop since then, at least in the territory of the Republic of Vietnam, where prisoners are regularly visited. So far, however, no ICRC delegate has been admitted into the Democratic Republic.

The Yemen conflict has been going on since 1965. In view of the great number of casualties, the ICRC set up in the desert a hundred-bed field hospital which treated 1,700 inmates and gave out-patient care to more than 60,000. Medical teams are still at work in that country and the action has been extended to the People's Republic of Southern Yemen.

In addition, other conflicts broke out during the past four years. Some were international, like that in the Middle East, the war between India and Pakistan and between Honduras and El Salvador. Others were internal conflicts. In the conventional type, the Geneva Conventions are applied more or less completely and ICRC delegates have been able to fulfil their traditional role.

The Israelo-Arab conflict of June 1967 did not take the ICRC unawares, for it had sent delegates to the capitals of the countries concerned a week before the conflict broke out. They provided the only link between those countries, regularly visited the prisoners and arranged their repatriation, starting with the wounded. In co-operation with the League, they brought relief to the refugees and organized the repatriation of some of them. Today, they are endeavouring to improve conditions for civilians in the occupied territories.

During the Indo-Pakistani conflict, the ICRC was able to carry out its normal activities and to ensure on both sides of the front the application of the Conventions.

It is doing the same today in the conflict between Honduras and El Salvador, which I mention although it is so recent that even our latest provisional report does not refer to it. Immediately they arrived on the spot, the delegates visited the prisoners of both parties and arranged for their exchange. They are co-operating with both National Red Cross Societies.

Internal conflicts have also broken out, and there Red Cross intervention is more difficult, for only one article of the Geneva Conventions, the well-known Article 3, is legally applicable to conflicts of that sort in which, furthermore, feelings run higher than in others and in which the United Nations are not empowered to act. The most striking example is the Nigerian conflict where the ICRC has been conducting the largest scale relief operation which it has had to carry out since the end of the Second World War, in spite of the obstacles encountered. This action would not have been possible without the effective support of several National Red Cross Societies, governmental and inter-governmental organizations, particularly UNICEF, and non-governmental organizations such as the World Council of Churches. It was exactly two years ago, in July 1967, that the ICRC began its work in Nigeria, at a time when the conflict was in its early stages and not drawing world attention. The ICRC has been carrying out its traditional work for the benefit of the wounded, the prisoners and the civilians ; it has issued a reminder of the essential rules of humanitarian law. But it was a year ago, when food shortage and sickness were ravaging the population on each side of the front, that, by force of circumstances, the ICRC was obliged to direct a large-scale relief action. On the territory of Federal Nigeria, where the ICRC was the co-ordinating agency for relief action, some million persons received assistance. In the secessionist territory, Biafra, under blockade, only by an excessively expensive airlift could relief be taken in. Yet, there too, a million persons were assisted. In all, the relief distributed amounted to 75,000 tons ; 54,000 tons in Nigeria and 21,000 tons in Biafra. In order to carry out this vast undertaking, the ICRC called upon about a thousand people from other countries or recruited locally. The ICRC had for several months been preparing to hand over to the National Red Cross and the government agencies the direction and responsibility of the relief actions as soon as hostilities ceased. The Federal Military Government, anxious to hasten the transfer, made known its decision on 30th June to the ICRC and the organizations working with it that the Nigerian Rehabilitation Com-

mission would be responsible for the co-ordination of relief operations on Federal territory. Preparations are under way to transfer the co-ordination of relief operations to the Rehabilitation Commission in co-operation with the Nigerian Red Cross on 30th September. As long as necessary, the ICRC will continue to discharge its traditional functions for the benefit of victims of the conflict and civilian populations. The forwarding of our relief supplies to the secessionist territory has unfortunately been stopped for several weeks, in the absence of an agreement between the parties, but the ICRC has high hopes of resuming the action soon, both parties to the conflict having in principle agreed to daylight flights. We earnestly hope that no last-minute difficulties will impede the resumption of our humanitarian action to which so many Red Cross Societies and so many public and private donors have unstintingly given their support on which the lives of so many women and children depend.

I have referred only to a few facts, a few examples, but apart from its work in the field, the ICRC, as you know, has other duties of a general and legal nature. They are important, for humanitarian law must have saved over the last hundred years as many lives as direct Red Cross action ; and moreover, they make assistance and protection possible by providing them with a legal basis. Theory and practice always go together in Red Cross action and one gives support to the other. There is no need for me to dwell on that aspect, for it is precisely the results of that interaction which are submitted to our Conference and constitute several of the more important agenda items.

I had occasion this morning to convey to you some thoughts of a general order on the role and responsibilities of the ICRC vis-à-vis governments and other humanitarian institutions. I shall not revert to that now but would refer you to the paper which has been or will be distributed in the official languages. I hope that some of the ideas which I had the honour of presenting to you will claim your attention. No one knows what tomorrow brings. Therefore I cannot promise that we shall always succeed in our undertakings, but I can assure you that the International Committee of the Red Cross, which was the originator of the Red Cross movement, will continue in word and deed to defend unstintingly and without compromise of any sort the principles of impartiality, neutrality and independence which are the basis of its works. For that, it relies on the support of all States which, on signing the Geneva Conventions, officially undertook to respect those principles in all circumstances. It also counts particularly on the National Societies which can be of such valuable, indeed indispensable, assistance to it to achieve the common objective, namely the alleviation of the evils to which man is heir until the advent of general peace, that peace with justice which all men of good will so eagerly hope for. (*Applause.*)

Chief ADEMOLA (Nigeria, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman and my Colleagues, I would like to say a word of thanks to the ICRC for their work in Nigeria but before doing so may I with respect make two observations on the Report that has just been read out by Mr. Naville. The first observation is this, that I have always wondered whether there is a refugee problem in Nigeria. The problem in Nigeria is one of displaced persons, but the ICRC have always mentioned it as a refugee problem. I think this ought to be corrected. There is no refugee problem in Nigeria.

Secondly and more important is the fact that time and again the ICRC have referred to the Nigerian conflict as Nigeria-Biafra conflict and I am sorry to see that in official documents of the Red Cross this has been referred to as such. I merely mention this as a sort of correction which I hope will be adhered to in the future. And, secondly I've mentioned it because time and again in Nigeria we have made every effort to correct the ICRC from falling into this error.

Now the second part is a statement which I wish to make and it is principally to thank the ICRC for their work in Nigeria. I have put it as a statement which I will read out to you : The Nigerian Red Cross Society wishes to take this opportunity to thank the ICRC for the gigantic relief work it has carried out in Nigeria within the last 24 months, including the secessionist area which they call Biafra, and would like to put on record its appreciation of the devoted service some of its members have rendered in the humanitarian service which is characteristic of the badge we all wear. The ICRC will soon transfer its activities in this direction, in so far as it concerns the Nigerian Federal Government area, to the Nigerian Red Cross as this is the wish of the Nigerian Federal Government. And in performing this task the Nigerian Red Cross seeks the aid and support, particu-

larly in the form of men and material, of all National Red Cross Societies, governmental and non-governmental and voluntary agencies and this through the League of Red Cross Societies in order to fulfil its role in this laudable object. And I wish to ask, however, that arrangements be made and agreed upon that the ICRC should continue its traditional activities in Nigeria.

Mr. KIDRON (Israel, Government) : — Madam Chairman, I crave your indulgence to make a very short statement on a matter in which the Red Cross is heavily engaged and which appropriately falls under this agenda item. It may well be a matter of life and death. On the 19th of August an Israeli military pilot, Major Nisim Askenasy, was shot down in the Suez Canal area and taken prisoner by UAR forces. He was seen to parachute down and to walk from the place where he dropped. The UAR authorities later confirmed that he was in their hands and reported that he had been wounded. Nearly three weeks have passed since then and there has been no further news of him. The delegates of the ICRC in the UAR have made repeated efforts to visit this officer in accordance with the provisions of Article 126 of the Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war and have been consistently rebuffed on a variety of pretexts. We have great fears for the safety of this officer, a helpless prisoner of war, even for his life. I therefore appeal that the ICRC delegate be permitted to visit him immediately as the Convention requires in order to ascertain his fate and to ensure that his rights under the Convention are fully respected.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I would appeal to the United Arab Republic delegates to do all that they can in this matter. Two other speakers have asked for the floor, Monaco and United Arab Republic, but I suggest that we might now adjourn for a quarter of an hour for the tea break. May I ask you to be kind enough to be as punctual as you can in your return ? Thank you very much.

(The meeting adjourned at 4.45 p.m. and resumed at 5 p.m.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Mr. Çerçel has received a message from the Prime Minister of Turkey and I will now ask him to deliver that message.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (President of the Turkish Red Crescent) (*Original French*) : — I shall read to you the message which I have just received from Mr. Süleyman Demirel, Chairman of the Council of the Turkish Republic :

“I am convinced that the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross which opened this morning will render signal service to peace and mankind. My Government colleagues and I are happy that this traditional and historic Conference is being held in our country, at Istanbul. I truly regret that I am unable to be with you today ; I request you to convey to all honourable representatives of the Governments, National Societies and organizations which accepted the joint invitation of our Government and of the Turkish Red Crescent our most sincere thanks and best wishes for success.”

The Prime Minister
Süleyman Demirel.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you would all wish that we should ask Mr. Çerçel to convey our warm thanks and appreciation to the Prime Minister for his gracious message. I have two speakers who have asked for the floor, the first is United Arab Republic.

Mr. OSMAN (United Arab Republic, Government) (*Original French*) : — The Delegation of the United Arab Republic takes the opportunity at this first meeting of the Conference, on which occasion the reports of activity by the International Committee of the Red Cross are submitted to us, to express its thanks for the Red

Cross efforts in the Middle East, particularly for those to improve the plight of civilians in occupied territories. It is not my Delegation's intention today to comment in detail on the reports submitted to us, and the serious breaches of the Geneva Conventions committed by the Israeli authorities in occupied territories. To help the Conference, my Delegation reserves the right to bring up those matters in the Humanitarian Law Commission and the General Commission in connection with items on the agenda which have been assigned to those Commissions. Referring to your appeal to the United Arab Republic concerning the Israeli pilot shot down in Egyptian territory, and after the dramatic way in which the Israeli representative raised the question here, I wish to make a preliminary observation. When one makes an appeal to international organizations and to the rules of law, one begins by respecting those international organizations, not by defying them; one begins by respecting the law, not by violating it. In deference to your appeal, Madam Chairman, I wish to say that that pilot is receiving all the necessary medical care. I may say, Madam Chairman, that the principle that he be visited has already been agreed and the visit will take place as soon as his condition permits. In this connection, I in my turn, Madam Chairman, would like you to make the same appeal to the Israeli authorities to release six Egyptian soldiers detained since January 1968 at Nablus. In spite of the action and intervention of the Red Cross, these soldiers are still suffering from their imprisonment; the Israeli authorities categorically refuse to release them, despite the pressing appeals of their women folk, their wives and their children. Madam Chairman, I would like you to appeal to the Israeli authorities to release the 1,900 civilian Arabs mentioned on page 7 of the Report issued by the International Committee of the Red Cross and who are detained in Israeli prisons. In the Humanitarian Law Commission we have all the time to speak about ill-treatment, brutality, torture, and summary executions of civilian Arabs in the occupied territories. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — I think it's only right and proper that we should make an appeal to all delegations to do everything in their power to assist any prisoners of war who may be held by them. Further than that we can't go today but I would make this general appeal in the name of the Red Cross which I feel sure will be respected. The next speaker is Monaco.

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Red Cross and Government) (*Original French*): — At this point I would like to express my warmest thanks to the International Committee of the Red Cross for having covered the work of the "Commission médico-juridique de Monaco" in its summary report for 1965-1968 under the title "Implementation and Development of Humanitarian Laws" on page 12 of document P.7/1. That work by the "Commission médico-juridique de Monaco" was undertaken at the suggestion of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Referring to the criteria for the treatment of persons deprived of their freedom for reasons not connected with the ordinary penal code—for which criteria the rapporteur was Professeur Jean Graven, a judge of the Geneva Court of Appeal—and to the legal protection of medical air transports in time of war—of which the rapporteur was Professeur Paul Geouffre de La Pradelle—the "Commission médico-juridique de Monaco", founded in 1934 by His Serene Highness Prince Louis II, comprising doctors and legal experts from many nations, dedicated to the study of international humanitarian law and international medical law, and of which both Professor Graven and Professor de La Pradelle are members, is pleased to observe that, thanks to the International Committee of the Red Cross, its work has been brought to the attention of a truly international audience. But we shall revert to these problems, since the Draft Rules are reproduced in full on page 5 of the document T.1, relative to the implementation of the Geneva Conventions and since that programme and those texts have been brought to the attention of the Commission on International Humanitarian Law and Relief to the Civilian Population in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Mr. Abdallah MOUSSALLI (Syria, Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — The Israeli delegate was extremely anxious about an officer captured by the authorities of the United Arab Republic. But what is to be said about the hundreds and thousands of breaches of the Geneva Conventions committed by Israel and described in a document submitted by the Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to the Conference Bureau? We take this opportunity to ask the Chairman to give the order immediately for the distribution of that document so that delegates may read it for themselves. We would refer particularly to the fact that during hostilities in June 1967, several military medical officers, including Lieutenants Mohammed Obeisi, Khaled

Saka-Amini, Mohammed Ali Nouri and Abdel-Kader Chafké, and First Lieutenants Abdel-Wahab and Soliman Aga, were murdered after being taken prisoner during the discharge of their humanitarian duties in a field hospital. These crimes are a flagrant violation of the Geneva Conventions relative to prisoners of war. This is one of thousands of breaches committed by the Israeli authorities, as related in the document I have mentioned.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I would like to explain to the delegates what the procedure is about the circulation of documents officially in the Bureau. A decision was taken by the Standing Commission, after their experience of the last Conference and in view of what occurred there, that the only documents from National Societies to be distributed officially would be copies of their reports stating their activities. Well now, the document which has just been referred to doesn't comply with that resolution and that is why it has received no official circulation through the Bureau. But since this document concerns the Geneva Conventions it is a matter for the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Humanitarian Law Commission, and I shall suggest to the Bureau when they meet that this document might be taken as a working document there. Now is there anybody else who wants to speak on this ?

Dr. Ahmad ABU-GOURA (Jordan, Red Crescent) : — Madam Chairman, I am here to show our gratitude to the ICRC people for their great effort to serve humanity in our part of the world. I will reserve my talk on the respect, dissemination and implementation of the Geneva Conventions for some other time. But a few remarks and questions concerning the problem should be made now. I'd like to ask the people of the ICRC whether they are able to visit the detainees and prisoners of the occupied territory of the West Bank of Jordan ; as far as I know, they are not allowed to do so before the authorities concerned complete their interrogation and torture, which, I will prove later, continue for weeks, months and sometimes over a year. Demolishing of houses and villages which takes place almost every day in spite of the ICRC memorandum ; thirdly, another question to the ICRC people : to report to us how many people were expelled by force outside the occupied territory. All other subjects, like the repatriation, reunion of families and the relief operations in the occupied territories, will be discussed later. Fifth and on top of all, the burning of the Aksa Mosque which I shall speak about later. These are the remarks, Madam Chairman, which I would like to mention now.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Are there any other speakers who wish to take the floor on this subject before I ask the ICRC delegates if they wish to speak now or later ?

Mr. K. BABIKIAN (Lebanon, Government) (*Original French*) : — I know that we are too short of time to dwell on problems whose importance is known to all of us and it is for that reason that I shall restrict myself to a single observation. The Israeli delegate, with surprising concern for respect of the Conventions, has expressed anxiety for the plight of one officer. I would just like to say at this stage that just 24 hours ago civilians were burnt by napalm in my country, a country which you have all come to know, in the course of your meetings, as a defender of fraternity, a lover of peace ; a Lebanon which, I quite understand, is an embarrassing witness because it represents the humane idea of understanding and peaceful coexistence of men of different races, religions and beliefs, and is today the finest example of understanding and harmony.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I will ask the ICRC whether they wish to make any remarks now or whether they prefer to leave this to the Humanitarian Law Commission.

Mr. GALLOPIN (ICRC) (*Original French*) : — The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross has listened attentively to the various speakers who have taken the floor and has noted the questions which have arisen, particularly the one raised by the President of the Jordan Red Crescent. I have come to the rostrum only to say that it is of course not possible to reply immediately, off the cuff, to very special and specific questions and we must therefore take the time necessary to examine the various points and, in due course, reply appropriately.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — The next item on our Agenda is the Activity Report of the League of Red Cross Societies and of National Societies. I'll ask Mr. Barroso if he'll be good enough to make the Report of the League.

Mr. BARROSO (LRCS) (*Original Spanish*) : — Madam Chairman and delegates, you all have the General Report of the League of Red Cross Societies so that I think there is no need for me to read it out. Moreover, many delegates are familiar with it and we discussed it at our last meeting. To read it all would in any case be long and tiresome. I would, however, like to make some observations. In the past four years there have been a great many serious disasters. The League has assumed increasing responsibility as the organ of liaison and co-ordination of emergency relief. For the League, each disaster has been a new challenge and a new experience. Today, when technological progress has brought about profound changes in the world, the League has not been contented to remain aloof. It has endeavoured to adapt to changes, respond to new necessities, face new problems and revise its programmes and its methods. Medical and social problems have assumed such importance that the State cannot alone cover all needs. As it did 50 years ago and still does today more than ever, the Red Cross has shown itself worthy of the confidence of the public authorities, insisting on prevention, mobilizing its voluntary workers and preparing them for the most technical operations. We must also refer to the revolt of youth. They should participate to the full in the life of the community and for that reason we offer youth the possibility of contributing to the planning and implementation of mutual assistance programmes and of sharing in the responsibility for useful work. There is no doubt that the League has made a step forward towards the integration of youth in the activities of the Red Cross. The League is witness to the differences which exist among the countries of the world, accentuated by technological progress. The right of the less favoured National Societies to assistance, which no one in the Red Cross world disputes, has reached its full significance and the League Development Programme, although it cannot compare with the many aspects of technical assistance undertaken by governments and other international institutions, and although it cannot single out spectacular results because of the modest resources available to it, continues to be effective even if only for the moral value of the Red Cross in these equally important activities. The League progresses in a world which is alive to the needs of the hour, intensifying over the last few years its co-operation with governmental and non-governmental international organizations and its own mission in the struggle against hunger, sickness and ignorance. Giving encouragement at all levels and in all sectors of its activity to international and regional meetings of youth and experts, the League has understood that the road to peace and understanding goes by way of international co-operation, work for the welfare of the nations and those exchanges at all levels which sustain and give life to society. Today, the Red Cross must face up to growing responsibilities and increasingly large-scale operations. If we are to discharge that duty we must be able to rely on the faithful and dynamic support of those who constitute the very structure of the League and those from whom the League draws strength, that is to say, its member Societies. I wish to emphasize that the League's actions have been important in all corners of the world. Although our budget is small, like our paid personnel, I nevertheless think that never as in the past four years have so many activities been carried out and it is this very fact which demonstrates that our Federation endeavours to set an example to all National Societies. In those four years also we have noted that the feeling of solidarity is strong among all member Societies. Each time we have launched an appeal, we have always received a splendid and immediate response.

I also wish to point out that during the last four years the membership of the Red Cross has increased from 165 million members to 230 million, a rise of more than 35 %. This is a demonstration of the daily greater interest of people for the Red Cross and its work. On asking this honourable meeting to approve this report, I would stress what I have said during those four years ; if our duty is to alleviate suffering, what better way of doing so than to prevent it by bringing about peace in the world. I hope that through the resolutions of this conference we may reach practical solutions enabling us to achieve that which all of us who work for the Red Cross desire so much. Thank you ladies and gentlemen. (*Applause.*)

I wish to point out that I and the Secretariat of the League are at your service for any explanation or amplification of this report which you may require. I would also draw your attention to the fact that in the final pages of the report there are diagrams illustrating the activities which have been carried out, so that you may more easily understand them.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Thank you very much Mr. Barroso. I'll now ask Mr. Beer if he would speak about the Reports of the National Societies.

Mr. H. BEER (LRCS) : — It is the tradition at these Conferences that National Societies send their Reports. It is doubtful if the delegates have time to read them all on this occasion but these Reports are a very useful material for National Societies, for the ICRC and the League during the years between Conferences. You have so much documentation here that nobody can even ask you for the physical task of reading them, not even carrying them home to your hotel. Well, we have this time followed the experiences of last year and tried to get a certain systematic order in these Reports so they could be easily read and that they will help the Geneva organizations in their work. And that's why, at the request of the Standing Commission, the ICRC and the League sent you suggestions on how you should present the information, in which order. This will help us immensely in the work that also the Board of Governors has asked the League about, namely to try, if possible, to give a global picture not only of the League's work but of the work of National Societies, in the form of statistics and concentrated information. And on behalf of both organizations I want to thank the between 30 and 40 Red Cross Societies which have taken the trouble to submit Reports to this meeting. They have been very valuable. We have started to use them but of course this will be a matter for the coming year or for the coming two years. It is absolutely impossible here, it would carry too far, if we would try to give some highlights from all these reports, but I can say that they cover in a very interesting way the activities of Societies in all the fields where we are working. And I think that for your own publications at home and for your own information about what Red Cross is doing, these Reports will be very valuable, because in the future you will have not only what the League and the ICRC send to you, you can quote what the National Societies do and there are many many things here which are very very good ideas for us all in our activities. And we are therefore very happy with this new form of reporting, we would have liked to see even more of these Reports and we hope that it will be the case at a coming Conference. I have only one minor remark to make : those of you who were present at the Vienna Conference might remember that there were some of these Reports on that occasion that had a political content and were therefore ruled out of order. On this occasion this is much less than before. The very very dominating part of the Reports handle only Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun business, but there are in some of the Reports a few passages which could be taken to have a content which is political and might be offensive to some others. And that's why, Madam Chairman, I would like to make a suggestion to our Drafting Committee that when they draft their customary resolution on the accepting and filing of this Report, that one makes a reservation for those passages in a few of these Reports which might be looked upon to have a political context.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I think we can ask the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee to look into this and incidentally, that was one of the suggestions made by the Standing Commission, that Mr. Sloper, from Brazil, be appointed as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. It's a task he has performed before with great skill and I think we should be very grateful to have him again. Well now, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a quarter to six, so I think, if you agree, we shall perhaps adjourn now and will resume our next meeting of the plenary session with discussion of item No. 9 on our Agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

12 September 1969

SUMMARY : Standing Commission's Report. — Report of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC. — Report of the Empress Shôken Fund Joint Commission. — ICRC Report on Distribution of Income from the Augusta Fund. — ICRC Report on Awards of the Florence Nightingale Medal. — Reports on : "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace" and "Contacts between National Societies in cases of Conflict". — Discussion and adoption of resolutions.

The meeting was opened by Lady Limerick, Chairman, at 3 p.m.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I will now read to you the Report of the Standing Commission, which will subsequently be circulated.

The Standing Commission has met six times since the last Conference and has held two informal meetings. The three presidents have met on three occasions. Mrs. Issa El-Khoury, President of the Lebanese Red Cross was appointed as the League's second delegate. At the meetings, reports were received of the discussions which had taken place at the joint ICRC-League meetings held at monthly intervals, and the representatives of the ICRC and the League gave their reports on the current activities in which they were engaged. I am glad to report that at the meeting of the Standing Commission, held on April 24th, 1969, unanimous agreement was reached on amendments to the ICRC-League agreement of 1951, which has been the subject of careful study between the two bodies. As this has already been alluded to elsewhere, I would only add that what matters as much as the written words is the spirit in which they are interpreted. And I think we may rejoice that the goodwill which now exists between the ICRC and the League will result in the full co-operation so essential to our mutual work.

