

362.191/898
(Angl.)

BIBLIOTHEQUE DU CICR

17, av. de la Paix, 1211 GENEVE
tél. 022/34 60 01 int. 424

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DATE DE RESTITUTION

30/8/86		
24.11.87		
22.4.89		
11/09/02		
13.12.03		
18.3.05		
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MANILA 1981

XXIVth
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
OF THE
RED CROSS



362 121/898 (Angl)

**TWENTY-FOURTH
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THE RED CROSS**

REPORT

MANILA, 7-14 NOVEMBER 1981

PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER

BIBLIOTHÈQUE CICR
17 AVENUE DE LA PAIX
1211 GENEVE

PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE

CONVOCAION OF MEMBERS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (RECOGNIZED NATIONAL SOCIETIES, GOVERNMENTS OF STATES PARTIES TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES)

16 March 1981.

Subject: Convocation of the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

The Standing Commission of the International Red Cross has accepted our Society's offer to host the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross in Manila in 1981.

The Philippine National Red Cross has accordingly the honour to inform you that with the support of the Philippine Government the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross will be held in Manila from 7 to 14 November 1981. It will be preceded from 29 October onwards by various meetings and by the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Council of Delegates.

Under Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Statutes of the International Red Cross:

"The International Conference of the Red Cross shall be composed of delegations of duly recognized National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, delegations of the States parties to the Geneva Conventions and delegations of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies."

In addition, under Article 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the International Conference of the Red Cross, observers may be invited to the Conference.

A list of members and observers is attached.

Also attached is the provisional agenda adopted by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross after consideration of the additions and amendments proposed by National Societies in reply to the Chairman of the Standing Commission's letter of 30 October 1980.

The provisional programme and registration and hotel reservation forms are enclosed as well.

The Philippine National Red Cross looks forward to welcoming to its country the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross, which it hopes will forge ahead in promoting the humanitarian work of the Red Cross the world over and will help to strengthen friendship and peace between the peoples of the world.

Yours sincerely,

General Romeo C. Espino
Chairman,
The Philippine National Red Cross

INVITATION TO OBSERVERS (NATIONAL SOCIETIES
NOT YET RECOGNIZED AND OTHER OBSERVERS)

16 March 1981.

Re: Invitation to the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

The Standing Commission of the International Red Cross has accepted our Society's offer to host the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross in Manila in 1981.

The Philippine National Red Cross has accordingly the honour to inform you that with the support of the Philippine Government the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross will be held in Manila from 7 to 14 November 1981. It will be preceded from 29 October onwards by various meetings and by the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Council of Delegates.

Under Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Statutes of the International Red Cross:

“The International Conference of the Red Cross shall be composed of delegations of duly recognized National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, delegations of the States parties to the Geneva Conventions and delegations of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies.”

In addition, under Article 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the International Conference of the Red Cross observers may be invited to attend the Conference, starting on 7 November.

A list of members and observers is attached.

Also attached are the provisional agenda adopted by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, the provisional programme, and registration and hotel reservation forms.

The Philippine National Red Cross looks forward with pleasure to welcoming to its country the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross, which it hopes will forge ahead in promoting the humanitarian work of the Red Cross the world over and will help to strengthen friendship and peace between all the peoples of the world.

Yours sincerely,

General Romeo C. Espino
Chairman,
The Philippine National Red Cross

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

- 9.30 a.m. Permanent Scale of Contributions Commission of the League.
Commission on Red Cross and Peace.
- 3.00 p.m. Permanent Scale of Contributions Commission of the League.
Commission on Red Cross and Peace.

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER

- 9.00 a.m. Finance Commission of the League.
- 9.30 a.m. Working Group on the Emblem.
- 2.00 p.m. Finance Commission of the League.
- 3.00 p.m. Working Group on the Emblem.

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER

- 9.30 a.m. Executive Council of the League (VIIIth Session).
- 3.00 p.m. Executive Council of the League (VIIIth Session).

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER

No meetings.

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Opening and first meeting of the Second Session of the General Assembly of the League.
- 3.00 p.m. Second meeting of the General Assembly of the League.

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Third meeting of the General Assembly of the League.
- 3.00 p.m. Fourth meeting of the General Assembly of the League.

WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Fifth meeting of the General Assembly of the League.
- 3.00 p.m. Sixth meeting of the General Assembly of the League.

THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Seventh meeting of the General Assembly of the League.
- 3.00 p.m. Standing Commission of the International Red Cross
Commission for the Financing of the I.C.R.C.

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Council of Delegates.
- 3.00 p.m. Council of Delegates.

SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER

- Morning Opening ceremony of the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross.
- 3.00 p.m. Plenary meeting.
- Evening Reception offered by the Philippine Government.

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER

No meetings.

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).
- 3.00 p.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).
- 3.00 p.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

- 9.30 a.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).

3.00 p.m. Protection and Assistance Commission (I).
General and Organizational Commission (II).
Community Services and Development Commission (III).

THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER

No meetings (Preparation of Reports of Commissions).

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

9.30 a.m. Plenary meeting.

3.00 p.m. Plenary meeting.

5.30 p.m. Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER

8.30 a.m. Plenary meeting.

AGENDA

I. COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

(Document CD/2/1)

(Document CD/2/2-P-CPA-CGO-CSC)

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 and approval of the Provisional Agenda of the Conference as drafted by the Standing Commission.
3. Election of the Drafting Committee of the Council of Delegates and proposals for the election of the Drafting Committee of the International Conference.
4. The Red Cross as a Factor for Peace.
 - 4.1. Report by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace.
(Decision 2/1977 and Session of the Council of Delegates, 1979.)
(Document CD/4.1/1.)
5. Report by the Working Group on the Emblem. (Decision 3/1977.)
(Document CD/5/1.)
6. Action of the Red Cross against Torture.
(Document CD/6/1.)
7. Information on the Joint ICRC-League Working Groups:
(Document CD/7/1)
 - 7.1. Development of National Societies.
 - 7.2. Assistance.
 - 7.3. Information.
(Document CD/7.3/1.)
8. Report on the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute.
(Document CD/8/1.)
9. Funds and Medals.
(Document CD/9.2/1 - CD/9.4/1.)
 - 9.1. Award of the Henry Dunant Medal.
 - 9.2. Report on the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal and on the income of the Augusta Fund.
French Fund Maurice de Madré.

- 9.3. Report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund.
(Document.)
- 9.4. Report of the Council of the Foundation for the ICRC.
10. Contribution by National Societies for the financing of the ICRC.
(Ie: document CGO/5/1.)
11. Miscellaneous.

II. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE

Plenary Meetings

(Document CD/2/1)

(Document CD/2/2-P-CPA-CGO-CSC)

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-General, Assistant Secretaries-General of the Conference and of the Drafting Committee of the Conference on the proposal of the Council of Delegates.
2. Solemn reading of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross.
3. Report on the work of the Council of Delegates.
4. Appointment of Conference Commissions.
Commission I: Protection and Assistance.
Commission II: General and Organizational Matters.
Commission III: Community Services and Development.
5. Opening of the procedure for the election of the members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.
6. Report of the Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.
(Document P/6/1.)
7. Reports of the Commissions and adoption of their resolutions and recommendations.
(a) Commission I.
(b) Commission II.
(c) Commission III.
8. Election of the members of the Standing Commission.
9. Place and date of the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference.

III. MEETINGS OF COMMISSIONS

A. COMMISSION I: PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteur and Drafting Committee members.
2. Report on activities of the ICRC.
(Document CPA/2/1.)
3. Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols:
 - 3.1. Follow-up to Resolution III of the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference;
Report on Signatures, ratifications and accessions to the Protocols.
(Document CPA/3.1/1.)
 - 3.2. Follow-up to Resolutions 17, 18 and 19 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts (Geneva, 1974-1977):
 - Use of certain electronic and visual means of identification by medical aircraft (Resolution 17);
 - Use of visual signalling for identification of medical transports (Resolution 18);
 - Use of radio communications for announcing and identifying medical transports (Resolution 19);and follow-up to Resolution IX of the Twenty-third International Conference: Red Cross emergency radio-communications.
(Document CPA/3.2/1.)
 - 3.3. Follow-up to Resolution 22 of the Diplomatic Conference (Geneva, 1974-1977):
 - Follow-up regarding prohibition or restriction of use of certain conventional weapons.
(Document CPA/3.3/1.)
4. Dissemination of Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross.
 - 4.1. Report on the implementation of Resolution VII of the Twenty-third International Conference:
“Dissemination of Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts and of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross.”
(Document CPA/4.1/1.)
 - 4.2. Report on the implementation of the “Programme of Action of the Red Cross with respect to dissemination of International Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross, 1978-1981”, and presentation of the Programme of Action 1982-1985.
(Document CPA/4.2/1 - CPA/4.3/1.)
 - 4.3. Report on the work of the Joint Working Group of Experts on the dissemination of International Humanitarian Law and the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross.
(Document CPA/4.2/1 - CPA/4.3/1.)
5. Emblem.
 - 5.1. Use and Protection of the emblem.
(Document CPA/5.1/1.)
 - 5.2. Revision of the Regulations of the use of the emblem by the National Societies (adopted by the Twentieth International Red Cross Conference in Vienna 1965).
(Document CPA/5.2/1.)
 - 5.3. Information on the conclusions of the Council of Delegates on the question of emblem.
(Ie: document CD/5/1.)

6. Report on follow-up to other Resolutions of the Twenty-third International Conference, 1977. (Res. IV, V, VI, XII and XIV.)
(*Resolution XII: document CPA/6/1.*)
(*Resolution XIV: ie: document CD/6/1.*)
7. International Red Cross Aid to Refugees.
(*Document CPA/7/1.*)
8. The role of the Central Tracing Agency as co-ordinator and technical adviser to National Societies and governments (National Information Bureaux).
(*Document CPA/8/1.*)
9. Miscellaneous.