Considerable time and thought were given to the procedure to be adopted for the election of members to the Standing Commission. A memorandum embodying these proposals has been circulated to the members of this Conference. The Standing Commission has agreed that the question of an increase in their membership should be studied jointly by the ICRC and the League. As a change of this nature would entail an alteration in the Statutes, of which six months previous notice must be given, it cannot be dealt with at this Conference.

In order to obtain the views of National Societies on the organization of future International Red Cross Conferences, it was decided to send them a questionnaire, to which some very helpful answers were received. It was stressed that particular attention should be paid to establishing the agenda of each Conference.

A questionnaire prepared by the ICRC and the League and approved by the Standing Commission was sent to National Societies inviting nominations for the first awards of the Henry Dunant Medal. As it seemed the National Societies were in some doubt about the criteria which had been established, further guidelines were sent indicating the qualifications needed to justify candidature for the award. At the meeting of the Standing Commission held in April 1968, nine nominations were received and carefully considered. As a result of a secret ballot, the following two awards were agreed upon : Mr. Janouch, late President of the Czechoslovak Red Cross Society, and Mr. Tacier, ICRC delegate in the Middle East. At a later meeting, it was unanimously agreed to make two further awards, unfortunately both posthumous, namely to Dr. Hercog of the Yugoslavian Red Cross and Mr. Robert Carlsson of the Swedish Red Cross.

At the meeting in September 1968, attended by the Vice-Chairman of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, Mr. Sayman, the date was agreed, and the formal agenda approved, for the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross. The list of members to be convoked and observers to be invited was studied and approved, and other matters of detail were discussed. Further consideration was given to these matters at a meeting of the Standing Commission in April 1969 at which we had the advantage of the attendance of Mr. Riza Çerçel, President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society. That, Ladies and Gentlemen, concludes the Report of the Standing Commission which will in due course be circulated to you. Unless there are any questions which anybody wants to ask...

Mr. von LAUDA (Austria, Red Cross) (*Original. French*) : — As Vice-Chairman of the previous Standing Commission, which concluded its work a few days ago, I must express, on behalf of all those present here, our deepest gratitude to Lady Limerick, Chairman of our Standing Commission. It is she who undertook to carry out the work that was to be done, it is she who organized it, and it is she who was the guiding spirit of that Commission. Lady Limerick, I would like to express to you my great respect, to you personally (in German I would have been able to say it much better than in French), and to say “thank you” for all you have done for the International Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Dr. von Lauda, may I express my great appreciation for the very kind remarks you have made. Although I do not consider they are in the least justified, may I say that they are nonetheless appreciated, and may I thank you very much indeed for them.

Our next item of the agenda, number 10, is a report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee, and I shall ask Mr. van Emden if he will be good enough to make this report.

Mr. van EMDEN (Netherlands, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, you all will have found in your files the Report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross, May 1969, and I do not think that it is necessary that I read it for you. You will have also found, I suppose, the Draft Resolution submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC (that is under No. 8156), and perhaps, if you do not mind, Madam Chairman, I will read this Resolution :

VIII. — *Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross*

1.

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

having noted the report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

considering that the ICRC's constant state of preparedness, the new and difficult activities which it has continually to undertake, and the heavy responsibilities it has to assume in relief actions for the benefit of the victims of wars and internal conflicts, are of such importance for the defence, without let or hindrance, of man and civilization that it is essential for the ICRC to be provided with the effective and modern means which will enable it always to be equal to the work requested of it or assigned to it,

thanks the Commission for its work,

notes that Major-General C. K. Lakshmanan of the Indian Red Cross and Mr. I. D. M. Reid of the British Red Cross will not stand for re-election,

observes that, pursuant to Resolution No. XIII of the XXth International Conference, governmental and National Society contributions were considerably increased during the years from 1966 to 1969, but that unfortunately the overall financing of the International Committee is still inadequate.

The XXIst Conference—and then I will read, but in that first sentence there is a mistake, perhaps, and therefore I will say some words about that, if you do not mind—

appeals urgently to all Governments signatories to the Geneva Conventions to increase considerably their regular financial contributions to the ICRC so that in 1970 total contributions will be double the amount contributed in 1969.

Madam Chairman, as regards this sentence, I would like to state that this paragraph starting “appeals urgently...” should be understood in such a way that the total of contributions in 1970 from the governments should be doubled but that does not of course mean that this double amount has to come from the governments which do already pay. First of all this increase will have to be expected from those governments which up to now have not, or have hardly at all, contributed. And then I may go on :

encourages National Societies to continue their efforts and to increase their regular financial aid to the ICRC in order to strengthen yet further the universality and solidarity of the Red Cross world,

asks each Government and National Society which has so far not joined in this common effort to do so by contributing substantially from 1970 onwards,

decides that the membership of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC be increased from five to seven and that the Chairman of the Commission choose, in addition, three persons not belonging to the Red Cross movement but expert in international finance,

appoints to membership of the Commission representatives from the National Societies of the following countries : Netherlands (whose representative kindly agreed to act as Chairman for another period), Czechoslovakia, France, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal,

recommends urgently, in conclusion, that contributions be paid during the first quarter of each year in order to make it easier for the ICRC to meet its financial commitments.

I do not believe, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, that I need to add much to that. I strongly hope that everybody will support the idea to ask the governments to get the National Societies themselves to give as much as possible for the tremendous work the Committee did in the past and has to do in the future. I do not know if there are any requests but this is my report.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Thank you very much, Mr. van Emden.

Is there anybody who would like to ask a question at this stage ?

Mr. RUPIA (Tanzania, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman and honorable delegates to the Plenary Conference, if I am holding this assembly for half a minute, it is only to regret the fact that I have noted that my country is reported as not having fully paid its dues for this year. Well, as the communications between Istanbul and Dar es Salaam are not very easy, and I have failed to find out exactly what has happened, I would like to seize this opportunity to express the fact that we are in future in Tanzania going to pay our dues in the first quarter of each year and that the little part of this year's dues which is not yet paid will be settled as soon as I can contact Dar es Salaam.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I think we would like very warmly to thank and congratulate the representative of Tanzania for those comments. Now, does anybody else want to speak ? Well, then, if not, may I put to the vote this resolution which you have heard read by Mr. van Emden and which I think has already been circulated ? May I ask those in favour kindly to raise their cards ? Will the governments and National Societies both vote at the same time on this occasion and on subsequent occasions in the Plenaries ? Is there anybody against this resolution ? Any abstentions ? No.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution VIII (1), page 95.)

There is just one matter in Resolution No. VIII that must be settled : the XXth International Conference had appointed Mr. Henrik Beer, League Secretary-General, and Mr. Nedim Abut, League Deputy Secretary-General, to the Council of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies Financial Commission until the next Conference. Their mandates will have to be renewed here or other persons appointed in their stead. I think members of this Conference will agree that we could not find two better representatives than Mr. Beer and Mr. Abut and may I take it you will agree with this... (*Applause.*)

Thank you very much.

Mr. GALLOPIN (ICRC) (*Original French*) : — Kindly allow me, Madam Chairman, to thank the meeting for the decision on which they kindly accepted to vote just now, at your suggestion. We consider that it stimulates the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue the actions which it is endeavouring to bring to a successful conclusion, in co-operation with National Red Cross Societies and Governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions. At the same time, allow me to express our very special gratitude to the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the members of which have just been designated by the meeting for the next four years. May I be allowed, too, to present a message of thanks to the Chairman of that Commission, Mr. van Emden, who, during all these past years, has spared no effort to improve the financing of the International Committee.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Now we come to item 11 (a) : “The Report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund”, and I shall ask Mr. Seevaratnam (LRCS) if he will be good enough to make that report.

Mr. SEEVARATNAM (LRCS) : — I have the honour to present to you the report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund, covering the period 1965 to 1969, as required under Article 8 of the Regulations for the Empress Shôken Fund. The document referred to has been distributed to you together with a paper on the Empress Shôken of Japan produced by the Japanese Red Cross Society. During the period under review the Joint Commission has met four times in ordinary session and twice in extraordinary session. In fulfilling its mission regularly each year the Joint Commission has reviewed all applications from National Societies and has on the 11th of April each year announced the distribution of income from the fund among those National Societies having submitted a substantiated request before the 31st of December of the preceding year, the Commission ensuring that the requests are justified according to the conditions laid down under Article 3 of the Regulations. It must be stated that the Joint Commission has, in the light of the experiences of the recent past, noted that the criteria for allocation it had established were still valid. They are, namely, to restrain the number of allocations and thereby increase the amount allotted so as to permit the beneficiary National Societies to implement *in toto* the plans envisaged, and to uphold only those applications from developing National Societies unable to have their projects financed otherwise and, from among such Societies, those which have hitherto benefited least from the Shôken Fund.

Finances : the inalienable capital of the Fund has been increased by Sw. Fr. 550,247.79 up to the end of 1968, thanks to further contributions from their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan, the Government of Japan and the Japanese Red Cross Society. It is to be noted that again in May this year, 1969, both the Government of Japan and the Japanese Red Cross Society made yet further contributions of Sw. Fr. 120,641.82 and Sw. Fr. 330,330.— respectively. The above contributions have been the result of particular interest shown by the Japanese Government and of special fund-raising efforts on the part of the Japanese Red Cross Society, and the Joint Commission wishes to record here its sincere appreciation to both the Japanese Government and the Japanese Red Cross Society for their continuing interest and support. The consequence of this support to the Shôken Fund has been that the Joint Commission has been able to allocate larger amounts so as to permit beneficiary Societies to complete programmes they had undertaken in the period 1966 to 1969. The income from the Empress Shôken Fund enabled the Joint Commission to distribute a sum of Sw. Fr. 108,200.— to ten National Societies throughout the world. In its deliberations the Joint Commission has always strictly adhered to the

Regulations of the Fund. It has further renewed its efforts to obtain reports from National Societies on the utilization of the sums received ; it wishes to emphasize here that these reports are essential to the proper administration of the Fund for, in accordance with Article 5 (b), the beneficiary Societies must submit in due course a report on the use made of the allocations obtained. The Joint Commission recommends that those reports, which should be received in Geneva, be accompanied by photographs.

Madam Chairman, I submit the report for consideration by the International Conference and pray that in the event of its adoption this report be transmitted of the Japanese Imperial Family through the intermediary of the Japanese Red Cross Society in compliance with Article 8 of the Regulations.

Mr. AZUMA (Japan, Red Cross) : — I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Seevaratnam for his presentation of the report on the Empress Shôken Fund. The Japanese Red Cross Society wishes to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund which undertakes the administration of the Fund and the distribution of its revenues. It is a great pleasure for my Society to know that the Fund has recently been well recognized and appreciated throughout the Red Cross world. With a view to making this Fund more effective in promoting relief activities of the Red Cross in peacetime, the Japanese Red Cross Society, together with the Japanese Government, has been trying hard to increase this Fund up to some three times the amount in 1963. It is sincerely hoped that this Fund will be fully utilized by those National Societies which take interest in it.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Thank you Dr. Azuma, we are very grateful to you and to your Society and to your Royal family for all that they have done for this Fund.

Mr. Kim HAK-MOOK (Republic of Korea, Red Cross) : — In the name of the Republic of Korea National Red Cross, I wish to congratulate the Joint Commission for the excellent work it has accomplished. May I take this opportunity to say that my Society is grateful to the Joint Commission for its kind help last year. Together with the aid and our own resources, we purchased a centrifuge for the preservation of plasma and this was installed in the Seoul Red Cross Blood Bank and is working fine.

Mr. SAMARANAYAKA (Ceylon, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, Your Excellencies, honourable delegates of the Governments and Red Cross Societies, Ladies and Gentlemen. On behalf of the Ceylon Red Cross Society, I take this opportunity of congratulating the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund for the excellent report presented to us by my colleague and countryman Dr. Kingsley Seevaratnam. The Ceylon Red Cross Society in 1968 received from the Empress Shôken Fund a generous donation of 12,500 Sw. Fr. ; this, together with the generous assistance received by us from the Japanese Red Cross Society, enabled us to purchase an ambulance. I am happy to state here that we are now having in our country a free Ambulance Service operating 24 hours on 24. This free Ambulance Service is not confined to the City of Colombo, but operates also in the suburbs. In cases where Ambulance Services are required out of the city and suburbs, we levy a small fee merely to cover the cost of that service. In conclusion, Madam Chairman, may I also take this opportunity of thanking the League as well as the ICRC and all fellow delegates for all the courtesies extended to me. I leave this Conference with happy memories of a very pleasant time spent in this beautiful city of Istanbul.

Mr. ALCANTARA (Senegal, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — The Senegalese Red Cross Society is happy to congratulate the Joint Commission on the judicious utilization of the Shôken Fund. We take this opportunity of congratulating and thanking most warmly the Commission for the positive response it has kindly made to our request. With the funds we have received, we shall be able to equip our medical-social centre with an all-purpose vehicle that will allow us to co-ordinate better the activities of our various branches. I also take this opportunity of expressing to the Japanese Government and Red Cross our congratulations and encouragement for the work they are carrying out ; we wish that other developed nations would also find in this an opportunity to draw their inspiration from the example of the Shôken Fund and help us all, the under-developed and developing countries, to implement the huge Red Cross programme facing us.

Mr. INOSTROSA (Chile, Red Cross) (*Original Spanish*): — Like other speakers who have had the floor, I too would add my congratulations to those already expressed for the study and action carried out by the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund. Our National Society also benefited in 1967 after the disastrous earthquake of 1965 which totally destroyed one of our observation sanatoria. With the help of several sister societies, we rebuilt it and the Joint Commission awarded us a large sum to enable us to bring it into operation. I therefore take this opportunity of expressing on behalf of my National Society most sincere thanks for that generous assistance from the Empress Shôken Fund which enabled us to carry on our so important service for children.

Mr. OHIN (Togo, Red Cross) (*Original French*): — On behalf of my delegation, may I say how much we thank the Japanese Red Cross for the sum of 13,000 Swiss francs which it has handed over to Togo. This quite considerable amount has allowed us to purchase an all-purpose vehicle which will enable us to go on rounds of visits throughout the whole country.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Are there any other speakers on the subject? If not, may we pass to 11 (b), "Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Allocation of the Income of the Augusta Fund". I shall ask Mr. Pictet if he will be good enough to make a report.

Mr. PICTET (ICRC) (*Original French*): — I refer to the document which was distributed to you as No. P.11/B.1. The Augusta Fund was established in 1897 by an International Conference of the Red Cross in memory of the German Empress Augusta, who was respected for her humanity and who had made the first donation for the establishment of the Fund. This Fund is not so well-known as and is much smaller than the Shôken Fund, which we had discussed just now. Its Statutes are included in the Handbook of the International Red Cross. The interest on the inalienable capital of the Augusta Fund is allocated by the ICRC every four years to grants made to Red Cross National Societies, on the basis of requests made by them. Unfortunately, the capital of this Fund, amounting to only 118,000 Swiss francs, is so small, that the income available for distribution every four years comes to 13,000 francs. In contrast to this derisory amount, the ICRC receives requests for individual grants of scores of thousands of francs, sometimes several hundred thousand francs, once for even a million francs. It is really no longer possible for those of us who have been entrusted with such a task to carry it out, it has frankly become ridiculous. At a previous Conference, the ICRC had already suggested to National Societies to increase the capital of the Augusta Fund through further donations. As hardly any were forthcoming, the ICRC had envisaged the liquidation of the Fund, but had in the end preferred to put forward to you a proposal to modify, at least as a temporary measure, the purpose for which the income would be employed, the advantage of this being that what is already in existence would not be destroyed and that it would leave the door open for any subsequent changes. There is, as you know, another fund, the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, its purpose being the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest distinction awarded by the Red Cross to nurses. This Fund, too, no longer has sufficient financial means to carry on, and is constantly in deficit. The annual income, which is less than 1,000 francs, just covers overheads, but not the cost of medals and diplomas. The ICRC, therefore, conceived the idea of proposing to the International Conference not to dissolve the Augusta Fund, but to allocate the income received from it to the Florence Nightingale Fund, which will thus be refloated without the necessity of appealing for further donations from National Societies. We have therefore submitted to the Conference a draft resolution, which you will find on page 9 of the document sent to all countries.

I shall read it out :

The Conference,
having taken note of the Report submitted by the ICRC,
accepts this Report,
decides that, until further notice, the income of the Augusta Fund will be allocated to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund.

(*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Before putting this resolution to the Conference, may I know if there is anybody who wishes to speak on this ? I will put to the Conference the resolution which Mr. Pictet has just read out, but, before asking you to hold up your boards, we must see that those who are taking the vote are in their places. Now may I put this Resolution to the vote ? Will those who are in favour kindly hold up their boards ? Abstentions ? No. Thank you very much.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution VI, page 95.)

Mr. PILLOUD (Assistant Secretary-General) *(Original French)* : — May I remind delegates that each National Society has one vote, and each government also one vote. The nameboards, which have been distributed and set up in the hall, correspond to the National Societies and governments represented. I would also remind you that no votes may be cast by proxy, nor may one Society represent another or a government vote for another government.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — We pass now to item 11 (c), "Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Awards of the Florence Nightingale Medal". And I shall ask Miss Duvillard if she will be kind enough to speak on that.

Miss DUVILLARD (ICRC) *(Original French)* : — I have the honour to submit the Report of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Awards of the Florence Nightingale Medal. I would remind you that this Medal is awarded every two years and that it is the highest distinction made to nurses and voluntary aids of the Red Cross who have distinguished themselves exceptionally in time of peace or of war. In 1965, 45 candidates were presented by 26 Red Cross National Societies, and 26 medals were awarded. In 1967, 25 Red Cross National Societies put forward 39 candidates, and there were 27 awards. The names of 1965 and 1967 recipients are listed in the report you have before you, No. P.11/C.1. In 1969, there were 38 candidates presented by 25 Red Cross National Societies, and 33 medals were awarded, the awards having been decided upon after the reports had been prepared. Names of recipients will therefore be included in the next report on the Florence Nightingale Medal awards. May I remind you that since 1920, when the medal was first awarded, the ICRC has presented the medal to 640 nurses or voluntary aids of the Red Cross throughout the world. The ICRC is happy to join in the congratulations which the recipients have well merited for the way they have carried out their duties as nurses or voluntary aids of the Red Cross.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Does anyone wish to speak on this report ? There is no resolution to adopt and if no one wishes to speak we will go straight on to the next item. I now ask you to go back to item No. 6 on our agenda : "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace". You will remember that at the last Plenary Session we referred this point to the General Commission. There were quite a number of resolutions on peace which had been brought up by various delegations and the Chairman therefore suggested that a small working group should be formed with Mr. Gallopin as Chairman to see if it would be possible to produce from these many resolutions one unanimous resolution on which we could vote. And I now ask Mr. Gallopin if he will be kind enough to come and make his report.

Mr. GALLOPIN (ICRC) *(Original French)* : — I have the honour to submit to you the report of the Sub-Commission set up by the General Commission to study various questions concerning one particular item on the agenda : "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace". Because of the short time available and the heavy load of work on the secretariat, I was unfortunately unable to draw up this report in writing. It is therefore from my own personal notes that I shall give you a *viva voce* report, and I request beforehand your indulgence if it does not turn out to be a literary masterpiece.

The documentary material available to the Sub-Commission comprised first of all a report submitted to this Conference by the International Committee of the Red Cross on the round table meetings held at The Hague

and Geneva in 1967 and 1969, in addition to various draft resolutions submitted by government or National Society delegations. As regards the Hague and Geneva round table meetings, organized in consultation with the League of Red Cross Societies, their main purpose was to examine in what way the Red Cross could contribute to the promotion of the spirit of peace, to understanding between nations and to the prevention of war. The meetings, which drew together a number of eminent people in the Red Cross world, most of whom are by the way present here in this hall, gave rise to an extremely free exchange of views ; the results and conclusions are to be found in the report before you. I shall therefore limit myself to recalling that the essential points which had attracted their attention were the following ones. The first point was that action involving technical assistance to the Third World was considered to be a particularly important factor towards the maintenance of peace, since the marked differences which still exist between social and economic conditions in different parts of the world are liable to set off disturbances on a national as well as on an international plane. The second point that had retained the experts' attention was the necessity for action on a global scale to encourage the promotion of the spirit of peace among nations and that it had to begin in particular with the education of youth. In this connection, it was pointed out that there was a need to strengthen our co-operation with bodies working for peace and to have also closer and more frequent contacts among National Red Cross Societies in peacetime, in order precisely to develop that spirit of mutual understanding and solidarity. Finally, it was also considered that there was a need for providing some kind of procedure permitting Red Cross National Societies to get immediately in touch with each other, in case of armed conflict between their respective countries. Besides the International Committee report, the essential conclusions of which I have just recalled, the Commission had also before it several draft resolutions submitted by government or National Red Cross delegations. In the first place, there was the draft resolution put forward by Mexico and Spain, previously submitted to the Board of Governors, which had sent it on to the Conference. The essential purpose of this draft resolution, which I mention here for the benefit of those who were not at the meetings of the Board of Governors, was to promote educational action in favour of peace, and the National Societies had committed themselves to take action separately and jointly. This was therefore precisely one of the questions dealt with at the Hague and Geneva meetings, to which I had alluded earlier. The second draft resolution—there were five in all—had been submitted by the United Kingdom, and its purpose was essentially the reaffirmation of human rights the respect of which was deemed to be a fundamental condition for the maintenance of world peace. Lebanon and Syria had jointly presented a draft resolution on racial discrimination and the measures to be taken for bringing to an end this discrimination, which was a source of tension, friction and, consequently, of conflicts. The United States of America had drawn up a draft resolution which, drawing its inspiration from Resolution X of the Vienna International Conference, took up again and developed the theme of the need for "general and complete disarmament under effective international control". In addition, the Alliance of Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies had drawn up a very general and very comprehensive draft resolution grouping all the questions which I have just mentioned, including the co-operation that should exist in peacetime between National Red Cross Societies and peace organizations. Finally, there was a resolution put forward by the National Societies of Morocco, Netherlands, the German Federal Republic, Senegal, Sweden and Switzerland concerning the contacts which should be established almost automatically between National Red Cross Societies of countries where a threat of conflict hangs over them. An amendment to this draft resolution had been put forward by the representatives of the German Democratic Republic.

That is, in short, the substance of the different proposals submitted to the Conference. The General Commission had to seek to harmonize the ideas put forward, and to create a unity of viewpoints which had been hitherto lacking. I therefore proposed to the members of the Commission (may I remind you here that any delegation wishing to become a member of the Commission which finally grouped 35 delegations was automatically granted that status) to take as a basis the draft resolution of the Alliance of Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, because I felt that it was the most comprehensive text and that, therefore, the ideas expressed in the other draft resolutions could be most easily incorporated in it through amendments, additions or deletions. After three sessions (on Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday morning and Wednesday afternoon), at which some very lively discussions took place, but where everyone demonstrated a spirit of good will to which I very much want to pay tribute, we were able to reach agreement, Madam Chairman, on one single draft subscribed to almost unanimously by the thirty-five delegations represented (on the Commission). The text submitted to you,

which I shall read out in a while, is very long ; of that I am perfectly aware, but it is also very substantial. It touches upon all the subjects that we considered should be retained when the problem which had been submitted to us was examined, and it touches, too, on all those which we think should interest and involve the Red Cross where the preservation of peace is concerned. Thus, allusion is made to disarmament and to the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction ; and if I mention this point in particular, that is because I would like to point out that, although disarmament in itself is not strictly speaking the concern of Red Cross action, it seemed clear to us, on the other hand, that the Red Cross had the right to express its hopes and to let its views be heard on this very important subject. For that reason, a passage of the resolution corresponding, as you will see, to the fifth paragraph, urges all States to come to an agreement on general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as it urges States also, just before that, to seek, which they partly do, means to supervise, limit and, if possible, to halt the production of armaments and the use of certain weapons of mass destruction. So as to leave nothing unsaid, I must point out that on this point the French representatives declared that, while they approved of the spirit of the resolution, they could not concur with the wording of the paragraph in question which raised technical problems of disarmament, with regard to which, according to the French delegation's view, it was not for the Conference to emit any opinion. Apart from this reservation, which was of course duly recorded in the proceedings, the draft resolution was unanimously adopted, all the other draft resolutions having been withdrawn by their sponsors.

Therefore, Madam Chairman, on behalf of the Commission, I have the honour to submit to the Assembly the following draft :

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that the International Red Cross, in accordance with its fundamental humanitarian principles adopted by the XXth International Conference, is called upon to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples,

confirming all previous resolutions in support of peace condemning any threat or use of force which jeopardizes the independence and right of self-determination of all peoples, and the appeals of previous Red Cross Conferences to all Governments to settle their disputes by effective peaceful means, within the spirit of international law,

expressing its anxiety at the threat to world peace and international security resulting from armed conflicts in different regions of the world which are causing great suffering and distress, and prompted by the necessity for effective measures to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security which requires, as an essential element, respect for international agreements and international law,

re-affirming that the Red Cross is always faithful to its traditional commitments for the benefit of all mankind and calls for respect of the internationally accepted fundamental human rights of all persons and of all human societies, urgently appeals to all Governments and to the United Nations to take all measures to put an end to armed conflicts and to establish a lasting peace ; urges renewed efforts to halt the nuclear arms race, including the establishment of an adequately verified treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in all environments, a seabeds arms control treaty, sound and effective arrangements covering chemical and biological weapons, and general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

proposes that funds that would have been assigned to the purchase of armaments be used for the service of mankind, the protection of the lives and health of people, first and foremost the younger generation, and for the improvement of education and teaching,

noting with satisfaction resolution 2444 of the United Nations General Assembly adopted on 19 December 1968, requests the leaders of the International Red Cross to maintain constant and close contact with the United Nations in respect of activities on behalf of peace and human rights,

urges all States to accept and effectively put into practice the standards established by international law, the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian Conventions and declarations and all previous humanitarian Resolutions of the International Red Cross and the United Nations,

recommends that the International Red Cross bodies and the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies, in constant liaison with the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, take active measures to initiate the whole population, particularly youth, in Red Cross activities by training youth in a spirit of international brotherhood, solidarity, friendship with all peoples and social responsibility for the destiny of their peoples ; in this spirit it invites the International Red Cross bodies, in liaison with UNESCO, other UN Specialized Agencies and youth organisations, to initiate an educational programme on peace,

urgently invites and recommends the National Societies to increase and maintain closer contacts with each other for the purpose of exchanging experiences, and achieving closer co-operation and mutual understanding in the promotion of peace,

draws the attention of the International Red Cross to the need to have further recourse to all media of information in support of peace, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to the need for extensive dissemination of the humanitarian principles of the Red Cross,

recommends to the International Red Cross organs and to all National Societies to convene meetings and study groups to seek practical ways of enabling the Red Cross to participate more effectively in the cause of safeguarding peace and preventing wars.

That, Madam Chairman, is the text of the resolution that I have the honour of submitting to you, on behalf of the Commission.

Given the unanimous decision reached within the Commission, and taking into consideration the reservation made by the French delegation ; given, further, the considerable number of delegations that participated in this meeting, and given, finally, the possibility that was offered to all the delegations to take an active part in the work of this Sub-Commission, I would like, Madam Chairman, to propose to you that this resolution on peace, on a subject of paramount importance and on which the Red Cross must be united, should be adopted by acclamation. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Well, thank you very much indeed, Mr. Gallopin, I think we would all wish to congratulate most warmly all the sponsors of the five resolutions on the subject of peace, who showed the utmost co-operation and good will in pooling their ideas in order to produce a unanimous resolution. And above all I think we all wish to congratulate Mr. Gallopin most warmly on the great success of his mission. The clarity with which he dealt with all the many amendments which were put forward and his patience in taking into account the various arguments which arose or were expressed by a number of delegations contributed in no small way to the successful outcome. Now you have heard that this was a unanimous resolution ; there was one reservation expressed on the part of the French delegation, but apart from that, it was a unanimous resolution. I am going to ask if the sponsors of the five resolutions which compose this final resolution wish to speak or, if there is anyone else who wants to speak, I would ask that their comment should be as brief as possible in order that we can pass on to the rest of the business, because this matter was very fully and thoroughly discussed in the Sub-Commission and anyone interested was of course invited to be present. But would any of the sponsors of the five resolutions wish to take the floor ? Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom, Lebanon, Syria, USA and the USSR ? No one ?

Mr. MOISESCO (Rumania, Red Cross) (*Original Spanish*) : — The resolution proposed by the Sub-Commission, chaired by Mr. Gallopin and appointed by the General Commission of this International Conference of the Red Cross, concerns a problem of very great importance for the whole world : "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace." For that reason, I believe that the resolution is of special interest to our extraordinary Conference. Nevertheless, as Mr. Gallopin said, the Sub-Commission, in which the Rumanian Red Cross was honoured to participate, had no easy task, but a day and a half of hard work, in drawing up the resolution in spite of the very brief contribution of all delegates. My purpose in taking the floor was to mention that and to express once again my Society's and my country's determination to support the cause of peace. You well know that we do so wholeheartedly at every opportunity. We uphold the cause of peace because we know that only in peace can my country, like all countries, develop and improve the economic, social and cultural standards of life ; only in peace can human civilization progress and mankind truly live and enjoy welfare and happiness. We are not defeatists, but nor are we fatalists ; we are realists, aware that there are in this world many difficulties, both objective and subjective, and many differences, and that their solution by peaceful means is no easy matter. However, in the conditions prevailing today, when the vast majority of men know that they can cause the outbreak of a modern world war but desire to establish genuine peace ; when many men, many governments and many political and social organizations are aware of the danger, we are convinced that if efforts are united to prevent war and ensure just and lasting peace, the cause of peace can be won. We believe that to establish peace, however, it is necessary to renounce the use of any force which is a threat to the independence and the right of all peoples to self-determination and that disputes between States must be settled peacefully in a humanitarian spirit as stated in the resolution. It is also necessary to improve inter-State relationships through the principle of fellowship and national independence, just as, in internal affairs, non-intervention, with its attendant

mutual advantage, is necessary. We support the draft resolution submitted to us on "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace" and which in general takes those principles into account and which is to be submitted to all governments and to the United Nations so that they may take all necessary measures to achieve general and complete disarmament based on effective control and thus bring about lasting peace. To conclude, I thank you for your attention and state that both my Society and my country support, and always will support, all efforts to further peace and a peaceful spirit among the nations in order to enjoy and promote progress, well-being and happiness for all peoples of the world. (*Applause.*)

Mrs. Tom BARRY (Ireland, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, thank you for giving me the floor to make a short intervention on the item on the agenda. First, I must congratulate Mr. Gallopin on his exposition. I need not say that it is quite in keeping with all the details and expressions that Mr. Gallopin has ever given us.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure every person in this room has heard of the plight of the innocent victims of the recent disturbances in the North of Ireland. In the world press and on television there has been widespread coverage of the bitter communal violence and of the resulting suffering and loss of lives. Over ten thousand persons from the local minority population are estimated to have been placed in need of humanitarian assistance. Some have had their homes burnt and their possessions destroyed. Many have tried to protect themselves in enclaves in the larger cities sealed off by barricades, because they have no longer any trust in the forces of law and order. Others, particularly the aged, the women, the children and the sick, have fled from the same areas all together as refugees...

(Interruption by the Chairman.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I think you should confine yourself to the purpose of this discussion now which is "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace". I wish you would omit any other comments. (*Applause.*)

Mrs. Tom BARRY (Ireland, Red Cross) : — Well, Madam Chairman, luckily I had almost finished the paragraph. Madam Chairman, my statement is factual and does not contain any comments which might be construed as being political. I am interested solely in the humanitarian principles and in their application to the item we are discussing. I have studied carefully the very full and useful report submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies and I should like to single out one brief mention, the section of that report which deals with contacts between National Societies in time of conflict or crisis. Madam Chairman, my Government and the Irish Red Cross have opened refugee camps and temporary hospitals to help those refugees and the seriously hurt from the North during this critical period. At the end of August, the number of those in the camps or who had been treated in the hospitals was over 900. Without having to issue an appeal, the Irish Red Cross has received large donations of cash and valuable contributions in kind from the Irish Republic and from friends abroad. We have done our very best to help to care for those refugees. Realizing that the people in the six Northern Counties of Ireland are the kith and kin of the members of the Irish Red Cross and that, because of this fact, we could make a very real and needed contribution to the relief of the suffering in the tense situation, we were anxious to use part of those large donations and supplies in the stricken areas in the North. As Chairman of the Irish Red Cross I recognized that the Regulations regarding operating in an area under the jurisdiction of another National Society without the consent of that National Society...

(Interruption by the Chairman.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I am sorry, Mrs. Barry, the last thing I want to do is to stop you speaking, but I must ask you to be good enough to confine yourself to the subject which we are now discussing, which is "The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace", and it is not concerned with any specific statements about any of the problems which you have been dealing with in the last few minutes.

Mrs. Tom BARRY (Ireland, Red Cross) : — Well, thank you, Madam Chairman, but I think that my point is pertinent, however, I accept your request. Madam Chairman, I would like to comment on the fact that I have never missed attendance at International Red Cross Conferences since my first at Toronto in 1952, and I have listened to the high ideals put forward by the leaders of the Red Cross world on co-operation for peace. I would like to quote from the latest such statement made at the official opening of this Conference on September 6. I quote “The results of common action between peoples of all races are in themselves a force for peace. Common enterprise promotes friendship and understanding and makes for goodwill, showing that people with different ideologies may work together in amity and confidence.” I mention this because I was not allowed to co-operate with another National Society to help the people in the six Counties. Madam Chairman, my Society too subscribes to this high ideal and we are pleased that the Red Cross as a factor in world peace is being discussed as such an important item at this Conference, but such statements, those ideal statements that we have listened too from platforms, are empty unless supported by honest, practical endeavour. It is not my intention, Madam Chairman, to indulge in recrimination against a sister society with which we have always had good relations as befits neighbouring National Societies, but my intention is to be constructive, to ask if this Conference would make the firm decision that National Societies co-operate in neighbouring areas, if at all possible. I do this because I realize that at the moment members from developing countries, from new National Societies, are assuming that the only areas in which there is non-co-operation is really in their own areas. In this instance that I have been asked not to mention, one society celebrated its centenary five years ago and ours is thirty years old. I would like therefore, Madam Chairman, to urge that very serious thought should be given to the whole question of combined operations between Red Cross Societies in neighbouring countries or areas and towards the working out and bringing into operation of a system on which such co-operation can be firmly based. In this practical way the Red Cross can be effective and of real value as a dynamic agent in the promotion of peace in the world today. My delegation supports very fully the draft resolution submitted by the Sub-Commission created by the General Commission.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — As I bear the name of a county which is a part of Mrs. Barry’s world, I hope she will forgive me for having interrupted her twice in her discussion ; I now ask the United Kingdom.

Mr. BURROWS (United Kingdom, Government) : — On a point of order I would like to thank the representative of the Irish Republic for her deep humanitarian interest in the people of Northern Ireland which, as is known, is an integral part of the United Kingdom. At the same time, I would like to ask that all references in her speech to the political situation in Northern Ireland be struck from the record, and I would like to ask that the representatives of the British Red Cross be given an opportunity in the course of this debate to answer the suggestions that co-operation between Red Cross Societies has not been as full and as effective as it might have been.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I will in due course ask the representative of the British Red Cross to speak, but meanwhile we have had two names put forward, Switzerland and Spain.

Mr. WAHLEN (Switzerland, Government) (*Original French*) : — I thank you, Madam Chairman, for giving me the floor. My delegation, which is that of the Swiss Government, and I, have admired the spirit in which the resolution under discussion was formulated, and I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Gallopin for the work accomplished. The purpose of my remarks now is to draw the attention of the Conference to the danger facing the International Committee of the Red Cross if the Conference request it to deal more and more with matters of a political nature, such as those contained in resolution P.6 as well as in the resolution P.5 to be dealt with later on. Anyone attached to the Red Cross cause cannot but hold war in abhorrence. The Red Cross came forth out of the cry of horror uttered by a man who was a witness of the slaughter at the Battle of Solferino. But neither the founders of the Red Cross nor those who have carried on their work until the present day saw in it an organization whose goal was to eliminate war. It is not an organization with political aims and it has set before itself a different, and, if you like, a more modest task, that of coming to the aid of the victims of

conflicts and disasters and of sparing them unnecessary suffering. The tasks regarding the maintenance of peace, the bringing of conflicts to an end and their prevention are assumed by the United Nations. It must assuredly be fully realized that the very idea of the Red Cross and the principles which are the faithful expression of that idea constitute in themselves a powerful incentive to spread the spirit of peace and fellowship among men. In this respect, the Red Cross is indeed a real factor for world peace and should remain so. But this, it can only be by respecting those principles and by submitting to the limitations imposed by the nature and purpose of its work. In order to make the purpose of my part in this debate quite clear, I shall quote a sentence in a statement which the International Committee recently made, and which ran as follows : "It is because the Red Cross meets world-wide needs and because it observes strict neutrality where national or international politics and philosophical or ideological doctrines are concerned that it stands aloof from all controversial issues foreign to its mission. Its very existence is dependent on that."

The resolution before us departs, or is in danger of departing, from these precepts dictated by past experience. In the eminently worthy idea of supporting and encouraging United Nations action, it runs the risk of abandoning what is properly Red Cross ground and of intruding, to our mind without an adequate mandate, into the field of action of a great organization with weighty responsibilities. I request you, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, to consider these observations as being of a very general nature, and without denoting any opposition to the resolution before us.

Dame Anne BRYANS (United Kingdom, Red Cross) : — I welcome this opportunity of taking the floor because, as I have listened to our debates during this week, I think a number of Societies here are confronted from time to time with difficult situations in their own countries, and we all have to try and bring in Red Cross aid in the best possible way. Now we have a busy branch in the area to which Mrs. Barry was referring, and I greatly appreciated the discussions we were able to have with Mrs. Barry when she came to see us on the work that they were doing for refugees over the border and to be able to say what our people were doing in the area for which we are responsible. I think we in the British Red Cross, as Mrs. Barry has said, have co-operated with her Society over a number of years. The offers that were made in a very friendly manner—and I appreciated it—of sending personnel into this area were not easy for us to accept, for all of you will appreciate that we have a very big, and I hope, well equipped Society able to provide personnel to deal with all sides in this conflict, because in this area our Red Cross people are working with both sides and are able to penetrate into both areas. The work is difficult, yes. I replied to Mrs. Barry that we were unable to accept personnel for reasons which I think many of you will perhaps feel were sensible. I did tell Mrs. Barry that we might co-operate with welfare cases, which we are doing and which I hope will continue ; that we might co-operate with material help that she is anxious to send over the border, but it is a little difficult for us when goods get stopped at the border because they are not addressed to us and we could help to bring them in if they were. I do feel, if I may address my words to my Red Cross colleagues at this gathering that this completely non-political objective of trying to bring help within our own area, which our own people are doing, is something we must retain. We will always be very happy to co-operate with any sister society, but when things are difficult within the family, and this is within our own family, I think it easier, as many of you will have found, to cope with it ourselves to the best of our ability, without formal rules or resolutions.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Well, I think that we will see that any political allusions in any of the speeches that are made are expunged from the records. And that I think answers your point, Mr. Burrows, United Kingdom.

I have a number of other speakers on this subject but it is now just on five o'clock ; I wonder whether we might adjourn for a coffee break. Might I ask if you would be good enough to make it not longer than a quarter of an hour because I think we shall have to adjourn at six o'clock this evening in view of the fact that many of you will be going on to the ICRC/League party and will want a little time before that. So may we meet within 15 minutes punctually, please.

(Adjournment at 5 p.m. ; resumption at 5.15 p.m.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — We have a long list of speakers and we still have a heavy agenda before us. Now the list that I have before me at the moment is : Spain, Venezuela, Mexico, and the German Democratic Republic. And after that I think we might consider closing the discussion and moving on to the next resolution.

Mr. de la MATA (Spain, Red Cross) (*Original Spanish*) : — Madam Chairman, fellow delegates. May I briefly express our profound appreciation to you all for the manner in which you supported the draft resolution on “The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace”. Our thanks go also to Mr. Gallopin and all delegates who contributed to the drafting with the greatest enthusiasm and dedication. The Mexican and the Spanish Red Cross Societies were the promoters of one of the propositions contained in the resolution, namely the one relating to world-wide youth education in the Red Cross principles and in universal brotherhood. The acclaim with which you demonstrated your approval for the draft resolution shows the profound interest of all to achieve world peace and more than justifies the great amount of work carried out. Nevertheless, I must draw attention to the fact that the resolution is really only a basis and a start which will oblige us to apply ourselves to a very important task so that the resolution may be effectively developed. We should be proud to have this starting point which will permit us to solve the problems which exist, problems which are national and familiar, which I think we all have and which by their nature are precisely those which are the worst thorns in the flesh. Yet we should not now talk of problems, as it is peace which we are discussing ; and the Society of which I am President will apply itself assiduously to the work of achieving world peace, that peace and happiness which I wish wholeheartedly to all of you and the Societies and governments which you have represented with such distinction at this Conference. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I have three other speakers who asked for the floor and I suggest that after they have spoken we should take a vote on this resolution in order that we can continue with the rest of our business. The three speakers are : Venezuela, the German Democratic Republic and Mexico.

Mr. LÓPEZ GÓMEZ (Venezuela, Red Cross) (*Original Spanish*) : — Venezuela, a developing country and a traditionally peace-loving nation, congratulates the Sub-Commission which drew up the draft resolution now before us, and it views with a sympathetic eye the points in the resolution concerning disarmament and the use of resources available to man for development, welfare, education and co-operation among the nations. We believe that this concern for peace, reflected in the principles of the Red Cross, should indeed be contained in such an important resolution as this. These recommendations for disarmament, the banning of nuclear weapons tests, the control of chemical and biological weapons, which are, when all is said and done, matters for the relevant political bodies to decide, may well be contained in a resolution of this kind, due to the moral force of this Red Cross forum attended by all nations of the world, so that those who decide these matters may fix upon a course for peace and welfare among nations. I think that we must give unanimous support to this resolution which is a step of hope and love in this so troubled world in which we live. (*Applause.*)

Mr. STIBI (German Democratic Republic, Government) (*Original French*) : — Thank you for giving me the floor on this item of the agenda “The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace”. So as to gain time, I would like to limit myself to a few observations on this subject. I shall take the liberty of handing over the full text to the Conference Secretariat.

In accordance with the stated principles of the International Red Cross, the policy of the German Democratic Republic, during the twenty years of its existence, is, and has been, imperturbably oriented towards the safeguard and consolidation of peace. If it is taken into account that two devastating world wars were launched from German territory and were the cause of tremendous suffering and sacrifice, the German Democratic Republic, as a socialist State of the German nation, considers that its supreme duty, in both national and international spheres, is to do all that is in its power to prevent ever again another war starting from German soil. We, therefore, particularly appreciate the fact that the Red Cross, in the principles and resolutions adopted by

the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, intends to do everything possible, in agreement with States, to avert any possible armed conflicts, to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace among all peoples, and to prevent human suffering. One prior condition essential to the attainment of these noble aims is the establishment of normal relations between States with different social systems on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence. Taking into account the great importance of the maintenance of peace and security in Europe, not only for Europe itself but for the whole world, that presupposes, too, the establishment and the observance, under the provisions of international law, of normal relations between all States and the German Democratic Republic, and, in particular, between the two German States. The International Red Cross should actively support, in the interest of the accomplishment of its noble humanitarian task towards peace, the establishment and development of such relations between States and should resolutely be opposed to anything liable to hamper developments in that direction. At the centre of all peace moves lies the demand for general and complete disarmament. The Government of the German Democratic Republic was among the first to sign the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It holds the view that all States should accede, without reservations, to this treaty, and that the two German States should forgo the acquisition of nuclear weapons of whatever kind they may be. It was also with keen interest that the Government of the German Democratic Republic took cognizance of the report drawn up by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and the effects of their possible use. The Government of the German Democratic Republic fully approves the conclusions drawn in that report, namely, that all States should accede to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 for the prohibition of the use in war of chemical and bacteriological methods of warfare. There should be strict observance of this prohibition and the development, production and stockpiling of B and C weapons should be prohibited unreservedly. It is with concern that the Government of the German Democratic Republic reminds the Conference that, in certain regions of the world, nazism and racialism are once again rearing their heads, thus constituting a serious menace to peace. That is why we would be pleased if this Conference would also promote some action condemning all propaganda in favour of war, neo-nazism and racial hatred. Ladies and Gentlemen, the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross is taking place at a grave time. The situation in the Middle East is still full of dangers that can lead to conflicts...

(Passage deleted on the Chairman's instructions.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I order that that part of the speech be expunged from the records. Could I ask you, Sir, if you would make your report as quickly as possible because we have other speakers and our time is running out.

Mr. STIBI (German Democratic Republic, Government) *(Original French)* : — I shall finish very quickly, Madam Chairman...

We emphasize moreover, that a just solution of the problem in Vietnam...

(Passage deleted on the Chairman's instructions.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I am sorry but I must ask you to refrain from any observations of a political nature, and that remark also will be expunged from the records. Could you confine your remarks to the subject under discussion, if you please ?

Mr. STIBI (German Democratic Republic, Government) *(Original French)* : — I think you understood what I wanted to say. Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Mr. Rafael MINOR FRANCO (Mexico, Red Cross) *(Original Spanish)* : — We can never over-emphasize the importance of this absorbing theme, peace, for it is not just living which is important, but living together. That the draft on peace, which it submitted earlier jointly with Spain, was greeted with enthusiasm, is a source

of satisfaction to Mexico and an encouragement to reflection for all delegates. I wish particularly to thank the Sub-Commission which submitted this draft for the important recommendation in it related to youth. I do not wish at this moment to highlight youth's role in the world, for youth does not wish to be master of the world. We are at a phase of life in which we need greater understanding and co-operation from our elders. Youth is a way of life concomitant with yours. You who have lived longer have an obligation to give us a hand, to pass on the torch to us, but not to abandon us. It is a long road together so that we might assimilate your various teachings of peace, of co-existence and of universal concord. Greater attention must be given to youth. How gratified I am to see how in this resolution on peace a preponderant role is given youth, for youth can do much in favour of peace, but you can do much more in favour of youth. I would suggest at this time that when you return to your own countries you should not file away or deposit in your libraries this interesting series of resolutions, which many delegations are already sending off by post, but that you read them all and put them into practice. Talk and the best resolutions are not worthwhile. What counts is to act and give effect to what has been approved here, namely the project of peace and education for peace, one of your major concerns. I suggest that a building be built for youth in each country, a Junior Red Cross building, so that youth may have a place where they may exchange experiences, give vent to their desires and ideas, and direct their projects. I am sure that many Red Cross Societies have not assigned so much as a corner to the Junior Red Cross. Provide them with a building containing a library, lecture halls, a projection room and a series of annexes where youth may plan activities, for we must never forget that it is only by doing that we learn, only by giving responsibilities to youth can much progress be made. In addition, the Mexican delegation thinks that action is the best example, and consequently we shall set up an office in a place for the Junior Red Cross, with a notice saying "Here the youth of Mexico works zealously for world peace". Once more, I congratulate the Commission for having given major emphasis to youth with reference to peace. I believe that the youth of the world, for they all bear the standard of just causes, need only a little understanding ; an understanding which begins in the home. Let us never forget the importance of education, at home and in everyday life. Give us a hand and let us march together every day, fighting for the ideals you have propounded at this august Conference. At this point I wish to undertake a commitment concerning the youth of my country. I do not even need to seek the approval of the Mexican Government because I know it will look with satisfaction on the undertaking I now assume : the youth of Mexico will work every day to bring about peace. We invite the youth of the world to do likewise for the achievement of that noble mission.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I have circulated the Resolution on Peace which was agreed unanimously by the Sub-Commission appointed to consider the matter ; there was one reservation on paragraph 5 made by the French delegation, apart from that it was unanimously agreed. May I now take a vote on that, please, or will you express approval by acclamation ? So much the better. (*Applause.*)

(The resolution was adopted by acclamation.)

Once more, Mr. Gallopin, we thank you and congratulate you. But you still have another task, I think, in front of you and I shall ask you now to continue with the next resolution.

Mr. GALLOPIN (ICRC) (*Original French*) : — I shall be as brief as possible, because, as you said, our time is running out. I had mentioned a short while ago the resolution submitted jointly by the National Societies of Morocco, Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany, Senegal, Switzerland and Sweden. This resolution was not incorporated into the general resolution which was adopted just now by acclamation, because its object, in pursuance of Resolution X of the Vienna Conference, was essentially to state the conditions under which, in case of an impending conflict or of one that had already broken out, the National Red Cross Societies of the countries concerned, in agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross, could take the necessary humanitarian measures to alleviate suffering, and also, if possible, but this time with the consent of the Governments, to try to bring hostilities to an end, or even to prevent a conflict from breaking out where it had not already done so. That was the substance of the proposed resolution which, as I had already mentioned, had been the object of a written amendment put forward by the German Democratic Republic. This amendment having been finally accepted in principle by the sponsors of the draft resolution, I am happy to announce that

the Commission, on this point too, managed to come unanimously to an agreement on the text which I have the honour to submit to you.

The XXist International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling that, according to the principle of humanity which it has proclaimed, the Red Cross "promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples",

recalling that the XXth International Conference in its Resolution No. X encouraged the ICRC to undertake, in constant liaison with the UN and within the framework of its humanitarian mission, every effort likely to contribute to the prevention or settlement of possible armed conflicts in agreement with the States concerned, and asked the Red Cross and Governments to work for the universal and scrupulous application of the Geneva Conventions in all armed conflicts,

considering that the XVIIth International Conference in its Resolution No. XXVII in particular considered "essential the development of relations between National Societies of friendly and enemy States",

recommends that in cases of armed conflicts or of situations which are a threat to peace the ICRC shall, if necessary, ask the representatives of the National Societies of the countries concerned to meet together or separately with the ICRC to study the resolution of humanitarian problems involved and in agreement with the Governments concerned to examine what contribution the Red Cross could make to preventing the outbreak of the conflict or achieving a cease-fire or cessation of hostilities,

recommends the National Societies to comply with the request of the ICRC and give it all desirable co-operation in this field.

Having read out the resolution, I would like to emphasize, Madam Chairman, that its title should be "Contacts between National Societies in cases of Armed Conflict", and at the same time, I draw the meeting's attention to the fact that the word "armed" should be added to the English text as I see that it has been omitted in the text I have before me. I repeat, therefore, that the title does indeed run thus: "Contacts between National Societies in cases of Armed Conflict".

And now, I take the liberty, Madam Chairman, to propose that this draft resolution should also be adopted by acclamation. (*Applause.*)

(The resolution was adopted by acclamation.)

Mr. OSMAN (United Arab Republic, Government) (*Original French*): — I shall be very brief. For the same reasons put forward so eloquently by the Swiss delegation before this Conference on the political role that the Red Cross might play in conflicts and on the fears that delegation had on this subject, my delegation finds it will have to abstain from voting on the draft resolution submitted today.

Mr. HAUG (Switzerland, Red Cross) (*Original French*): — I take the liberty of making a short observation regarding procedure. We have just adopted, by acclamation, two resolutions, which are, in our view, of extreme importance. I am quite willing to believe, indeed I am quite sure, that this meeting is united, in the thought and spirit of the Red Cross, as also in its work. But I believe that we are not a collectivity, a single mass; we are individual persons who, at times, have very different opinions, and, in my view, the opportunity should be given to delegates to give expression to their opinion, by a yes or a no, or by abstaining. (*Applause.*)

I therefore would request the Chairman to bestow the time necessary for a regular vote to be taken and to give delegates the opportunity to vote for or against, or to abstain. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Well, you have heard this suggestion put forward by the Swiss delegation and in the circumstances I will most certainly put these resolutions to the vote.

Mr. Talib SHABIB (Iraq, Government): — I have considered the draft resolution submitted by the Sub-Commission created by the General Commission about contacts between National Societies in case of conflict and I feel that there are serious aspects of that draft resolution which need very close examination. I cannot say that I can express my views on all aspects of the questions contained in this draft resolution but I feel that it seems that the ICRC is being asked to undertake missions which are completely out of the scope of the work

of the ICRC and of this Conference. I believe that there are agencies, international agencies, first of all for settling conflicts between States, and for preventing the outbreak of war and supervising cease-fires. I feel in full and complete sympathy and understanding with the spirit which has motivated this resolution but I do not think that we will be doing much service to the ICRC or to its work by entrusting missions which are out of its scope which would involve it in deep controversial political issues and which its facilities and liabilities are not in keeping with the missions which we are asking it to do. I find it very difficult to imagine that the ICRC can possibly prevent conflicts from taking place or arrange cease-fires, for that matter. Secondly, there are, as I said, agencies, international agencies which are entrusted with these matters. Thirdly, when we ask National Societies of two warring countries to co-operate together, we might be contravening laws of one or of both countries involved in a conflict, which is something beyond what normally could be asked from the Societies. Therefore, Madam Chairman, I have to withhold my vote from this resolution.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Now we have two resolutions before us and the Swiss delegate has asked that we should take a vote on both. May we then first of all take a vote on the resolution of “The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace”.

Will those in favour of the resolution “The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace” kindly raise their cards. Those against this resolution kindly raise their boards. Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 127 votes in favour, 4 against and 8 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XX, page 101.)

We now proceed to the vote on the second resolution of “Contacts between National Societies in cases of Conflict”. That is the paper you have before you, resolution 5 (b). Will those in favour of this resolution kindly raise their boards. Will those who are against this resolution kindly raise their boards. Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 91 votes in favour, 7 against and 22 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XXI, page 102.)

I would, before everybody starts to move, like to say that I think we must reassemble tomorrow morning at nine o'clock and not ten o'clock, as I think was originally envisaged, because otherwise we shall certainly not be able to get through our business and I know that a lot of members of delegations are anxious to leave before the end of the day. So will you please remember it is 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

13 September 1969

SUMMARY: Report of the Commission on International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts. — Discussion and adoption of resolutions. — Report of the General Commission. — Discussion and adoption of resolutions. — Statements by Mr. M. Naville and Mr. J. Barroso. — Election of members to the Standing Commission. — Statement by Lady Limerick. — Statement by Mr. R. Çerçel. — Closing of the Conference.

The meeting was opened by Lady Limerick, Chairman, at 9 a.m.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — I realize that we are very much behind in our programme and I am therefore going to make one or two suggestions as to how we might possibly expedite the business at this plenary session. I know that many people have made their arrangements to return by afternoon planes and I therefore am anxious that we should be able to finish the meetings as soon as possible. Now this applies to Mr. Boeri in particular who is the Rapporteur of the Humanitarian Law Commission and I am therefore going to ask that we should start forthwith with the Humanitarian Law Commission Report and the resolutions arising therefrom. I would like to think that we might perhaps be able to get through the formal business this morning. A vote will have to be taken on the membership of the Standing Commission ; that will be taken later on in what might possibly have been called the coffee break, but I think if we are working against time we may have to dispense with that. I would ask all speakers if they would be kind enough to limit their remarks to a maximum of five minutes and as nearly all the resolutions which we shall have before us today have been very fully discussed in the Commission, before being passed, I do hope that speeches will as far as possible be limited either to those who have any amendments to make or those who wish to speak against the resolution, rather than people just getting up to say they want to support it. I now ask Mr. Boeri if he will come and make the Report for the Humanitarian Law Commission.

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — I have the honour and the privilege to report to you on the work of the Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts. The Commission held six meetings on 8, 9, 10 and 11 September, during which it examined all the items on its agenda. The discussions, the resolutions adopted and a summary of the opinions expressed by the members of the Commission constituted the substance of this report. Item 1 was the election of the officers of the Commission. The chairman it elected was Mr. Keba M'Baye, the delegate from Senegal. The vice-chairmen were Mr. Osman, Mr. Kojevnikov, Miss Hickey, Dr. Maung-Maung, and Dr. Inostrosa. The rapporteur was Dr. Boeri ; the secretaries, Mr. Schmid and Mr. Mirimanoff-Chilikine. The drafting committee elected consisted of Mr. Corbeil, Mr. Angebaud and Mr. Bermudez. The report of course follows the order of the items on the agenda. On item 2, the action taken on the resolutions of the XXth International Conference, the ICRC representative submitted, and referred members of the Commission to, the relevant document. The Monaco delegation pointed out that, in his comments on page 32, the ICRC representative stated, with reference to Resolution No. XXII of the XXth Conference, that the ICRC had not been asked to contribute to the training of personnel to be made available to Protecting Powers or their possible substitutes. The delegate drew the Commission's attention to the observations made by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (see D.S. 3/1 b, page 33 ff). These showed that consistent with the requirements of Reso-

lution No. XXII of the Vienna Conference, “commissionnaires for the Conventions” had been trained by the German Red Cross, which organized courses for that purpose.

The Monaco delegation expressed the hope that this precedent would be taken by other governments as an example and requested the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany to give the Conference further details.

Agenda item 3 was the implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions. The Commission approved the German proposal that the implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions generally should first be discussed, then their violations, and finally the special item, the proposed system of standard telegram messages to and from prisoners of war.

1. *Implementation and dissemination of the Conventions*

The ICRC representative summarized report No. D. S. 3/1 a and drew particular attention, in connection with the dissemination of the Conventions, to the publication of an illustrated school text-book entitled “The Red Cross and My Country”, intended to spread knowledge of the Conventions and Red Cross principles in African schools, and of reports and material of general interest. In connection with the implementation of the Conventions he singled out for attention the new rules to cover firstly the immunity of medical aircraft and secondly the protection of persons deprived of their freedom for reasons not connected with normal penal law.

These two drafts had been drawn up by the *Commission médico-juridique de Monaco* at the suggestion of the International Committee of the Red Cross which had co-operated in this work and had approved the conclusions reached.

Several delegates spoke briefly on the measures taken by their governments to incorporate the basic rules of the Conventions in their school and university curricula and in their legislations.

The observer from the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy stated that many non-governmental organizations were prepared to respond to the appeal made to them collectively in the UN General Assembly's resolution of 19 December 1968 on the implementation of the Geneva Conventions. He referred to the provisions of Article 1, common to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions and which laid on States engaged in conflict the obligation to respect the Conventions and on States not involved in conflict the obligation to ensure respect for those Conventions. The element of international public order, recognized in the Vienna Convention on the law of treaties, conferred on the laws of The Hague and Geneva for the protection of victims of armed conflicts special importance within humanitarian law as a whole where their autonomy must be maintained. The Monaco delegation submitted for the Commission's appraisal a draft resolution on the advisability of taking advantage of the International Education and Culture Year, decided by the United Nations General Assembly for 1970, to organize a World Day for the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions within the scope of the activities organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and using the most modern audio-visual techniques, including even mondovision if necessary.

Before a vote was taken on this proposal, it was established that, unless the Commission decided otherwise, governments and National Societies would not vote one after the other as requested by the Guatemala delegation, and that where one person represented both his government and his National Society he would be allowed a double vote. The draft resolution submitted by the Monaco delegation was put to the vote and adopted unanimously (see draft resolution No. 1 on page 11).

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I put this resolution to the vote. The English text is on page 11, and the French text is on page 13 of the Report of the Humanitarian Law Commission. Resolution No. 1. Will all those in favour kindly raise their boards. May we have Governments and Red Cross Societies simultaneously ?

(The resolution was adopted unanimously with one abstention.)

(See Resolution IX on page 96.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): —

2. *Violations of the Geneva Conventions*

The delegation of Jordan submitted a draft resolution deploring violations of the Geneva Conventions, particularly infringements of the Fourth Convention concerning the treatment of the civilian population in occupied territory.

A number of delegations supported this draft. Others reminded the Conference that, according to paragraph 5, Article II, of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and the principle of neutrality, it could not be a forum for political discussions or a court to judge and pronounce sentence. They therefore asked that the resolution be worded in general terms without any specific reference to circumstances or place or any appraisal of a State's conduct.

The ICRC delegate expressed his regret that the author of the draft resolution had mentioned in his comments data taken from reports issued, in accordance with the ICRC's mission, for information purposes only. He added that the publicity given to that data was likely to jeopardize the International Committee's mission in favour of protected persons.

The Belgian delegate, bearing in mind Resolution No. XXIV of the XXth Conference, suggested a rewording be submitted for study. He asked for the Jordan draft resolution not to be put to the vote immediately, but that an *ad hoc* group be formed, possibly under the chairmanship of the Swiss Red Cross delegate and comprising the delegations which had taken part in the drafting, to work out a new wording for submission to the Commission.

Noting the Commission's agreement, the Chairman proposed the appointment of representatives from the following countries: Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Norway and Poland; they would be convoked by the representative of Brazil, who would take the chair.

The Israel delegation objected to the composition of the *ad hoc* group.

The group submitted a new draft resolution.

The Belgian delegation pointed out that the new draft did not fully comply with the requirements of a general approach, neutrality and anonymity which had been deemed desirable. It had therefore drafted a number of amendments.

The draft resolution submitted by the *ad hoc* group was put to the vote and adopted by 78 votes in favour and none against, with 48 abstentions. The resolution, number 2, may be found on page 11 of the report.

Madam Chairman, may I now ask you to put the resolution to the vote.

Mr. de BREUCKER (Belgium, Government) (*Original French*): — The Conference will recall the stand taken by the Belgian delegation in the first part of its work. The Belgian delegation is now compelled to take the floor since the report by the distinguished delegate from Monaco mentions that the Belgian delegation had drafted a number of amendments. In actual fact those amendments were not introduced by the Belgian delegation which has no intention of introducing them in the plenary session either.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Any other speakers? Well if not, may I put resolution 2 to the vote? Will those in favour of resolution 2 kindly raise their boards? Thank you. Those against the resolution? No one. Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 94 votes in favour, 1 against and 29 abstentions.)

(See Resolution X on page 97.)

Mr. Boeri, would you be kind enough to continue?

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — Still with reference to breaches of the Geneva Conventions, a draft resolution on prisoners of war, drawn up by a large number of delegations, was adopted by 105 votes in favour, none against and 20 abstentions, after an amendment proposed by the delegate of the Government of the German Democratic Republic had been rejected. The text of that draft, number 3, is given on page 12.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Resolution No. 3 is now before you. Is there any speaker? If not I will put the resolution to the vote. Resolution No. 3. Will those in favour kindly hold up their boards. Thank you. Those against? Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 114 votes in favour, none against and 7 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XI on page 97.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — Dealing still with the question of the implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, item 3 on page 5 of the report explains the proposed system of standard telegram messages to and from prisoners of war.

The ICRC delegate described the preliminary work, in which the ICRC and the National Societies were associated in a common effort, to improve treatment of prisoners of war.

A series of coded messages would enable them to correspond with their families on important events concerning their respective situations, independently of normal mail facilities.

The system need not necessarily be restricted to prisoners of war, but could also be made available to certain civilians, such as internees in enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or those deprived of communications due to military operations.

Consideration could also be given to the use of the system in peace-time disaster situations.

Two delegations requested a simplification of the system and the ICRC delegate promised to take their request into account in working out the definitive system.

No resolution having been proposed on this topic, I shall proceed to item 4, namely the reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflict.

The Chairman suggested that this item be studied in three phases, namely:

1. a, b, e which had certain similarities
2. c
3. d

The President of the ICRC opened discussion on this important item by introducing document D.S. 4 a, b, e, which was issued by the ICRC and which contained the conclusions reached by the meeting of experts in January 1969 on the various problems to be discussed.

He recalled the reasons which had induced the ICRC to undertake this considerable task, made necessary by the shortcomings of international legislation and governmental negligence in the face of the extension of international armed conflicts in which the Geneva Conventions had been systematically disregarded or very imperfectly applied.

Since the Vienna Conference, the International Committee had been given valuable encouragement by the resolutions adopted in 1968 at Tehran by the International Conference on Human Rights, and in New York by the twenty-third UN General Assembly inviting the UN Secretary-General to study, in co-operation with the ICRC, measures to ensure better application of the Conventions and international humanitarian rules.

Many delegations warmly approved the ICRC's decision to extend its traditional mission of protecting war victims to include the safeguarding of the human person, these two questions being inseparable under the threat of the use of new weapons.

The Yugoslav delegation submitted a report dwelling on the need to apply in all armed conflicts the basic humanitarian principles and to ensure stricter application of existing Conventions by drawing up new legal instruments to supplement the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

A number of delegations stressed the need to reaffirm, before drawing up new legal instruments, the principles and the written and unwritten rules which constituted positive treaty law applicable to the conduct of hostilities since the St. Petersburg Declaration of 1868.

The Rumanian delegation reminded the Commission that in the two Hague Conventions of 1899 (II) and 1907 (IV), the so-called "De Martens" Clause accepted by the contracting parties placed the parties to a conflict, in the absence of adequate codified rules, under the obligation to observe, and under the protection of, the principles of the Law of Nations as derived from the customs evolved by civilized nations, the laws of humanity and the demands of the public conscience. The Red Cross might induce the UN International Law Commission to prepare the ground for a diplomatic conference to draw up the new rules.

The Lebanese delegation drew attention to the expediency, for the reaffirmation of the relevant rules, of having recourse to support from parliamentary and inter-parliamentary circles which were in direct contact with public opinion. For the development of humanitarian rules, the danger of excessive concentration on legal technicalities should be avoided, and sight should not be lost of the fact that humanitarian law was first and foremost the law engraved on human conscience. In that connection, the ICRC should promote the intervention of tribunals, the only way to put on those rules a construction which could in no event be left, under the pretext of pragmatism, to the discretion of a State party to a conflict.

The delegations of Finland and Italy recalled the provisions laid down in Article 1 common to the 1949 Conventions, which made it obligatory for all States, whether Parties to the Conventions or not, to apply the treaty rules intended to confirm the principles already accepted.

The delegations of Poland and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution requesting the governments of all States to adhere to the Convention of 26 November 1968 on the imprescriptibility of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Put to the vote, the draft was adopted by 77 votes in favour and none against with 24 abstentions. The resolution is No. 4 on page 13.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 4 is now before you. Is there anyone who wishes to speak? No one?

May I put the resolution to the vote. Will those in favour kindly hold up their boards.

(The resolution was adopted by 112 votes in favour, 1 against and 15 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XII on page 98.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — So many draft resolutions were put forward on the reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts that, on the initiative of the delegations of France and Greece and with the approval of many delegations, the Commission decided to entrust to a special Committee the task of amalgamating in a single instrument five draft resolutions concerning both the development of humanitarian law and general adherence to the existing texts : the Geneva Protocol of 1925, the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the prohibition of mass destruction weapons. This amalgamation would have the advantage of avoiding confusion and would give each of the objectives pursued with a clear common aim the power required to make an impression on public opinion and thence on governments.

An *ad hoc* committee was immediately set up for this purpose comprising the delegations of Algeria, Bulgaria, Upper Volta, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada and Yugoslavia, and a member of the ICRC. The initiative of convening a meeting was left to the representative of the German Democratic Republic. According to its rapporteur, the majority of that Com-

mittee considered it preferable to submit to the Commission, instead of a single draft text, two documents, one covering the procedure to be followed by the ICRC with a view to the development of humanitarian law, and the other concerning weapons of mass destruction.

The first of these drafts, No. 5 on page 13, was adopted by 100 votes in favour and none against, with 7 abstentions.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 5 is now before you. Are there any speakers on this ?

Mr. A. R. TAMMENOMS-BAKKER (Netherlands Government) : — Madam Chairman, in the Commission the delegation of the Netherlands Government abstained from voting on the proposed resolution. Its reason was, as was made clear, that it thought that the way in which governments could or should concern themselves with the work which was to be entrusted to the ICRC was worded insufficiently precisely. The resolution was adopted by a large majority, and it looks therefore as if the ICRC is going to undertake the work to which the resolution refers. We should not like it to be thought that the Netherlands Government will take a disinterested attitude with regard to the work to be undertaken. Having made clear our hesitation with regard to the wording of parts of the paragraph beginning with the words : “Requests the ICRC, etc.” we have therefore decided now to vote for the resolution.

Mr. de BREUCKER (Belgium, Government) (*Original French*) : — In the Commission, the Belgian delegation abstained from voting on resolution No. 5 which is before us now. It is entirely in agreement with that resolution except for the procedure described in paragraph (b) in particular, and also in (d) which does not sufficiently emphasize the fact that the revision of conventional humanitarian law is essentially the business of government and the Red Cross can only act the role of preparer and promoter. However, such a reservation should not prevent the Belgian delegation from voting on the draft. Consequently, having expressed its reservation, the Belgian delegate is also of the opinion that the draft should be voted.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution 5 is now before you. Will those in favour of this resolution kindly hold up their boards ? Against ? None. Abstentions ? None.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XIII on page 98.)

I am sorry, Ladies and Gentlemen, there has been a misunderstanding. We understood that the Swiss delegation were not asking to speak on this resolution, but it appears that they were. I will now ask Mr. Wahlen if he will speak.

Mr. WAHLEN (Switzerland, Government) (*Original French*) : — I am sorry this misunderstanding occurred but the Swiss Government delegation agreed to co-author the resolution on the reaffirmation and the development of rules applicable in armed conflicts. It and our National Red Cross Society are pleased that that resolution has been accepted with a clear majority. May I, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, say a few words on one aspect about which I am most particular.

The rules applicable in armed conflicts were among the first, in international public law, to be codified. We acknowledge the considerable effort achieved in this field by the two Hague Conferences in 1899 and 1907. Two world wars have occurred since that codification which reflected the state of a military technique which alas we have left far behind. It preceded by half a century the accession to independence of many States so that those States which took part in that codification are today only representative of about one third of all members of the international community.

It has unfortunately to be admitted that the existing conventions, whilst an admirable basis for further effort, no longer provide the protection we would wish for human beings in armed conflicts. That situation has

been of concern to several Red Cross Conferences. The shortcomings of regulations on armed conflicts often make worthless those provisions of the Geneva Conventions which should improve the plight of victims. I shall not therefore dwell on that.

How can we remedy the situation? The draft resolution just accepted shows us the way. It is based on two observations. The first is that the drafting of rules applicable in armed conflicts, like those of public international law in general, is the responsibility of governments. The second is that the preparation of the rules in this field demands considerable effort and time and care.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has cleared the ground for the reaffirmation of the law of armed conflicts. It has untiringly drawn governments' attention to the seriousness of the situation. The Conferences of the Red Cross have widely debated the problem and in several resolutions have expressed the urgent need to strengthen the protection for persons in armed conflicts. I think, however, that we have reached the point where studies and appeals no longer suffice. If all the resolutions of all the international organizations were applied to the letter by all countries, we would hardly feel the need to seek happiness on the moon. Therefore compulsory rules must be laid down and accepted; that is the task of governments. Our Conference encourages them and the international community may, and we know it will, stimulate and promote the drawing up of draft rules.

It goes without saying that the moment must not be chosen without due consideration; it must be the culmination of a long and difficult preparation during which problems must be recognized and classified, the difficulties overcome as much as possible and objections listed and studied. Only when a system of regulations on armed conflicts will have attained the degree of maturity required, through that enormous effort to achieve codification, may a diplomatic conference be convened. It should be for a non-governmental organization such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, or for any government or group of governments, to decide the moment. A decision so fraught with consequences must be the result of wide agreement of the great majority of the members of the international community.

I have taken the liberty to dwell at some length on this point because, as my government has made known, in its recent report on relations between Switzerland and the United Nations, it is ready to extend invitations to a diplomatic conference, and, as the custodian of the Geneva Conventions, it will be pleased to do so when the time comes.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Ladies and Gentlemen, I would just say that to avoid any further misunderstandings I would be glad if those who wish to speak would raise their boards quite high so that we can see them. It is very difficult from this platform to see people unless they put their boards right up. We will now proceed to the next item. Mr. Boeri!

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — Excuse me, Madam Chairman, but the item is not finished with.

To come back to what I was saying a short while ago, in view of the large number of draft resolutions put to the Commission, and for the sake of accuracy, I would like to make a correction. It was not on the initiative of the French and Greek delegations that this group was constituted but on that of the French Red Cross and the French delegation. I was saying that a second draft resolution had been drawn up by the committee. You may find that draft, number 6, on page 15 of the annex to the report.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Resolution 6 is now before you. Are there any speakers? No speakers. Will those in favour kindly hold up their boards? Thank you. Those against the Resolution. None. Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 115 votes in favour, none against and 13 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XIV on page 99.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — The representative of the ICRC commented on the report D.S. 4, c “Status of Civil Defence Service Personnel” aiming at strengthening protection for that personnel who came to the aid of victims as recommended by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross.

The report in question was only of an interim character as it had not yet been possible to convene the Committee of experts envisaged in Resolution No. XXIX. The persons called upon in a private capacity had nevertheless established preliminary contacts. The report had been submitted on the one hand because the strengthening of the protection of the personnel of these services was in the best interests of the victims and, on the other, because certain countries were devoting close and continuing attention to this problem.

There was moreover no question of imposing a uniform status on the civil defence services but of giving international protection to the personnel concerned.

The delegation of Belgium considered that it would be premature, if not rash, to deal with the text of a resolution at a time when the experts had not yet started their work. It requested the continuation of the work and, at the same time, the deletion of the last paragraph of the draft resolution as it covered insufficiently precise qualifications.

After a number of delegations had come out either in favour of or against the draft, the Swiss delegation proposed the amendment of the title from “Status of Civil Defence Service Personnel” to “Status of Civil Defence Bodies”. The new provisions should cover not only this personnel but also the people responsible for logistical support and the actual functioning of the service. A draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted by 89 votes in favour and 5 against, with 6 abstentions. It is resolution 7 on page 18 of the report.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Resolution No. 7 is now before you. Are there any speakers? May I now put this to the vote. Resolution No. 7. Will those in favour kindly hold up their boards? Will those against this resolution kindly signify? Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 124 votes in favour, 2 against and 9 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XV on page 99.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*): — Item 4 (d) of the agenda is “Protection of Civil, Medical and Nursing Personnel”. The representative of the ICRC introduced the question which, in accordance with Resolution No. XXX of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, had been the subject of an enquiry, conducted among National Societies and the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, concerning the extension of the use of the red cross (red crescent and red lion and sun) emblem.

He pointed out that the opinions expressed had been somewhat undecided. The views of National Societies had been equally divided between the two solutions whereas there had been a slight majority in the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy.

He added that in June 1969 the General Assembly of the World Medical Association with its 30 million members had come out in favour of the maintenance of the Staff of Aesculapius in time of conflict.

In these circumstances it seemed that those principally concerned had definitely opposed extension of the use of the protective sign of the Conventions.

However, the ICRC considered that civil medical personnel should in the event of conflict benefit from the immunity conferred by the protective sign laid down in Article 38 of the First Geneva Convention of 1949 when, within a State, it might be decided to standardize the military or civil medical services.

A number of delegations developed their ideas in one direction or the other.

Whilst recalling that within his organization a slight majority had come out in favour of extension of the use of the traditional sign, the observer from the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy drew attention to the fact that the extension had already been included in the positive law of the Conventions (Article 20, Fourth Convention, 1949) for the benefit of medical and nursing personnel exclusively attached to a hospital service, and that in the conditions of modern warfare where operations might be limited throughout

the whole territory it had become essential, for the protection of the civilian population, to extend that protection to civilian doctors of all categories not covered by the Convention. A draft resolution to that effect was submitted by the delegations of Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Lebanon, Sweden and Yugoslavia. Put to the vote, it was adopted by 67 votes in favour and 23 against, with 11 abstentions. The draft resolution is number 8 on page 19 of the report.

Mr. de BREUCKER (Belgium, Government) (*Original French*): — The Belgian Government delegation, speaking also on behalf of the Belgian Red Cross, wishes to express its keen regret that it has been decided in favour of extending the sign of the Red Cross without all the consequences of such a step being brought into the open for discussion. The Belgian Government delegation has observed that the arguments in favour of that extension are based solely on the hypothetical merger or, at least, integration, of the civilian and military health services in time of war. We can only deplore the hasty vote in the Commission on this capital point. We can only deplore that the vote was taken following speakers who, in our opinion, confused the principle with the manner of protecting civilian medical and nursing personnel. Consequently, the Belgian Government delegation must underline the fact that yesterday's vote is in opposition to the opinion of the World Medical Association which has 30 million members and whose authority on the question is indisputable. Moreover, the staff of Aesculapius, with which the public could be made familiar in peacetime, would tend to prevent confusion. It would require no change in the Geneva Conventions but would provide permanent and adequate protection of the medical and civilian nursing law. There are in fact three reasons for which the Belgian delegation regrets the vote in the Commission. First, the resolution shows some misunderstanding of a factual situation attending the medical organization and practice in many countries. Second, as I have just said, it is in opposition to the professional opinion of the World Medical Association which advocated the use of the staff of Aesculapius. Third, it does not dovetail in with the spirit of the Conventions which limit the category of persons entitled to benefit from the protective sign of the red cross.

Gentlemen, the unfortunate consequences of the choice made by the Commission, for the extension of the use of the red cross emblem, must be denounced. They include the extension of the use of the red cross sign to personnel whom the authorities will find it difficult if not impossible to supervise. There will result a risk of misuse likely to discredit the Red Cross, particularly at times when its credit should not at any cost be impaired. In view of these serious implications, the Belgian Government and Red Cross delegation considers it its duty to warn the plenary meeting against ratifying such a resolution. Consequently, the Belgian delegation has the honour to propose that the Conference vote against the resolution, thereby referring the question, by implication, to the next Conference and the desire that the ICRC go further into the aspects of the matter in co-operation with the government bodies concerned. (*Applause.*)

Mr. M'BAYE (Senegal, Government) (*Original French*): — I do not take the floor in order to defend the resolution submitted, but, after the brilliant exposition of the Belgian delegate, I would nevertheless, having been responsible for the procedure during the Commission, ask him to give us some clarification on a term which he used and which might well sow doubt in the minds of the members of this Conference. He spoke of a vote *à l'arraché*. I do not know what he meant by that and I would like him to explain it to us. (*Applause.*)

Mr. de BREUCKER (Belgium, Government) (*Original French*): — I meant by a vote *à l'arraché* one which was premature and taken at the end of the meeting, in others words under a little pressure and rush. I think that replies to the question.

If the honourable delegate from Senegal contests my interpretation I am quite prepared to discuss the matter with him later in private.

Mr. M'BAYE (Senegal, Government) (*Original French*): — The Senegal delegation is not so pretentious as to become involved in a discussion on the French language ; there are others here certainly more qualified than we for that, the French delegation for example. But we nevertheless believe that the French we know is good and precise and always says what it means. When the term a vote *à l'arraché* is used, that throws doubt on the number of votes *in favour* and the number of votes *against*. However, when a resolution is voted upon

calmly, as was the case, and any pretention to the contrary would be offensive to the Commission, for the voting was 67 in favour, 23 against and 11 abstentions, it is clear that in French the vote cannot be qualified as *à l'arraché*.

I wished to make this clear to the Conference so that, in its turn, it may decide calmly and without being influenced by a term which does not reflect the true facts. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Well I think we must cease from any more dictionary definitions.

Mr. HAUG (Switzerland, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — Allow me to say a few words. The delegate from Belgium spoke of a hasty decision, a decision rushed through by the Commission of International Humanitarian Law.

This subject of protection for civilian medical and nursing personnel has been on International Red Cross Conference agendas for twenty years. So far no progress has been made and now the delegate from Belgium wishes again to refer the matter to a future International Conference of the Red Cross. I think it is high time that we reached a decision. It is a decision of principle on the emblem of Red Cross, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, if you adopt the resolution, will be requested to draw up rules and submit them to governments for their possible adoption in an additional protocol to the First and Fourth Geneva Conventions. I would merely draw your attention to the fact that we cannot pass the buck from one conference to another. We must finally reach a decision and make progress in this rather important field.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — No other speakers, so we will proceed to vote on resolution No. 8. Will those in favour of this resolution kindly raise their boards? Thank you. Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted by 97 votes in favour, 19 against and 20 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XVI on page 100.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — Item 5 of the agenda is "Protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts".

The delegate of the ICRC introduced Report D.S. 5 a-b, divided into two sections.

The first covered the activities of National Societies in the event of civil war and internal disturbances and in particular relations with bodies carrying out humanitarian tasks in conformity with the Red Cross principles on territory under the control of insurgents. The ICRC proposed to facilitate those relations for humanitarian reasons.

The second part of the report dealt with the legal problems involved in Article 3. The ICRC stressed that this Article should be given a liberal construction both with regard to the conditions of application and its substantive provisions.

It nevertheless remained true that, however widely construed, Article 3 had certain shortcomings which should be remedied. As a preliminary measure the ICRC planned to prepare a standard text of provisions on the application of the main provisions of the Geneva Conventions. As soon as an internal conflict broke out the ICRC would submit this text to the two parties to the conflict for approval.

However, the final objective would be to supplement Article 3, by means, for example, of an additional protocol submitted for ratification and which would in no way impair the provisions of Article 3.

On this very important question a draft resolution had been submitted by the Algerian Red Crescent. Based on the fact that internal conflicts had increased and on various resolutions adopted by the United Nations in favour of the members of resistance movements fighting for their freedom, it proposed that the Conference construe the terms of the Third Geneva Convention as applying to resistance groups. This draft was the subject of an amendment submitted by the Danish Red Cross which was itself amended by the Swedish Red Cross.

Finally a joint draft text submitted by these three Societies with the assistance of a representative of the ICRC was put to the vote and adopted by 50 votes in favour and 31 against, with 19 abstentions. It is shown as resolution 9 on page 17 of the report.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution 9 is now before you. Are there any speakers ? No speakers. I therefore put this resolution to the vote. Will those in favour kindly hold up their hands ? Those against ? Abstentions ?

(The resolution was adopted by 97 votes in favour, 22 against and 11 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XVIII on page 100.)

Now there is a further resolution on this subject which has been circulated to you ; the paper is resolution 7/p presented by the Canadian and Norwegian Governments. Canada and Senegal are anxious to speak. Would they kindly come to the rostrum ?

Mr. WERSHOF (Canada, Government) : — In my statement to the Humanitarian Law Commission on Thursday, on behalf of the Canadian Government delegation, just before the vote was taken on the resolution contained in document P/8170 concerning the four Geneva Conventions, I mentioned that the Canadian Governmental delegation was in substantial agreement with the first part of that resolution. It will be recalled that the first part related to the possibility of extending the application of Article 3 which is common to all four of the Geneva Conventions. However, in our view the second part of that resolution P/8170 which sets out a number of specific principles went quite beyond the scope of the present Article 3, and therefore we were unable to support the resolution. Like many other delegations here we regretted that the praiseworthy and useful paragraphs contained in the first part of that resolution were lost in the defeat of the resolution as a whole. We are therefore pleased to learn that the International Committee of the Red Cross considered that the adoption by the Conference of a short, concise resolution calling for particular attention to be paid to the question of developing or supplementing Article 3 would be a useful contribution in the field of humanitarian law. Several other delegations, both governmental and Red Cross, supported this view and agreed with us to co-sponsor resolution 7/2 contained in the document now before you. The other sponsors of the document are the Norwegian Government, the Belgian Government, and the Red Cross of France, Italy, Senegal and Belgium. Since the indications are that this proposal, which, I repeat, is inspired by the views of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has widespread support in this Conference, the co-sponsors venture to hope that this resolution will receive a strongly favourable vote from this Conference.

Mr. ALCANTARA (Senegal, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — The Red Cross of Senegal noticed a short while ago with pleasure the upsurge of understanding and generosity which resulted in the unanimous adoption of resolution No. 5 on the reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts. It again expresses regret that one draft resolution, of which it was the co-author, intending to extend the protection to conflicts not international in character, was not given such a positive reception. However, the text submitted to us today gives the Senegal Red Cross satisfaction and we shall vote in favour of its adoption. We ask all those who were represented on the Commission and voted in its favour to do likewise now and we hope that in this manner the whole Conference, in a great surge of understanding and generosity will follow our example.

Mr. POTENZA (Italy, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — The Italian Red Cross, deeply affected by the suffering which has characterized the latest non-international armed conflicts, has given particular thought to the problems raised by the application of Article 3 and, with trust in the Red Cross ideal, which is to alleviate human suffering and to ensure respect for human beings, it proposed a resolution which was merged with others which were not favourably received. I respectfully yield to the decisions reached by the Commission but I think it is my duty to mention that that resolution, of which the Italian Red Cross is a co-signatory, makes it necessary to re-examine the problem of the application of Article 3 which is common to the four Conventions.

Mr. GRAEFRATH (German Democratic Republic, Government) : — The delegation of the German Democratic Republic wants to make it clear that they are in full agreement with all efforts for progressive development of international and especially of humanitarian international law. That is why we voted in favour of resolution 5 entitled “Reaffirmation and Development of the Laws and Customs Applicable in Armed Conflicts”. It is our feeling that this resolution covers the subject and that therefore there is no need for a special resolution on Article 3. And this is the reason why the delegation of the German Democratic Republic will abstain from voting on this draft.

Mr. PICTET (ICRC) (*Original French*) : — When the Geneva Conventions were concluded in 1949, their common Article 3 was certainly a great victory for mankind. Indeed, in a great many cases since that time it has rendered signal service. However, since it was promulgated, twenty years have gone by and experience has shown that that article was not perfect and was but a stage in the evolution leading to the protection of the human person. Let me quote but one example. In non-international conflicts, medical personnel are not explicitly protected. The respect of the Red Cross sign is not stipulated. The ICRC also is of the opinion that we must not now start a general revision of the Geneva Conventions, but it does think that Article 3 could usefully be given more precision and be supplemented in certain respects in order to afford a better basis for the humanitarian action undertaken by the Red Cross. This whole study will be part of the general studies undertaken with a view to the development of humanitarian law. Of non-international conflicts, Article 3 covers only one particular case. The ICRC would therefore welcome a resolution which would give it support in this field, for among the things which go without saying there are some which are even better when said. The first draft resolution, submitted to you a few days ago, was undoubtedly too ambitious but I think that the draft before you now has been kept within such limits that it is no longer a danger for anyone. We thank you beforehand for your confidence.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — No other speakers? Well then, may I put this resolution to the vote?

The document which is being circulated is resolution 7/p so I hope you are all clear on the document on which you are voting. Will those in favour of this resolution kindly hold up their boards? Will those who are voting against the resolution kindly raise their boards? Will those abstaining?

(The resolution was adopted by 95 votes in favour, 4 against and 12 abstentions.)

(See Resolution XVII on page 100.)

Mr. BOERI (Monaco, Government and Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — Item 6 of the agenda is : “The presence, functions and relief operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies in areas of armed conflict, with special reference to the civilian population”.

This item was withdrawn from the agenda at the request of the Red Cross Society which had asked for it to be included.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, should a discussion be opened on the whole report which has just been read to you, the Rapporteur of the Commission for International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts craves your indulgence for any omissions which might be observed in the document which I have just read out. The difficulties met with in the organization of the Conference, on the technical level, particularly during the drafting and distribution of working documents such as draft resolutions, amendments and so forth, made the chronological reconstruction of the proceedings somewhat difficult. Indeed, force of circumstances made it necessary, in order to fully utilize the relatively short time available, to jump almost continually from one subject to another and our Commission is entitled to your admiration for its skill and agility in a “jumping match” although I noted a few moments ago that it was not particularly appreciative of weight-lifting, in which sport the term *à l'arraché* is current.

As for the Rapporteur, his feat has been less outstanding and I apologize to any delegations whose remarks may not have been reported. However, it must be admitted that the report I have just read out is not the summary of a verbatim report but a *précis* of the proceedings.

To conclude, I would like to say that among the omissions you may observe is one which was deliberate. It was not essential to comment on our Commission's refusal to discuss resolutions dealing, for example, with the supply of weapons to certain belligerents and it would have been superfluous to affirm yet again the importance of excluding from our friendly and cordial meetings any discussion even remotely connected with politics or calling State sovereignty into question.

Thank you, Madam Chairman. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — I think you have shown by your applause your appreciation of the masterly way in which Dr. Boeri has presented his report. We are extremely grateful to him because he has done a magnificent job in a very short time and we would wish him to know how much we appreciate how hard he has worked and all that he has done in order to present this report. Thank you very much, Dr. Boeri.

Mr. OSMAN (United Arab Republic, Government) (*Original French*): — I would merely make a short statement for inclusion in the minutes of this meeting. I do not wish to reopen the debate or have a re-vote on resolution No. 2 concerning the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention. But to our knowledge there was no vote against that resolution. If my statement is not contested, this contrary vote recorded would only be a material error which should be rectified.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman): — Well I think the vote has been recorded and I do not think we can change it. I think that very often delegates are engaged in earnest conversation and keep their boards up a little bit longer than they should and sometimes the vote is difficult to take in those circumstances. There is one more item I want to deal with now, that is a resolution which has been put forward by the Turkish Red Crescent and I will ask Professor Dr. Bülent Esen if he will be kind enough to make this now.

Mr. Bülent Nuri ESEN (Turkey, Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — Madam Chairman, allow me first to thank you for allowing me to take the floor at this XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross.

The delegation of the Turkish Red Crescent, which had the honour to act as host to this honourable Assembly, has followed the work over which you have presided with such perfect tenacity, may I say, and with very great skill. The Turkish Red Crescent delegation deemed it should submit to the conference a draft resolution which, to its way of thinking, could be entitled "The Istanbul Declaration". We have submitted this draft resolution to the International Humanitarian Law Commission which was so ably chaired by Mr. M'Baye and that Commission had the kindness to submit that resolution to the plenary session. That is why I am addressing you now. All we have done is to give expression to a number of universally accepted principles but which, at the same time, reveal the aspirations of the intelligentsia and intellectualism of the day. We began by saying how the human family was one and indivisible, that the International Red Cross should be aware of that principle *par excellence* and that, hence, the declaration should contain the following precepts: we have deemed it expedient to set out as a human right, a right not of man as an individual but of all mankind, the right to peace, a lasting peace to which we have aspired for centuries and to which we still aspire. We have said that, for this, it was essential to provide the individual and the masses with a life consistent with the dignity and honour due to respect of their fundamental rights and essential freedoms. We thought to give expression to the principle which has been set out and defined by President Roosevelt as being freedom from fear and hence from threats and worries which could bring about a certain number of failings in the human personality. This text is self-explanatory. I shall not comment on it. What I would like is that the plenary session of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross be so kind as to approve it and give it the title "Istanbul Declaration".

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity, on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent delegation, and I believe the government delegation will approve, to tell all delegates how pleased we were to welcome them to our country, a vigorous modern State, to this city where, with the conquest of Constantinople as it was known, a new era of expansion began. We have been happy to have you with us because we feel that the resolutions adopted by the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross herald the beginning of a new era in human thought and we are convinced that, with the hope which guides us towards the future, you will take away

with you a fine memory of our country. We wish all of you endless happiness and to you, Madam Chairman, I offer a bouquet of our homage and admiration. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — This paper has already been circulated to you. It is a draft resolution submitted by the Turkish Red Crescent Society. It has not got a number, so I cannot refer that to you, I am afraid. You heard the resolution or you have had circulated the resolution which has been put before you by the Turkish Red Crescent Society. May I now take a vote on that? Will those who are in favour kindly raise their boards? It looks to me as though this is a unanimous resolution. Maybe we could greet it with acclamation. (*Applause.*)

(*See Resolution XIX on page 101.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen, I think we must now proceed to the vote for the Standing Commission.

We have received in the Bureau eight nominations but since then the President of the Turkish Red Crescent who was one of those nominated told us that he withdrew his candidature on the grounds that as he was the president of the host country he thought that this might give unfair weight to his candidature. We appreciated his decision and that is the reason why his name is not before you now but we have asked him to attend the next meetings of the Standing Commission in an honorary capacity. Now you will all have issued to you a voting slip in which you are asked to vote for five candidates. As we are running very short of time I propose that this should be carried out immediately. The slips have been distributed and the ballot box will be here. Government and Red Cross Delegations will please come at the same time to deposit their votes in the urn here, after their names have been called. There will be no official coffee break but possibly when you have deposited your votes you may feel disposed to have a cup of coffee, but I would like to suggest we should resume at the earliest possible moment because we want to get through all the business we can this morning. So may we have no official coffee break. But if anyone wants to slip out after they have given their vote, well and good.

I would like to appoint two scrutineers for this ballot. May I ask Mr. van Emden from the Netherlands and Mr. Moisesco from Rumania if they would be kind enough to act as scrutineers. Mr. van Emden, Mr. Moisesco, would you be kind enough to act as a scrutineer? Thank you.

Mr. PILLOUD (Assistant Secretary-General) (*Original French*) : — Ladies and Gentlemen, I shall now proceed to call upon the delegations registered for this Conference to come forward, as I call out their names, to place their voting slips in the ballot box on the Chairman's table.

(*The delegations were called forward one by one.*)

Has any delegation not been called?

Madam Chairman, it seems everybody has been called and I think the scrutineers may withdraw with two secretaries to another room, probably room B, to count the votes and let us know the result.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I will proceed now to the report of the General Commission. And I shall ask the rapporteur if he will come up and give this report. Mr. Stubbings!

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, I have the honour to submit to you the report of the General Commission which held meetings on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th September 1969.

In the document you will see the election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteur and Secretaries and there has been an addendum of the Drafting Committee presented to you. I regret that the Drafting Committee was not mentioned in the original document, particularly because of the fact that the three members worked extremely hard.

The General Commission adopted the Agenda proposed; however it added two other questions under item 4 "International Relief Actions in Natural Disasters":

4 (c) Declaration of Principles for International Humanitarian Relief to Civilian Populations in Disaster Situations (this was proposed by the Canadian and Norwegian Governments),

4 (d) Rising needs for greater co-operation between Government and Red Cross Societies in scientific research, disaster preparedness and relief operations (this was proposed by the Government of the United States and the American Red Cross).

Item No. 2. "The Report on the Action taken on the Resolutions of the XXth International Conference". This Report (Doc. G 2/1) was received by the Commission without comment and I offer, Madam Chairman, a resolution No. 1 in regard to that item.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 1 is before the Conference. Will all those who are in favour of the resolution kindly raise their boards? Those against? Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution 1 on page 94.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — As the third item : "The Red Cross and Developing Countries". The opening address on this subject was presented by Mr. William H. S. Dabney, Under-Secretary-General of the League. Within the framework of this report it is possible to give a brief outline only of this address. This I have done in a report but may I mention that the report made by Mr. Dabney has been published and distributed in full. May I take this opportunity of commending it most strongly to all delegates as it does give an excellent outline of future development in the Red Cross world. With your permission, Madam Chairman, I shall not read all the comments made in the report here knowing that time is a factor that we must consider this morning¹. However, following Mr. Dabney's address, the speakers from the follow-

¹ The passage referred to by Mr. Stubbings in the Commission's report is as follows :

"Mr. Dabney stated that it is imperative that the Red Cross world be introspective and periodically examine its work to see that it is meeting the needs of the rapidly changing world. This also involves an examination of the motivation and the methodology employed by Red Cross.

In 1963 the League Development Programme was established, its basic aim being the promotion and development of Red Cross in every country that needed such assistance.

Now, in 1969, as we take stock of the work done in the past six years it is apparent that we need an international global strategy in development. This must be looked upon as a long term programme. However, as Red Cross has limited resources a global strategy for development requires us to examine together the resources which are at our disposal. Because there are three partners involved—the sponsor, the recipient and the League the first step is to improve the forum for dialogue between these three partners. It is important to reach agreement on aid criteria that assures sound planning, implementation and follow through. Aid must not only fill a need but contribute to the Society's development.

It is recognized that every country is different, hence every country should work out its own targets and priorities. An effort could then be made to draw up common goals on a regional or global basis. But it is necessary for all to realize that the practical application of planning, co-operation and co-ordination which is so urgently necessary frequently involves some sacrifice of one's own wishes.

Mr. Dabney then addressed himself to some of the facets in more precise terms.

Health. There is today a shortage of health manpower and in order to alleviate this situation Red Cross should endeavour to increase its auxiliary health worker and the paramedical health worker. In this field greater co-operation is required between Governments and National Societies.

First Aid. Programme planners in this field should examine their teaching methods, their text books and equipment to be sure that they are meeting the real needs of their own environment.

Blood Transfusion. It is accepted that Red Cross is the best voluntary organization for the recruitment of blood donors. Therefore there is a great challenge to all Red Cross Societies to keep pace with the growing needs for blood not only in emergencies but for everyday purposes.

Social Welfare. In the field of Social Welfare each National Society must devise its own strategy. But the essential basic principles are co-operation and preparation—co-operation with Government and other Social Welfare Organizations and preparing Red Cross workers so that they may be a useful auxiliary to the professional social worker.

At this point in time Red Cross must clarify its position in this field.

Youth. It is the responsibility of the Red Cross to provide opportunities for young people to participate in the overall Red Cross movement. Youth are today asking for more participation in planning and decision-making and this must be promoted and encouraged. Young people must be accepted into a real working relationship with the adults of Red Cross.

The training of young people as leaders is imperative in the immediate future.

The essentials for success in development are that Governments should recognise the value of Red Cross and thereby help Red Cross ; and, on the other hand, Red Cross must be prepared to undertake more services that will assist the overall development plans of the Country."

ing countries were heard and I would like to read these because they give an idea of the very wide range of participation in this item. The countries were : Australia, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Germany, Ceylon, Nepal, Trinidad/Tobago, Israel, Ecuador, Turkey, Indonesia, Peru, Canada, Mexico, Tunisia, India, the Philippines. The League Representative at the United Nations and the retiring Chairman of the Development Programme Panel also spoke. All speakers strongly supported Mr. Dabney's statement. And may I here add that valuable information was given on action taken on this subject and I would particularly like to mention here the Yugoslav delegation who tabled a most comprehensive paper which will be available at a later date. The points that emerge from the discussion on this subject are set out below :

In its development activities Red Cross must be aware that it is part of the community structure in its own country. Therefore it must co-operate with government and other organizations and avoid duplication, competition and overlapping. Secondly, as the most important asset in every country is its people, the people should be involved in all stages of a development programme including the planning stage. Also, in order to avoid mishaps, Societies who are receiving aid should be brought into the planning and the execution of the development programme for their Society.

Several delegates emphasized the need for trained personnel to help them develop their services particularly with regard to nurses and health workers. The League was asked to consider inaugurating a Development Fund as the present lack of funds prevents some Societies obtaining training aids and other necessary materials. As part of the present development plan involves the establishment of regional institutes, the Red Cross world should seek finance from all possible sources. Governments might well assist Red Cross by providing personnel, funds and other facilities. Tribute was paid to the assistance received by Red Cross from the United Nations and the Agencies of the United Nations. As social development is not keeping pace with the economic and industrial development, Red Cross should make every effort to bridge this gap.

Under health, there is a need to review the Red Cross attitude to first aid. There is a need for Red Cross to provide medical care in countries where there are not enough doctors. Blood transfusion services must be developed more fully to meet present-day requirements.

In the field of social welfare Red Cross must adapt to changing problems. As international co-operation is essential, the Red Cross should promote a realistic dialogue with the International Council of Social Welfare and other international bodies involved in social work. It was suggested that as the International Conference of Social Welfare in 1970 has a theme similar to this item it would be advantageous if Red Cross was well represented there, particularly by the League Bureau. In the light of present circumstances, the League might consider establishing a separate bureau for social welfare. Social welfare is important for all countries, as every country has problems in this field. For example, more work could be done by Red Cross in family planning, physically and mentally handicapped and the aged. It was suggested that governments might provide the facilities for Red Cross to carry out this work, and further references were made to this under item 5.

Under youth, attention was drawn to the fact that, as the next year is World Education Year, Red Cross should take advantage of this event through its youth activities. Again, further reference is made to this under item 5.

I submit now, Madam Chairman, in regard to this item resolution No. 2 : "The Red Cross and Developing Countries".

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 2 is before you. Will you kindly be prepared to vote on that. Those in favour hold up their boards. Those against the resolution ? Abstentions ? Thank you very much.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXII on page 103.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item No. 4 : "International Relief Actions in Natural Disasters". This is 4 (a), Planning and Co-operation.

The Director of League Pre-Disaster Planning (Mr. Mathiesen) introduced this subject to the Commission. He explained that the document printed on this subject was a progress report arising from the resolution passed in Vienna in 1965. Mr. Mathiesen stressed that co-operation with the UN and its Specialized Agencies, governments and non-governmental organizations will be continued and strengthened.

Progress is also being made in assisting countries in drawing up disaster relief plans. Efforts will be made by the League to assist Societies in this work by conducting conferences, study centres and seminars. Red Cross must share with governments the responsibility of recruitment, selection and training of disaster relief personnel. Another important task for the future will be the establishment of a roster of personnel for different kinds of relief.

Although seven strategically placed disaster relief warehouses have been established by the League the ultimate objective is for each country to have its own warehouse.

Also, the League is making progress with the production of a Disaster Relief Handbook which should be of great value to all Societies and governments.

The delegates who spoke on this subject stressed the value of League assistance, the co-operation that exists or is emerging between governments and other organizations concerned with disaster relief. The need to prevent overlapping when Societies send goods to a disaster area was emphasized. Some Societies expressed concern at the lack of information provided to them in times of disaster. The League and the ICRC will endeavour to improve this situation.

The Indian Red Cross suggested that a study be made on the potential danger to people in various parts of the world in the event of a nuclear explosion, accidental or intentional. Red Cross should be prepared to render aid should such an event occur.

The Czechoslovak Red Cross Society submitted a proposal concerning the transportation by air of relief goods. This was accepted and appears as resolution No. 3 of this Commission, which I now submit to you.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Are there speakers on this resolution ? If not I will put it to the vote straight away. Will those in favour please hold up their boards. The contrary ? Abstentions ?

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXIII on page 103.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item 4 (b) : “International Relief Actions in Natural Disasters : Revision of Principles”.

The basic principles of relief work in natural disasters were first adopted by the League Board of Governors in 1954. The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross requested the ICRC and the League to re-examine these principles and regulations.

The Commission adopted some minor amendments to Articles 9, 13, 15, 17 and 28. And the whole text as amended is presented to the Conference for approval and appears as resolution No. 4. This I submit to you now, Madam.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — There is one speaker who asked to speak on resolution No. 4, Mr. Tarig Achmed Ali, Vice-President of the South Yemen Red Crescent Society which is just in process of formation. Unfortunately, he is not there. Well, then I think we must proceed to the vote. Will those in favour of resolution No. 4 kindly hold up their hands ? Thank you very much. The contrary ? Abstentions ? None.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXIV on page 103.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item 4 (c) : “The Declaration of Principles for International Humanitarian Relief to Civilian Populations in Disaster Situations”.

A resolution on this subject was submitted by the Canadian and Norwegian Governments.

In presenting this resolution, the Norwegian delegate reminded the Commission that both the United Nations and the International Red Cross have made enormous efforts in the fight against man’s inhumanity to man and against distress, need and death made by disasters.

Yet, a great number of people perish every day all over the world and efforts to save them are still not great enough. It is considered that the Red Cross is the best international forum through which the struggle to co-ordinate and improve assistance may be carried out. At the present time the desire of the proposers is to have adopted a declaration of principle. This has no legal or political implications.

The delegate from Canada emphasized that the ordinary man has little or no control over events which may cause him to become the victim of a disaster situation.

It is with the individual that international humanitarian relief should be concerned. Hence such relief must be administered without discrimination. It is important and basic to the fundamental human rights of the individual to ensure that whatever the cause of a disaster situation a need exists to devise a framework which would facilitate the provision of relief to victims of these circumstances.

Delegates who addressed themselves to this subject were from the following countries : Brazil, Nigeria, Italy, Yugoslavia, the Democratic Republic of Germany, Hungary and France. All delegates who spoke on this subject agreed with the principle of the resolution but several amendments were offered.

The Commission agreed that the Drafting Committee, the sponsors and the Nigeria Government delegate should consult together and the final draft will be presented direct to the plenary session and you have before you resolution No. 5 which I might add, Madam Chairman, was the unanimous resolution arrived at by this special working group. I present now resolution No. 5.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 5 is now before the Conference. Are there any speakers ? Well, in that case may I ask for a vote to be taken straight away ? Will those in favour of resolution No. 5 kindly hold up their boards. Those against resolution No. 5. Abstentions ? Well.

(The resolution was adopted with one abstention.)

(See Resolution XXVI on page 107.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item No. 4 (d) : “Rising Needs for Greater Co-operation between Governments and Red Cross Societies in Scientific Research, Disaster Preparedness and Relief Operations”.

In proposing this resolution the American Red Cross delegate stressed the urgent need for early warning systems and other modern devices that might help man to take precautionary measures before a disaster strikes. Red Cross must make every effort to see that up-to-date and effective methods are used to the fullest possible extent by the authorities. On this subject, Madam Chairman, I present resolution No. 6.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 6 is before you. Any speakers ? Then will those in favour of resolution No. 6 kindly raise their boards. Those against the resolution ? Abstentions ?

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXVII on page 107.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item No. 5 : “The Red Cross Volunteer—Youth and Adult—in the Changing Community”.

This subject was introduced by the League Under-Secretary-General (Mr. William Dabney) and a panel of speakers—Dr. Hantchef, Miss Hentsch, Miss Eynard and Mr. Kirchoffer. From the discussion of this panel it clearly emerges that the world today needs volunteers in the fields of Health, Nursing, Social Welfare and Youth.

Governments need Red Cross as an auxiliary organization. Therefore, to meet modern requirements Red Cross has a responsibility to select and train volunteers for specific tasks. Again, stress was placed on the need for close co-operation between Governments, professional groups, community organizations and Red Cross.

Also, there is a challenge for Red Cross to study the problems of Youth in the world today to ascertain whether Red Cross can do something for young people.

If Red Cross is to build up its volunteer membership it must make sure that the tasks to be undertaken are interesting and useful. Volunteers should be involved in the planning of Red Cross programmes. Delegates from the following countries spoke on this item—Australia, Pakistan, Norway, Venezuela, Peru, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Chile, France, Lebanon, Great Britain, Poland, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Italy, Kuwait, Norway, Liberia and Mongolia.

Several delegates gave interesting examples of programmes and services undertaken by youth and adults in their Societies. It appears that in some countries progress is being made in bringing about an understanding by professionals of the value of volunteers, providing the volunteers are well selected, trained and supervised. Numerous positive suggestions were made by delegates. They were :

1. The League might consider conducting a Conference of Adult and Youth Volunteers within the next two or three years.
2. Consideration could be given to an International Nursing Study Centre.
3. Red Cross should examine some of the stresses placed on youth in this modern world and endeavour to provide a solution.
4. Even in countries that are heading towards a welfare state Red Cross should be prepared to pioneer new and necessary services in the Health and Welfare fields.
5. Red Cross should draw to the attention of Governments the problem of young people who are educated in a discipline for which there are no jobs available. This situation, which is widespread in some countries, is the cause of much of the frustration of youth.
6. As 1970 is World Education Year, Red Cross might consider seeking the support of other organizations in providing educational facilities in parts of the world where they are scarce.
7. The League was asked to explore the possibility of setting up or adding to libraries in schools within different countries. Donations to these libraries could form a new type of international exchange (if this proposal is acceptable to the League, the Australian Red Cross would be prepared to make available the services of one of its officers to study this in depth from Australia).
8. Because of the valuable work done by teachers for Red Cross it was suggested that the Conference should convey its gratitude to the appropriate world teaching bodies. Further, National Societies should endeavour to associate teachers more closely with adult units of Red Cross. Adult members might be encouraged to assist the teacher leaders.
9. It was considered that National Societies might associate their youth more closely with the development programmes by giving them a specific area of responsibility.

Madam Chairman, in regard to this subject our Commission submits three resolutions, 7, 8 and 9.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Is there anybody who wishes to speak on resolutions 7, 8 and 9 which I think we will take “en bloc” ?

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Madam Chairman, before you vote on 9 could I make one other comment ? In resolution No. 9 I would like to clarify one word which may for people in some countries have different meanings. In the last two paragraphs of resolution 9 where there is reference made to “social

problems” may I suggest that an alternative word be “human problems”, because the word “social” may have different meanings for different people. As rapporteur I think I can speak for the Commission to say that the spirit of what the intention was is covered by the word “human” as well as “social”.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Are you now prepared to vote on resolutions 7, 8 and 9 with the wording amendment suggested? Will those in favour hold up their boards, please. Thank you. Those against the resolutions? Abstentions? None.

(The resolutions were adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolutions XXVIII, XXIX, XXX on pages 108-109.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — Item No. 6 : “International Health Teams”.

The report on this subject had been submitted to delegates before the Conference and at the meeting of the Commission it was introduced by Miss Duvillard, member of the ICRC, who expressed concern for the need of trained personnel being available to carry out relief missions. If Red Cross is to be successful in its undertakings it will depend on two important elements—quality of staff and efficiency of the organization. If the ICRC is to carry out its responsibilities which are laid down in its Statutes and in the Geneva Conventions then there must be medical and health staff at its disposal.

An acceptance of this proposal by the Conference will ensure that the ICRC avoids last minute improvisations. Here attention should be drawn to page 9 of the proposal where there are set out the elements of a Joint Committee.

The essence of this document and of the resolution is to obtain an agreement in principle so that the ICRC and the League can carry out the necessary studies to bring about its implementation. Mr. Mathiesen, Director of Pre-Disaster Planning at the League, supported the comments made by Miss Duvillard. Delegates put forward several amendments, the main concern being the need to formulate regulations for such teams to ensure that the teams were thoroughly briefed and to make sure that the needs of the teams were adequately attended to; also, the rights of the members of these teams to observe professional secrecy must be maintained. Several speakers mentioned that it would be desirable for members of such teams to wear the same style uniform. On this subject I submit to you, Madam Chairman, resolution No. 10.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Resolution No. 10 is before you. Are there any speakers?

Mr. HERBATSCHKE (Austria, Government) : — The Austrian Government has sent a medical team to the eastern region of Nigeria in order to help the suffering civilian population. The members of the staff have to carry out the humanitarian activities under great risks, therefore the Austrian Government delegation agrees fully with the draft resolution concerning health teams. Owing to the fact that the Austrian medical team in the eastern region of Nigeria has to face permanently the above-mentioned risks the Austrian delegation will vote for the draft and ask the ICRC to take all measures concerning the improvement of the position of health teams.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Are there any other speakers? Resolution No. 10 is before you. Will you please vote, whether you are in favour of that, by raising your boards. Thank you. The contrary? Abstentions?

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXXI on page 109.)

Mr. STUBBINGS (Australia, Red Cross) : — The next question, the question of peace, has been dealt with separately, and I would like now simply to move on to the item concerning the procedure adopted by the General Commission. During the work of the Commission it became obvious that many speakers had valuable

material for presentation. But the time at the disposal of the Commission was not sufficient for such statements to be presented in full. The Commission agreed to a proposal from the Chair that speakers deposit with the Bureau the text of what they intend to say, so that it may be circulated to all members of the Commission.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I think we would like to congratulate the Rapporteur and the Chairman and all those who were concerned with this Commission on the fact that all these resolutions have been passed either unanimously or with abstentions but no one voting against, which shows the amount of hard work which must have been put in by the Commission. Thank you very much indeed.

There is one more resolution which has come straight to the plenary which I now put to you : it is resolution 3/p which has been circulated by the Brazilian Government and the Brazilian Red Cross. Does anybody wish to speak on this ? Brazil ? Mr. Sloper, as it appears that some members of the Conference have not got a copy of this document, would you be kind enough to read it ?

Mr. SLOPER (Brazil, Red Cross) (*Original French*) : — The General Commission's resolution No. 4 on international relief actions in natural disaster, consistent with the disaster relief rules, does not mention the legislation which all countries should adopt in order to ensure that immediate action is taken and the necessary funds available in case of disasters. The Brazilian Red Cross itself is the more conscious of this need as a study of Brazilian legislation has shown serious shortcomings in this respect and a governmental commission is at present studying a Bill on the subject. I shall now comply with the Chairman's request and read out that resolution :

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting resolution No. 2435 of 19 December 1968 of the United Nations General Assembly inviting Governments to make preparations at the national level to meet natural disasters,
aware of the need for prompt measures when a disaster strikes any country,
urges all Governments which have not already done so to prepare and to pass the necessary legislation enabling immediate and adequate action to be taken, in conjunction with the Red Cross, along the lines of a pre-established plan based on the disaster relief rules adopted by this Conference.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Are there any other speakers on this resolution ? If not, may I now put it to the vote ? Will those in favour kindly raise their boards. The contrary ? Abstentions ? None. Thank you.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution XXV on page 106.)

Now we have not yet got the results of the election for the Standing Commission. Shall we move straight on to Agenda item No. 14 which is the place and date of the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross.

We have before us four invitations from Algeria, from Italy, from Switzerland and from Venezuela. And in addition to that there are other delegations which have expressed a wish and a hope that they might invite the Conference but have not yet been in a position to have full discussions with their governments. In view of the difficulty of making a decision, as we have these other many invitations before us, I wonder whether members of this Conference would consider that it would be a good thing that we should refer this matter to a future meeting of the Standing Commission in order that they might take full cognizance of any problems which might arise in the case of any individual invitation, people who might or might not be able to be present, countries acceptable or unacceptable and the technical facilities which we all agree are so important if we are going to carry out a conference of this nature. May I perhaps then take a vote on this now as to whether instead of taking an immediate decision, when we have not got all the facts before us, we might refer this matter to the Standing Commission with the request that they should consider it immediately and communicate with the coun-

tries concerned. Would those in favour of this suggestion kindly raise their boards. Those against? Abstentions? Thank you.

(The proposal was adopted with one abstention.)

(See Resolution XXXIII on page 110.)

Now there are one or two more formal resolutions which have to be put to the Conference. I shall ask Mr. Sloper if he would now come and put these to the Conference.

Mr. SLOPER (Brazil, Red Cross) *(Original French)*: — As chairman of the Conference Drafting Committee, I must now submit some conventional resolutions, necessary at any conference. The first of these is the following :

Reports of National Societies

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having taken note of the reports submitted by National Societies on their work,
receives the sections of those reports which concern Red Cross activities only,
directs that they be filed,
thanks the National Societies which submitted them.

Madam Chairman, I shall then read, after that, some other resolutions which, I think, need not each be put to a separate vote.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) *(Original English)*: — We shall now take a vote on this resolution. Will those in favour kindly hold up their boards. Those against the resolution? Abstentions? None.

(The resolution was adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolution II on page 94.)

Mr. SLOPER (Brazil, Red Cross) *(Original French)*: —

Reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross on its work from 1965 to 1969,
takes note of these reports,
thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for having submitted them.

Report of the League of Red Cross Societies

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the report of the League of Red Cross Societies on its work from 1965 to 1969,
takes note of this report,
thanks the League of Red Cross Societies for having submitted it.

Empress Shôken Fund

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the Report on the Empress Shôken Fund submitted by the Joint Commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies,
accepts this Report,
thanks the Joint Commission for its administration.

Regarding the Augusta Fund, you will recall that Mr. Pictet read out a resolution for the allocation for income from the Augusta Fund to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund. I shall therefore not read out the resolution concerning the Augusta Fund.

Florence Nightingale Medal

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the report on the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,

accepts this report and thanks the ICRC for its administration.

Foundation in favour of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the report of the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross submitted by the Board of this Institution,

accepts this report,

thanks the Board for its administration,

renews the mandate of Mr. Henrik Beer and Mr. Nedim Abut as members of the Board, until the next International Conference.

Votes of Thanks

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

1. extends its very respectful thanks to H. E. Cevdet Sunay, President of the Republic of Turkey, for having honoured the inaugural meeting with his presence and for having made an eloquent speech as well as for the reception given by him and Mrs. Sunay in the Dolmabahçe Palace,
2. requests the Turkish Government to accept its deep gratitude for the constant help and support it gave to the Turkish Red Crescent Society during the preparations for and actual conduct of the Conference,
3. thanks H. E. Sabri Çağlayangil, Minister of Foreign Affairs, for the reception he gave to all delegates in the Hotel Tarabya,
4. wishes to thank very sincerely Dr. Fahri Atabey, Mayor of Istanbul, for the warm hospitality extended to delegates in Istanbul and for his address at the ceremony in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the League of Red Cross Societies,
5. conveys its appreciation and gratitude to the Turkish Red Crescent and its President, Mr. Rıza Çerçel, for all the help given to delegates, thereby ensuring the success of the XXIst Conference, as well as for the assistance provided by the leaders of the National Society and other members of its staff,
6. presents its thanks to the management of the Turkish Red Crescent School of Nursing for making available for the Conference their student nurses, who showed great devotion in working in the various Conference services, and for the reception given in the School of Nursing,
7. considering the impartial and full coverage given by the Turkish press to the debates, requests the Chairman of the Conference kindly to convey to the representatives of the Turkish press its thanks and congratulations.

Madam Chairman, this concludes the reading of those resolutions which are more or less compulsory or customary at any conference.

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — As these resolutions have all been put “en bloc”, may I put them to you “en bloc” to vote for? Will those in favour of the resolutions to which we have just listened kindly hold up their boards. Those against? Thank you. Abstentions? None. Thank you.

(The resolutions were adopted unanimously.)

(See Resolutions III, IV, V, VII, VIII (2) on pages 94-96.)

Mr. A. D. MAGALE (Central African Republic, Government and Red Cross in the process of formation) *(Original French)* : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for permitting me to make, in plenary session, a statement which I ought to have made, in the name of my government, during the discussion on the report on the activities of the League and of National Societies. Before doing so, however, I would ask

you, Madam Chairman, to accept the congratulations of the Central African Republic delegation for you and all your colleagues and for the Chairmen of Commissions and for their colleagues for the tactful way in which the missions entrusted to them at the beginning of this Conference have been carried out.

I would also thank those members of the Turkish Red Crescent who were responsible for the so cordial welcome which has been extended to us.

The delegation of the Central African Republic has noted with satisfaction that the report of the League and of National Societies mentions the Central African Republic government's assistance in settling refugees from M'Boki. This delegation, on behalf of the government of the Central African Republic, feels in duty bound to publicly and sincerely thank the League, the ICRC and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for the dedication with which their personnel have worked at M'Boki and especially for the perfect understanding and co-operation with the local authorities which permitted each of them to carry out their mission. This delegation must also express thanks to the thirteen National Societies which, by their donations, contributed to the settlement of 25,000 refugees in the M'Boki region. The decision to transfer those refugees from Bambouti to M'Boki, some hundred miles from the Sudanese border, was reached after a visit by the President of the Republic, accompanied by a Sudanese delegation, to the refugees.

The Central African Republic delegation would emphasize that since its accession to the Geneva Conventions in 1962, the government has not lost sight of the need to respect the principles of those Conventions and to work, alone or in co-operation with international bodies, in keeping with the great humanitarian Red Cross principles, in order to make its contribution to the solution of problems and certain difficult situations confronting it.

The Central African Republic delegation, on behalf of its government, wishes to stress the importance which it attaches to the spirit of the Geneva Conventions and to the basic Red Cross principles. It cannot countenance any violation of those principles anywhere and it agrees that some of the provisions at present in force should be revised and adapted to the requirements of the present day.

So far as possible and whenever necessary, it would even suggest the application of severe and specific sanctions against any nation or society infringing these rules. I thank you, Madam Chairman. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I am now going to ask Mr. Naville if he will speak. Mr. Naville !

Mr. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*) : — As we are reaching the end of our work, I have the pleasant duty of expressing the International Committee's thanks to the authorities of this hospitable country which we are sorry to have to leave, to President Çerçel, with a special farewell, and to all members and staff of the Turkish Red Crescent who have had to cope with such a herculean task. Although I cannot enumerate every occasion on which our colleagues and friends in the National Societies and official delegations have expressed to us their confidence, I would say how gratified is our Committee to see that it is encouraged to continue its efforts in the field of humanitarian law—which, incidentally, is its permanent duty—by several resolutions, particularly those on the reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts and which were accepted practically unanimously. So far as relief is concerned, the ratification of the agreement between the League and the ICRC, and certain resolutions, open up some interesting prospects. There is still room for progress in this connection and that is all the more urgent and necessary as large assistance operations must be continued in Vietnam, the Middle East, the Arabian Peninsula and Nigeria. For all these operations, particularly the one in Nigeria, the ICRC has received—and is still receiving—the benefit of generous support in the form of men, funds and donations of all kinds from National Societies and many governmental, inter-governmental and private organizations. This campaign has stimulated good will throughout the world and the zeal which youth devoted to it is remarkable. I wish to thank publicly and warmly, from this rostrum, all who were associated in this great world movement of solidarity and I would bring to your attention that we have received a promise that the Federal Nigerian Government's agreement to the resumption of the air lift will be signed today in Lagos. This should permit our aircraft to take to the air again at the beginning of next week. (*Applause.*)

On several occasions the desire that the ICRC services be improved and its activities developed has been stated. Hope has been expressed for success. These appeals and encouragements confront the ICRC with

increased responsibilities and lay down its line of conduct. It will endeavour to conform thereto. We must however beware of the euphoria engendered by meetings. There have been many statements, speeches, proposals and resolutions, and they were no doubt necessary and productive. But all this work will have been worthless if governments are not genuinely prepared to be bound by the clauses which have been accepted. All our efforts will have been in vain if we subordinate respect of our signature to the dangerous demand for reciprocity. If our resolutions, generous in appearance, are intended only to confound or compel an adversary, if we can only oppose the forces of destruction with a barrage of paragraphs and amendments, then we have left open the way to division in the Red Cross world and we shall be drawn into a huge collective lie by our complicity. The truth of the Red Cross is not the defining of a certain number of duties or the asserting of rights ; it is the exertion of every effort to ensure that this fine legal machine which we have just brought to perfection is used and put into practice in the close alliance of generous thought and continuous action. Tomorrow, when we shall be on our way home, let us remember that what the world now expects of us is to prove our sincerity. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I think our applause has shown sufficiently how grateful we are to Mr. Naville for his message.

Mr. Barroso has asked for the floor.

Mr. BARROSO (LRCS) (*Original Spanish*) : — Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, today we are concluding the International Conference of the Red Cross. The representatives of the League of Red Cross Societies are well satisfied with the results of our work. For us the resolutions adopted in relation to health, accident prevention, pre-disaster planning, and the greater participation of youth in Red Cross activities are of special importance. We, like my colleague the President of the International Committee, hope that National Societies will not limit themselves to passing fine resolutions but will put them into practice, and that we shall thus see that the Red Cross can really be an organization which provides help in order to eliminate some of the world's ills.

I would especially like to refer to the resolution on peace. I agree with the remarks made to the effect that the Red Cross should not intervene in political affairs, but at the same time I consider that the whole world looks to the Red Cross to work and do everything in its power to bring about peace and understanding among the nations.

There now only remains for me to express, in the name of the world federation of Red Cross Societies, our hearty thanks to our colleagues of the Turkish Red Crescent for their hospitality and efforts to ensure the success of this Conference, and to say how sorry we are that our stay in this fine city, where we have spent unforgettable days, is drawing to a close, a stay which has enabled us to strengthen even more the relations between the members of Red Cross and governments which are present here. I do not wish to take up any more of your time and would just repeat to one and all the profound gratitude of the League of Red Cross Societies for your attendance and fine job of work. (*Applause.*)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — I thank Mr. Barroso very much for his speech and I would like to give you one really good piece of news which I know we shall all be delighted to hear. I have just had a note from Mr. Naville to say that the agreement about which he spoke just now in connection with Nigeria was signed at Lagos at 10.30 this morning.

That is a note which I think has come at the most timely moment in our Conference and we should like to express our gratitude and appreciation for all that the International Committee has done in this long time to ensure this result. Now there is one more formal matter to deal with and that is the results of the election for the Standing Commission and I shall ask Mr. Pilloud if he will be good enough to read those.

Mr. PILLOUD (Assistant Secretary-General) (*Original French*) : — In accordance with article 22 of the rules of procedure, the five candidates obtaining an absolute majority shall be declared elected. There were 146 voting slips returned, five of which were blank or null and 141 valid. The absolute majority was 71.

The candidates elected are :

Lady Limerick	(125 votes)
Professor Miterev	(123 votes)
Dr. Djebli-Elaydouni	(123 votes)
General Collins	(114 votes)
Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris	(109 votes)

(Applause.)

(See Resolution XXXII on page 109.)

Lady LIMERICK (Chairman) : — Perhaps I may express my personal thanks for this continued confidence you have shown me as a member of the Standing Commission and I am sure my colleagues would wish to share in this. I think the Conference will be glad to know that the Standing Commission will be able to rely once again on the services of Mr. Sloper for technical assistance in which he has been so valuable in the past.

I have still not mentioned one important point, which is the time of the meeting of the Standing Commission which might be perhaps held at 3 o'clock this afternoon. I would like to have a word with the members of the Standing Commission at the close of this session so that we could fix a time which should be mutually convenient to everybody concerned. Before concluding the business part of this session and handing over to the Chairman of the Conference, Mr. Çerçel, I would like to express my grateful thanks to the delegates for their patience and their helpfulness throughout. We have had some difficult and sometimes controversial matters to deal with but I think that the give and take shown and the co-operation which has been so obvious have demonstrated the spirit of good will which has characterized our meetings and it now only remains for us to return to our respective countries and set about translating some of these good ideas to which we have listened into action. I am now going to ask Mr. Çerçel if he will come and take over the final session of this Conference and as he does so, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in handing over to him the Bernadotte Gold Medal, as a small token of gratitude and appreciation for all that he has done for us at the XXIst International Red Cross Conference together with his colleagues here in Istanbul.

Count Bernadotte was, as you know, one of our leading Red Cross personalities. This medal was struck in his honour and I am very happy to present it to Mr. Çerçel, on behalf of us all, as President of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, with grateful thanks for all that he and his colleagues have done to ensure the success of this Conference and that our stay in Istanbul should have been such a happy and very pleasant one.

Mr. ÇERÇEL (Turkey, Red Crescent) : — Ladies and Gentlemen, before closing the Conference I would like to present special gold medals to be awarded to some Red Cross personalities in whose person we find that all Conference members may be represented. These medals are awarded by the Turkish Red Crescent Society to the following people :

First : Lady Limerick, Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross,
Now, Mr. Marcel Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
Now, Mr. Jose Barroso, President of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies.

I would like to thank you again for having come and I wish you all a good journey on your way back to your home. I know that the atmosphere of friendship that exists in the Red Cross Conference will continue to exist and will even be stronger every time. The Conference has now reached its end, I declare it closed. Good-bye to all, au revoir à tous, hasta la vista a todos.

(The meeting rose at 1 p.m.)

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED
BY THE XXIst INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

I

**Report on the Action taken on the Resolutions
of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross**

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the report of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies on the action taken on the Resolutions of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross (Vienna, 1965),
accepts this report,
thanks the International Committee and the League for having submitted it.

II

Reports of National Societies

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having taken note of the reports submitted by National Societies on their work,
receives the sections of those reports which concern Red Cross activities only,
directs that they be filed,
thanks the National Societies which submitted them.

III

Reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross on its work from 1965 to 1969,
takes note of these reports,
thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for having submitted them.

IV

Report of the League of Red Cross Societies

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the report of the League of Red Cross Societies on its work from 1965 to 1969,
takes note of this report,
thanks the League of Red Cross Societies for having submitted it.

V

Empress Shôken Fund

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the Report on the Empress Shôken Fund submitted by the Joint Commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies,
accepts this Report,
thanks the Joint Commission for its administration.

VI

Augusta Fund

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having take note of the Report submitted by the ICRC,
accepts this Report,
decides that, until further notice, the income of the Augusta Fund will be allocated to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund.

VII

Florence Nightingale Medal

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having received the report on the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,
accepts this report and thanks the ICRC for its administration.

VIII

Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross

1.

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having noted the report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
considering that the ICRC's constant state of preparedness, the new and difficult activities which it has continually to undertake, and the heavy responsibilities it has to assume in relief actions for the benefit of the victims of wars and internal conflicts, are of such importance for the defence, without let or hindrance, of man and civilization that it is essential for the ICRC to be provided with the effective and modern means which will enable it always to be equal to the work requested of it or assigned to it,
thanks the Commission for its work,
notes that Major-General C. K. Lakshmanan of the Indian Red Cross and Mr. I. D. M. Reid of the British Red Cross will not stand for re-election,

observes that, pursuant to Resolution No. XIII of the XXth International Conference, governmental and National Society contributions were considerably increased during the years from 1966 to 1969, but that unfortunately the overall financing of the International Committee is still inadequate,

appeals urgently to all Governments signatories to the Geneva Conventions to increase considerably their regular financial contributions to the ICRC so that in 1970 total contributions will be double the amount contributed in 1969,

encourages National Societies to continue their efforts and to increase their regular financial aid to the ICRC in order to strengthen yet further the universality and solidarity of the Red Cross world,

asks each Government and National Society which has so far not joined in this common effort to do so by contributing substantially from 1970 onwards,

decides that the membership of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC be increased from five to seven and that the Chairman of the Commission choose, in addition, three persons not belonging to the Red Cross movement but expert in international finance,

appoints to membership of the Commission representatives from the National Societies of the following countries : Netherlands (whose representative kindly agreed to act as Chairman for another period), Czechoslovakia, France, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal,

recommends urgently, in conclusion, that contributions be paid during the first quarter of each year in order to make it easier for the ICRC to meet its financial commitments ;

2.

having received the report of the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross submitted by the Board of this Institution,

accepts this report,

thanks the Board for its administration,

renews the mandate of Mr. Henrik Beer and Mr. Nedim Abut as members of the Board, until the next International Conference.

IX

Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that the United Nations General Assembly decided in its Resolution No. 2412 (XXIII) of 17 December 1968 that 1970 would be "International Education Year",

noting that item 41 of the provisional agenda of the XXIVth Session of the General Assembly, which will open in New York on 16 September 1969, provides for the examination of a report by the Secretary-General on this subject,

aware of the great interest that Governments, the ICRC and the League attach, within the framework of the activities of the International Red Cross, to school and university syllabuses and programmes of permanent education,

hopes that the United Nations and in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization will provide for events devoted to education and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions during 1970,

requests, for that purpose, that a World Day be devoted to such events, with the use of the audio-visual aids made available by the most modern techniques.

X

Implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention

X The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having considered the annual report submitted by the ICRC for 1968 and other ICRC documents relating to the protection of civilian populations in time of armed conflict,

endorsing the numerous United Nations resolutions calling for the respect and implementation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,

recalling the resolution adopted by the Council of Delegates at The Hague in September 1967 concerning the refugee problem in the Middle East,

considering that, under Article 1 of the aforementioned Convention, the Parties undertake to respect and to ensure respect for this Convention in all circumstances :

1. deplores any refusal to apply and implement the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention in its entirety,
2. expresses its deep concern for the situation of the civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East,
3. requests the authorities concerned to fulfil their humanitarian obligations by facilitating the return of the people to their homes and their reintegration into their communities,
4. calls upon all parties to honour their obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention and to implement it in order to alleviate the sufferings of the civilian population,
5. expresses its thanks to the ICRC and its delegates in the Middle East for their continuous efforts in this region.

XI

Protection of Prisoners of War

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the Third Geneva Convention of 1949 on the treatment of prisoners of war, and the historic role of the Red Cross as a protector of victims of war,

considering that the Convention applies to any armed conflict of whatsoever nature between two or more parties to the Convention,

recognizing that, irrespective of the Convention, the international community has consistently demanded humane treatment for prisoners of war, including identification and accounting for all prisoners, provision of an adequate diet and medical care, authorisation for prisoners to communicate with each other and with the exterior, the prompt repatriation of seriously sick or wounded prisoners, and protection at all times from physical and mental torture, abuse and reprisals,

requests each party to the Convention to take all appropriate measures to ensure humane treatment and prevent violations of the Convention,

calls upon all parties to honour the obligations set forth in the Convention and upon all authorities involved in an armed conflict to ensure that all uniformed members of the regular armed forces of another party to the conflict and all other persons entitled to prisoner of war status are treated humanely and given the fullest measure of protection prescribed by the Convention, and further calls upon all parties to allow the Protecting Power or the International Committee of the Red Cross free access to prisoners of war and to all places of their detention.

XII

War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling that the respect and defence of human rights and dignity are the basis of humanitarian Red Cross activities and the aim of humanitarian law, the development of which is of common concern to the United Nations and the Red Cross,

noting once more that war is the most serious violation of human rights and dignity,

considering that war crimes and crimes against humanity are the most flagrant breach of human rights and aggravate the plight of war victims,

recognizing that it is the duty of the Red Cross to give support, through its moral authority and prestige, to measures intended to avoid the recurrence of such crimes,

noting furthermore that the adoption by the XXIIIrd Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1968 of the convention on the imprescriptibility of war crimes and crimes against humanity is an important step in this direction,

requests the Governments of all States to accede to this Convention which is now inseparable from the system designed to safeguard human rights.

XIII

Reaffirmation and Development of the Laws and Customs applicable in Armed Conflicts

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that armed conflicts and other forms of violence which continue to rage in the world, continuously imperil peace and the values of humanity,

noting that, in order to strive against such dangers, the limits imposed upon the waging of hostilities by the requirements of humanity and the dictates of the public conscience should be continuously reaffirmed and defined,

recalling the resolutions previously adopted on this matter by International Conferences of the Red Cross and, in particular, Resolution No. XXVIII of the XXth International Conference,

recognizing the importance of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 2444 adopted on 19 December 1968 on respect for human rights in armed conflicts, as well as Resolution No. 2454 adopted on 20 December 1968,

having taken note with gratitude of the work undertaken by the ICRC in this field, following Resolution No. XXVIII of the XXth International Conference and, in particular, of the extensive report which the ICRC has prepared on this subject,

underlines the necessity and the urgency of reaffirming and developing humanitarian rules of international law applicable in armed conflicts of all kinds, in order to strengthen the effective protection of the fundamental rights of human beings, in keeping with the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

requests the ICRC on the basis of its report to pursue actively its efforts in this regard with a view to

1. proposing, as soon as possible, concrete rules which would supplement the existing humanitarian law,
2. inviting governmental, Red Cross and other experts representing the principal legal and social systems in the world to meet for consultations with the ICRC on these proposals,
3. submitting such proposals to Governments for their comments, and,
4. if it is deemed desirable, recommending the appropriate authorities to convene one or more diplomatic conferences of States parties to the Geneva Conventions and other interested States, in order to elaborate international legal instruments incorporating those proposals,

encourages the ICRC to maintain and develop, in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 2444, the co-operation established with that organisation in order to harmonize the various studies undertaken, and to collaborate with all other official and private organisations with a view to ensuring the co-ordination of such studies,

requests National Red Cross Societies to create active public interest in such a cause, which is of concern to all mankind,

urges all Governments to support the efforts of the International Red Cross in this respect.

XIV

Weapons of Mass Destruction

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that the first and basic aim of the Red Cross is to protect mankind from the terrible suffering caused by armed conflicts,

taking into account the danger threatening mankind in the form of new techniques of warfare, particularly weapons of mass destruction,

confirming the resolutions adopted by the International Conferences of the Red Cross as well as the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions Nos. 2162 (XXI), 2444 (XXIII) and 2454 (XXIII) and the Resolution No. XXIII of the International Conference on Human Rights of 1968,

considering that the adoption of a special agreement on the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction would be an important contribution to the development of international humanitarian law,

requests the United Nations to pursue its efforts in this field,

requests the ICRC to continue to devote great attention to this question, consistent with its work for the reaffirmation and development of humanitarian law and to take every step it deems possible,

renews its appeal to the Governments of States which have not yet done so to accede to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to comply strictly with its provisions,

urges Governments to conclude as rapidly as possible an agreement banning the production and stock-piling of chemical and bacteriological weapons.

XV

Status of Civil Defence Service Personnel

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution No. XXIX adopted by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross at Vienna in 1965 which recognized the need to strengthen the protection afforded to civil defence services under international law,

having noted the report submitted by the ICRC on the "Status of Civil Defence Service Personnel" which records that, since the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, the ICRC, with the assistance of experts, has solved a number of problems and thus established a more favourable basis for the solution of problems still unsolved,

stressing that the strengthening of international legal protection for civil defence services comes under the more general attempts which are being made to reaffirm and develop the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts, requests the ICRC to continue its work in this field and to convene a meeting of governmental and Red Cross experts with a view to submitting to Governments, for approval, regulations supplementing the provisions of the existing humanitarian conventions, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in time of war of 12 August 1949.

XVI

Protection of Civilian Medical and Nursing Personnel

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
recognizing the interest attached in time of armed conflict, of whatever nature it may be, to increased protection for civilian health personnel and for their hospital installations, ambulances and other medical material, referring to Resolution No. XXX of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross,
having noted the studies and surveys which the ICRC has since made concerning the distinctive sign,
emphasizing that all categories of health services, both civilian and military, must co-operate closely in cases of armed conflict, of whatever nature they may be,
notes that the sign of the red cross (red crescent, red lion and sun) is the most appropriate to ensure increased protection for civilian personnel organized and duly authorized by the State and for their hospital installations, ambulances and other medical material,
requests the ICRC to submit specific proposals to Governments along these lines with a view to the rapid conclusion of an additional protocol to the First and Fourth Geneva Conventions.

XVII

Protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
considering that since the conclusion of the Geneva Conventions in 1949 non-international armed conflicts have been on the increase and have caused much suffering,
whereas Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions has already rendered great service in protecting the victims of these conflicts,
considering however that experience has brought out certain points on the basis of which this Article could be made more specific or supplemented,
asks the ICRC to devote special attention to this problem within the framework of the more general studies it has started to develop humanitarian law, in particular with the co-operation of Government experts.

XVIII

Status of Combatants in Non-International Armed Conflicts

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
considering Resolution No. XXXI, in which the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross urged the ICRC to continue its work with the aim of strengthening the humanitarian assistance of the Red Cross to victims of non-international armed conflicts and recommended that Governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions and National Societies support these efforts in their respective countries,
whereas, since the adoption of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, non-international armed conflicts have become increasingly extensive and have already caused millions of victims,
considers that combatants and members of resistance movements who participate in non-international armed conflicts and who conform to the provisions of Article 4 of the Third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 should when captured be protected against any inhumanity and brutality and receive treatment similar to that which that Convention lays down for prisoners of war,
requests the ICRC to make a thorough study of the legal status of such persons and take the action in this matter that it deems necessary.

XIX

Istanbul Declaration

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
aware of the unity and indivisibility of the human family,
declares :

that man has the right to enjoy lasting peace,

that it is essential for him to be able to live a full and satisfactory life founded on respect of his rights and of his fundamental liberty,

that this aim can be achieved only if human rights as set forth and defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Humanitarian Conventions are respected and observed,

that it is a human right to be free from all fears, acts of violence and brutality, threats and anxieties likely to injure man in his person, his honour and his dignity,

that everyone has the right to equal enjoyment of the benefits of contemporary civilisation without distinction or discrimination as to race, sex, origin, religion, language, philosophy and political opinion,

that the universally recognized general principles of law demand that the rule of law be effectively guaranteed everywhere,

that if the ideals of peace and freedom are to be achieved, special attention must be paid to the younger generation, and upbringing and education must be improved in accordance with the principles of human rights and humanism embodied *inter alia* in the International Red Cross and finding expression in the Geneva Conventions,

that the common fate of mankind depends on solidarity, co-operation and sincere friendship between nations.

XX

The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that the International Red Cross, in accordance with its fundamental humanitarian principles adopted by the XXth International Conference, is called upon to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples,

confirming all previous resolutions in support of peace condemning any threat or use of force which jeopardizes the independence and right of self-determination of all peoples, and the appeals of previous Red Cross Conferences to all Governments to settle their disputes by effective peaceful means, within the spirit of international law,

expressing its anxiety at the threat to world peace and international security resulting from armed conflicts in different regions of the world which are causing great suffering and distress, and prompted by the necessity for effective measures to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security which requires, as an essential element, respect for international agreements and international law,

re-affirming that the Red Cross is always faithful to its traditional commitments for the benefit of all mankind and calls for respect of the internationally accepted fundamental human rights of all persons and of all human societies,

urgently appeals to all Governments and to the United Nations to take all measures to put an end to armed conflicts and to establish a lasting peace ; urges renewed efforts to halt the nuclear arms race, including the establishment of an adequately verified treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in all environments, a seabeds arms control treaty, sound and effective arrangements covering chemical and biological weapons, and general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

proposes that funds that would have been assigned to the purchase of armaments be used for the service of mankind, the protection of the lives and health of people, first and foremost the younger generation, and for the improvement of education and teaching,

noting with satisfaction resolution 2444 of the United Nations General Assembly adopted on 19 December 1968, requests the leaders of the International Red Cross to maintain constant and close contact with the United Nations in respect of activities on behalf of peace and human rights,

urges all States to accept and effectively put into practice the standards established by international law, the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian Conventions and declarations and all previous humanitarian Resolutions of the International Red Cross and the United Nations,

recommends that the International Red Cross bodies and the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies, in constant liaison with the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, take active measures to initiate the whole population, particularly youth, in Red Cross activities by training youth in a spirit of international brotherhood, solidarity, friendship with all peoples and social responsibility for the destiny of their peoples ; in this spirit it invites the International Red Cross bodies, in liaison with UNESCO, other UN Specialized Agencies and youth organisations, to initiate an educational programme on peace,

urgently invites and recommends the National Societies to increase and maintain closer contacts with each other for the purpose of exchanging experiences, and achieving closer co-operation and mutual understanding in the promotion of peace,

draws the attention of the International Red Cross to the need to have further recourse to all media of information in support of peace, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to the need for extensive dissemination of the humanitarian principles of the Red Cross,

recommends to the International Red Cross organs and to all National Societies to convene meetings and study groups to seek practical ways of enabling the Red Cross to participate more effectively in the cause of safeguarding peace and preventing wars.

XXI

Contacts between National Societies in cases of Conflict

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling that, according to the principle of humanity which it has proclaimed, the Red Cross “promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples”,

recalling that the XXth International Conference in its Resolution No. X encouraged the ICRC to undertake, in constant liaison with the UN and within the framework of its humanitarian mission, every effort likely to contribute to the prevention or settlement of possible armed conflicts in agreement with the States concerned, and asked the Red Cross and Governments to work for the universal and scrupulous application of the Geneva Conventions in all armed conflicts,

considering that the XVIIth International Conference in its Resolution No. XXVII in particular considered “essential the development of relations between National Societies of friendly and enemy States”,

recommends that in cases of armed conflicts or of situations which are a threat to peace the ICRC shall, if necessary, ask the representatives of the National Societies of the countries concerned to meet together or separately with the ICRC to study the resolution of humanitarian problems involved and in agreement with the Governments concerned to examine what contribution the Red Cross could make to preventing the outbreak of the conflict or achieving a cease-fire or cessation of hostilities,

recommends the National Societies to comply with the request of the ICRC and give it all desirable co-operation in this field.

XXII

The Red Cross and Developing Countries

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
recognizing the need for the dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross and the practical application of these principles,

conscious of the necessity for improving communication, training of Red Cross workers and the definition of common goals and objectives,

realizing that the essentials for success in development are that Governments should recognize the value of Red Cross services and assist National Red Cross Societies in every manner possible ; and also realizing that Red Cross Societies must be prepared to undertake more services that will contribute to the overall development plans of each country,

recommends that National Societies should endeavour to assist Governments in the provision of trained auxiliary and para-medical health workers ; review teaching methods in first aid ; develop and extend blood donor recruitment to meet growing demands ; devise measures for preparation of Red Cross workers to be useful auxiliaries to the professional social workers ; encourage greater participation of youth in programme planning and execution and develop Regional Institutes to train members for greater participation in community services,

recommends further that all Governments and National Societies carefully draw up priorities in terms of needs and resources and utilize all available facilities to permit greater participation in various community efforts.

XXIII

International Disaster Relief Air Transport

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that each year numerous natural disasters cause loss of life, loss of property and great suffering, whereas mutual disaster relief strengthens ties of friendship and solidarity,

considering further that international relief activities are an important form of Red Cross action on a national and international scale,

whereas assistance given quickly alleviates suffering caused by disasters,

refers to Resolution 2435 on assistance in cases of natural disaster adopted on 19 December 1968 by the General Assembly of the United Nations,

thanks the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the airline companies which have granted free air transport or reduced rates,

requests airline companies to transport relief supplies under conditions in no way prejudicial to the conveyance of such supplies, and in particular to reduce freight charges.

XXIV

Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the new compendium of principles governing international disaster relief actions submitted by the League of Red Cross Societies and the ICRC in compliance with Resolution No. XVIII of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

approves these principles and rules,

requests the League and the ICRC to publish and disseminate the following text among National Societies :

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Field of Application

1. The present rules apply to disasters, that is to situations resulting from natural or other calamities.

Basic Principle

2. The Red Cross in its endeavour to prevent and alleviate human suffering, considers it a fundamental duty to bring relief to all disaster victims.

Assistance and Mutual Aid

3. It is the duty of National Societies to prepare themselves to give assistance in the event of a disaster. In view of the solidarity binding them together they shall help one another when faced with a situation exceeding their resources.
In assisting each other in this way, while respecting the independence of each of them and the sovereignty of the stricken country, National Societies contribute to the strengthening of friendship and peace among peoples.

Role of the Red Cross

4. Prevention of disasters, assistance to victims and reconstruction are first and foremost the responsibility of the public authorities. In principle Red Cross help is of an auxiliary and complementary nature and operates basically in the emergency phase. However, if circumstances require and provided the Red Cross is assured of the necessary resources and means, it may undertake longer-term assistance programmes.

Ways and Means of Assistance

5. Red Cross assistance to the victims is given free of charge and without any distinction as to nationality, race, religion, social condition or political opinion. It is made available on the basis of the relative importance of individual needs and in the order of their emergency.
Red Cross relief is administered with care and its utilisation is the subject of precise reports.

Co-ordination

6. Considering that assistance to disaster victims requires co-ordination both at the national and international levels, the Red Cross, whilst remaining true to its principles, should, in the implementation of its programme, endeavour to take into account the help given by other national and international organisations.

ORGANISATION AND PREPARATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

National Relief Plan

7. In order to cope with the effects of disasters, each country should have a national plan outlining an effective organisation of relief. If such a plan does not exist, the National Society should instigate its establishment. The national plan shall assign to all sections of the community—public services, Red Cross, voluntary agencies, social welfare organisations and qualified persons—precise tasks in the fields of disaster prevention, relief and reconstruction.

Management of the Plan

8. To ensure rapid mobilisation as well as complete and effective use of material and personnel resources, the national plan should envisage co-ordination through the establishment of a centralised direction. Such central direction should be able to provide precise and official information on the effects of a disaster, its evolution and the needs.

Participation of the Red Cross

9. The extent of the Red Cross relief programme depends on the responsibilities delegated to the National Society by its government or by the national relief plan. As a general rule, the Red Cross programme is limited to the provision of : first aid, medical and nursing care, food supplies, clothing, shelter, services for the prevention of epidemics, including health education, social welfare, tracing services and other forms of emergency assistance.

Preparation

10. Each National Society must prepare itself to assume the responsibility devolving on it in the case of disaster. It must establish its own plan of action, adapt its organisation accordingly, recruit, instruct and train the necessary personnel, and ensure the availability of the reserves in cash and kind which it might need in the emergency phase of a relief operation.

League Technical Assistance

11. The League of Red Cross Societies will endeavour to assist National Societies with their organisation and preparedness for relief actions, in particular by offering them the services of technicians and contributing to the instruction and training of their personnel. It will encourage and facilitate exchanges of information between Societies so that the experience of some will be of benefit to others.

Agreements on Mutual Assistance

12. National Societies should endeavour to conclude agreements on mutual assistance in the event of disaster with the National Societies of neighbouring countries. The League shall be informed.

Exemptions and Other Facilities

13. National Societies should make every effort to obtain facilities from governmental or private transport services in their countries for the rapid transport, whenever possible free or at reduced rates, of relief supplies, including goods in transit, for disaster victims.

National Societies should also endeavour to obtain from their governments exemption from all taxes and customs duties concerning the entry into and the transit through the country of funds and relief supplies intended for the victims of disasters.

Furthermore, they should seek to obtain travel facilities and the quick granting of visas for Red Cross personnel taking part in relief operations.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Role of the League

14. The League of Red Cross Societies is the information and co-ordination centre for all international assistance in the event of a disaster. Therefore, even if National Societies do not envisage asking for outside assistance, it is essential that they inform the League quickly of every large-scale disaster occurring within their countries, of the extent of the damage and of the measures taken.

Requests for Assistance and Appeal

15. Any requests from a National Society of a stricken country for international assistance shall be addressed to the League. Such a request must contain all available information on the general situation, the number of persons to be helped and the nature and quantities of relief supplies needed in order of priority; the requests shall also mention the particular responsibilities of the National Society under the national relief plan.

On receipt of such a request, the League will, when conditions call for it, launch an appeal to all National Societies—or, depending on the circumstances, to a certain number of them—containing all necessary information on the disaster and on the special conditions of the country. No appeal will be launched by the League without a request from the National Society of the stricken country or without its agreement.

The League can take the initiative to offer special assistance even though the National Society has not asked for it, but only with the agreement of the Society.

Regular Communication of Information

16. The National Society of the stricken country will keep the League informed on the development of the situation, the relief given and the needs still to be met. This information will be communicated to the National Societies to which the appeal has been made.

Information on Assistance

17. The League will be advised when, as a result of a League appeal, a mutual agreement or other special circumstances, a National Society gives assistance to the Society of a stricken country.

Collections Abroad

18. Unless there is a previous agreement, the National Society of a stricken country will not try to obtain, either directly or indirectly, funds or any other form of assistance in the country of another Society and will not permit its name to be used for this purpose.

League Liaison Officer

19. When a National Society asks for outside aid, the League, as a general rule, shall assign to it a liaison officer whose name will, as far as possible, be communicated to the National Society in advance.

This liaison officer will send the League all the necessary information on the situation in the stricken country and on the development of the disaster. In addition, he will be at the disposal of the National Society to help it assess the needs and establish relief programmes and to advise it of the measures taken by the League and by donor Societies.

Use made of Gifts

20. A National Society which benefits from the assistance of sister Societies will give the League liaison officer the opportunity to see on the spot the use made of the gifts received. In addition, the Society will send the League progress reports and a final report for the donors.

Representatives of Donor Societies

21. Donor Societies which desire to send representatives to the spot, particularly to collect information material for the public supporting the relief action in their country, shall obtain the previous agreement of the central headquarters of the National Society of the stricken country. They should keep the League informed.

Execution entrusted to the League

22. When the administrative organisation of the Society in the stricken country does not enable it to meet the situation, the League may, at the request of that Society and with its co-operation, assume the local direction and execution of the relief action.

Foreign Personnel

23. Personnel provided by donor Societies will be placed under the direction of the National Society of the stricken country or of the League, when the direction and execution of the relief operation have been entrusted to it.

Non-solicited or Spontaneous Relief

24. If a National Society wishes to send relief supplies which are not mentioned in the appeal launched by the League, it shall first obtain the agreement of the National Society of the stricken country or of the League. When there has been no appeal from the League, but a National Society nevertheless wishes to send relief supplies to the Society of a stricken country, the previous agreement of that Society is also required and the League shall be informed.

How to use Gifts

25. Gifts sent to a National Society may only be used for the purposes designated and will serve in the first place to give direct assistance to the victims.
A beneficiary Society may in no event use cash gifts received to cover the administrative expenses included in its ordinary budget.
If in the course of a relief operation it is necessary to sell or exchange a part of the goods received, the donors—or the League which represents them—will be consulted. The funds or goods thus obtained may only be used for the relief action.

Relief Surplus

26. The use of the goods or funds remaining on hand after the termination of a relief action will be the subject of an agreement between the National Society of the stricken country and the donors or the League.

Transmission and Forwarding of Relief

27. Assistance donated by a National Society to a stricken country will always be sent to the National Society of this country, either direct or through the intermediary of the League.
National Societies and the League may agree to transmit to a stricken country relief from non-Red Cross sources. In this case also, however, the relief will be given to the National Society of the stricken country and used by it freely but in conformity with the present rules.

FINAL PROVISION

Special Cases

28. Every disaster relief operation carried out in a country where there is war, civil war or internal disorders shall be regulated by the provisions of the Agreement of April 25th 1969 between the ICRC and the League.

XXV

Measures to meet Natural Disasters

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
noting Resolution No. 2435 of 19 December 1968 of the United Nations General Assembly inviting Governments to make preparations at the national level to meet natural disasters,
aware of the need for prompt measures when a disaster strikes any country,
urges all Governments which have not already done so to prepare and to pass the necessary legislation enabling immediate and adequate action to be taken, in conjunction with the Red Cross, along the lines of a pre-established plan based on the disaster relief rules adopted by this Conference.

XXVI

Declaration of Principles for International Humanitarian Relief to the Civilian Population in Disaster Situations

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting that in the present century the international community has accepted increased responsibility for relief of human suffering in any form,

whereas human suffering in all its manifestations is of deep concern to the conscience of mankind and world opinion requires effective action for the relief of such suffering,

affirming that one of the major purposes of the community of nations as laid down in the Charter of the United Nations is to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

noting with satisfaction the improvements in the ability of the international community to provide various forms of humanitarian relief as a result of international agreements and through the International Red Cross and other impartial international humanitarian organisations,

recognizing that further steps have to be taken by the international community to ensure prompt and effective relief action to civilian populations in natural or other disaster situations,

adopts the following Declaration of Principles :

1. The fundamental concern of mankind and of the international community in disaster situations is the protection and welfare of the individual and the safeguarding of basic human rights.
2. Relief by impartial international humanitarian organisations for civilian populations in natural or other disaster situations should as far as possible be treated as a humanitarian and non-political matter and should be so organised as to avoid prejudicing sovereign and other legal rights in order that the confidence of the parties to a conflict in the impartiality of such organisations may be preserved.
3. The activities of impartial international humanitarian organisations for the benefit of civilian populations should be co-ordinated in order to secure prompt action and effective allocation of resources and to avoid duplication of effort.
4. Disaster relief for the benefit of civilian populations is to be provided without discrimination and the offer of such relief by an impartial international humanitarian organisation ought not to be regarded as an unfriendly act.
5. All States are requested to exercise their sovereign and other legal rights so as to facilitate the transit, admission and distribution of relief supplies provided by impartial international humanitarian organisations for the benefit of civilian populations in disaster areas when disaster situations imperil the life and welfare of such populations.
6. All authorities in disaster areas should facilitate disaster relief activities by impartial international humanitarian organisations for the benefit of civilian populations.

XXVII

Utilisation of Scientific Data for the co-ordination of international relief actions

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

having in mind the principles and potentials referred to in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 2435 (XXII) adopted on 19 December 1968,

recognizes that many scientific and technological advances are being made that relate to the mitigation of the consequences of disasters and lead to the saving of lives and property,

urges nations and Red Cross Societies to work together, record, share or exchange data essential to scientific understanding of natural disasters ; to utilize to the fullest extent feasible, satellites, radar, seismographics, engineering, laser, computers, etc., coupled with modern communication devices, in order to predict, warn, alert, prepare and respond before and after disaster strikes,

calls upon Governments and Red Cross Societies to support, share, and apply, in so far as possible, these developments and advances of science and technology to tame the forces of angry nature, to co-ordinate disaster relief action so as to minimize damage, and to prevent or relieve human suffering.

XXVIII

Red Cross Volunteers and Social and Economic Development

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

recognizing the need for increased participation by members of the community in social and economic development and aware that this requires close co-ordination of governmental and non-governmental programmes,

recognizing that National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies are in a position to recruit volunteers from all sections of the population, and that volunteers can contribute to community understanding and promote participation in development efforts,

considering the complexity and variety of the tasks assigned to volunteers and stressing the need for training, continuing instruction and supervision to enable them to serve effectively, and convinced that this can only be achieved with the understanding and active support of professional workers,

recommends that the League Secretariat and National Societies study ways in which Red Cross volunteer services by youth and adults can be integrated into community programmes aimed at promoting social and economic development and that special attention be given to the training, effectiveness and supervision of volunteers and to the involvement of professional workers in such programmes.

XXIX

Junior Red Cross Training and Participation in International Education Year (1970)

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

acknowledging the invaluable contribution which teachers have been making to the development of the Junior Red Cross,

considering that such contributions should be formally recognized by National Societies,

suggests that National Societies invite teachers to become members of the Red Cross in order to assist the Societies in training both junior and adult members,

recommends that a message be sent to the appropriate international teaching organisations, thanking them for the work which their members have been doing for the Junior Red Cross since its foundation and expressing the hope that National Societies may look forward to their continuing support and assistance,

recommends further that National Societies explore the possibility of new forms of Junior Red Cross exchange programmes involving school libraries, and associate themselves with the objectives of International Education Year (1970) with a view to providing better training facilities for Junior Red Cross members.

XXX

The Red Cross and Youth Problems

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
acknowledging the need to recognize youth as an integral part of a National Red Cross Society,
considering the necessity for youth to participate in the planning and implementing of all activities of a National Society, both national and international,

recognizing the serious problems which face young people at this time, and the responsibility of the Red Cross to help alleviate the sufferings such problems cause both to the individual and to the community,

invites all National Societies to take action to include youth in the planning and implementation of their national and international activities,

urges National Societies to explore ways and means of giving their youth members specific responsibilities within the framework of the Development Programme,

recommends that the Red Cross draw the attention of the relevant national and international authorities to the human problems caused by the inability of young people to find suitable employment in particular relation to their training,

recommends further that the League consider appointing experts to study the social problems caused by alcoholism and the use of drugs among young people and to make recommendations for Red Cross action to alleviate the sufferings they cause.

XXXI

Organisation of Health Teams

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that armed conflicts, of whatever kind, may necessitate medical aid from the ICRC or the National Societies of neutral countries,

whereas in such cases the ICRC may be called upon to recruit health personnel in countries which are not parties to the conflict,

considering further that aid to victims of natural disasters may also require the participation of health personnel, through the intermediary of the League and the National Red Cross Societies,

recommends that National Societies establish in their respective countries, in co-operation with official and private bodies, a pool of health personnel who could be made available to the ICRC and the League at their request, or who could be used in accordance with Article 27 of the 1st 1949 Geneva Convention,

recommends that Governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions support the efforts of their National Societies and encourage the recruitment and training of personnel for this pool,

recommends that the ICRC and the League take the requisite steps to undertake with the assistance of WHO, the studies necessary for carrying out this project and drawing up regulations defining, inter alia, the status of the personnel comprising these teams.

XXXII

Appointment of Members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

appoints as members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross for the period up to the next International Conference : General James F. Collins (USA), Dr. Ahmed Djebli-Elaydouni (Morocco), Angela, Countess of Limerick (United Kingdom), Professor Dr. Gueorgui Miterev (USSR), and Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris (Australia).

XXXIII

Place and Date of the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,
having taken note with gratitude of the invitations submitted by several National Societies for the holding
of the next International Conference of the Red Cross,

asks the Standing Commission to fix the place and date of the XXIIInd Conference after a detailed study of
the participation conditions and the material and technical possibilities.

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Votes of Thanks

The XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

1. extends its very respectful thanks to H. E. Cevdet Sunay, President of the Republic of Turkey, for having honoured the inaugural meeting with his presence and for having made an eloquent speech as well as for the reception given by him and Mrs. Sunay in the Dolmabahçe Palace,
2. requests the Turkish Government to accept its deep gratitude for the constant help and support it gave to the Turkish Red Crescent Society during the preparations for and actual conduct of the Conference,
3. thanks H. E. Sabri Çaglayangil, Minister of Foreign Affairs, for the reception he gave to all delegates in the Hotel Tarabya,
4. wishes to thank very sincerely Dr. Fahri Atabey, Mayor of Istanbul, for the warm hospitality extended to delegates in Istanbul and for his address at the ceremony in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the League of Red Cross Societies,
5. conveys its appreciation and gratitude to the Turkish Red Crescent and its President, Mr. Riza Çerçel, for all the help given to delegates, thereby ensuring the success of the XXIst Conference, as well as for the assistance provided by the leaders of the National Society and other members of its staff,
6. presents its thanks to the management of the Turkish Red Crescent School of Nursing for making available for the Conference their student nurses, who showed great devotion in working in the various Conference services, and for the reception given in the School of Nursing,
7. considering the impartial and full coverage given by the Turkish press to the debates, requests the Chairman of the Conference kindly to convey to the representatives of the Turkish press its thanks and congratulations.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Reports presented jointly by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies

Comments on the provisional agenda.
Information on the activities of the Henry-Dunant Institute (jointly with the Swiss Red Cross).
Report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund — 1965-1969.
Action taken on the Resolutions of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross.
The Red Cross as a factor in world peace.

Reports presented by the International Committee of the Red Cross

Summary report of activities from 1965 to 1968.
Provisional activity report — 1 January-30 June 1969.
Report of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
Report of the Council of the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross.
Augusta Fund.
Florence Nightingale Medal awards.
Implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions I.
Implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions II.
Proposed system of standard telegram messages to and from prisoners of war.
Respect of the Geneva Conventions — Measures taken to repress violations (Volume 2).
Reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts.
Status of civil defence service personnel.
The protection of civilian and nursing personnel in time of conflict.
Protection of victims of non-international conflicts.
Draft for the organization of international medical teams placed at the disposal of the ICRC.

Reports presented by the League of Red Cross Societies

Information on the ICRC/League Agreement.
Report of the Council of Delegates.
Activity Reports of the League and of National Societies.
Activity Report of the Standing Commission.

The presence, functions and relief operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies in areas of armed conflict, with special reference to the civilian population. (Agreement between the ICRC and the League, signed on 25 April 1969.)

The Red Cross and Developing Countries.

International Relief Actions in Natural Disasters.

Red Cross Adult and Youth Volunteers in the Community in Evolution.

Reports submitted by National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies on their Activities

Afghanistan	Lebanon
Australia	New Zealand
Austria	Norway
Belgium	Pakistan
Bulgaria	Philippines
Burma	Poland
Cambodia	Portugal
Cameroon	Rumania
Ceylon	Saudi Arabia
Denmark	South Africa
Ethiopia	Spain
Finland	Sweden
France	Switzerland
Germany (Dem. Rep.)	Syria
Germany (Fed. Rep.)	Thailand
Guatemala	Upper Volta
Honduras	USA
India	USSR
Ireland	Vietnam (Dem. Rep.)
Japan	Vietnam (Rep.)
Korea (Rep.)	Yugoslavia

XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross

Report of the International Humanitarian Law and Relief to Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts Commission.

Report of the General Commission.

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