B. COMMISSION II: GENERAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteur and Drafting Committee.
2. Reports on the Activities of the League and of the National Societies.
(*Documents CGO/2/1 and CGO/2/2 and reports of the National Societies.*)
3. Attitude of the Red Cross to the taking of hostages.
(Res. VIII - Twenty-third International Conference, 1977.)
(*Document CGO/3/1.*)
4. Follow-up to Resolution XX/1977 of the Twenty-third International Conference: "Promoting the Image of the Red Cross Worldwide."
(*Ie: document CD/7.3/1.*)
5. Report of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC and proposals for the future.
(*Document CGO/5/1.*)
6. Progress report on the study on: "Natural Disaster Relief Actions and International Law - Protection of Human Beings in Disaster Situations."
(*Document CGO/6/1.*)
7. Amendments to the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief. (Recommendation 6 of the 1st Session of the League General Assembly, 1979.)
8. Voluntary Service in the Red Cross.
(*Document CGO/8/1.*)
9. Report of the work of the Joint ICRC-League Commission on the Statutes of National Societies (follow-up to Resolution VI of the Twenty-second International Conference, Teheran, 1973).
(*Document CGO/9/1.*)
10. Revision of the regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal.
(*Document CGO/10/1.*)

11. Consideration of the regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal. (Recommendation 2 of the 1st Session of the League General Assembly, 1979.)
(Document CGO/11/1.)
12. 12th edition of the International Red Cross Handbook.
(Document CGO/12/1.)
13. Miscellaneous.

C. COMMISSION III: COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteur and Drafting Committee.
2. Co-operation between governments and Red Cross in organizing primary health care programmes. (Recommendation of the 1st Session of the League General Assembly, 1979.)
(Document CSC/2/1.)
3. Integration of Red Cross activities in community services (follow-up to Resolutions XV and XVII of the Twenty-third International Conference).
(Document CSC/3/1.)
4. Development of National Societies in the context of national development plans (follow-up to recommendations of the 1st Session of the League General Assembly, 1979).
(Document CSC/4/1.)
5. Role of the Red Cross in the development of national blood transfusion programmes (follow-up to Resolution XVI - Twenty-third International Conference).
(Document CSC/5/1.)
6. Red Cross contribution to a better human environment in relation to efforts made at the governmental level (follow-up to Resolution XXI of the Twenty-third International Conference).
(Document CSC/6/1.)
7. Report on follow-up to other resolutions of the Twenty-third International Conference. (Resolutions XIX and XXII.)
(Document CSC/7/1.)
8. Preparation of National Societies for emergency medical action.
(Document CSC/8/1.)
9. Miscellaneous.

LIST OF DELEGATES

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE

AFGHANISTAN

Government

Mr. Ibrahim Danashwar Baraki, Member of the International relations and United Nations Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Crescent

Dr. Arab Gul Tothakhil, Secretary-General.
Dr. Abdul Hadi Zobad, Director, Health Service.
Mr. Ghulam Nabi, Director, Foreign Relations.

ALGERIE

Red Crescent

D^r Mouloud Belaouane, Président,
Chef de la délégation.
M. Mokrane Boubrit, Directeur des Services administratifs.
M. Saïd Benabdallah, Juriste.
M. Driss Allouache, Membre, Comité national, Information.
D^r Ahmed Ahras, Directeur du Secourisme.
M. Salim Djabali, Directeur des Services juridiques.
M^{me} Farida Belaouane, Responsable, Information.

ARGENTINA

Government

Sr. Oscar A. Olivero, Primer Secretario,
Embajada Argentina, Manila.

Red Cross

Sr. Travell Francisco L. Phillips, Presidente.
Sr. Salvador P. V. Xargay, Tesorero.

AUSTRALIA

Government

Mr. Thomas John Holden, Captain R.A.N.,
Department of Defence.

Mr. Mark Latham, First Secretary (Development Assistance), Embassy, Manila.

Mr. Gregory Polson, First Secretary,
Australian Embassy, Manila.

Miss Erika Feller, First Secretary,
Australian Permanent Mission, Geneva.

Red Cross

Mr. Noel W. Buckley, Chairman.

Lady MacArthur, Vice-Chairman.

Lady Persia Galleghan, Member.

Mr. Leon G. Stubbings, Secretary-General.

Miss Noreen Minogue, Deputy Secretary-General.

Mr. Max Bevilaqua, Chairman,
Western Australian Division.

Mr. G. G. Wyllie, Chairman,
South Australian Division.

Mr. R. S. Maclean, Member.

Mr. Edmond Sidney Baker, Deputy Chairman,
West Australian Division.

AUSTRIA

Government

D^r Hans G. Knitel, Ministre, Chef adjoint du Cabinet du Ministre Fédéral des Affaires Etrangères.

D^r Herbert Kröll, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Ambassade de l'Autriche, Manille.

D^r Friedrich Grieszler, Directeur au Ministère de la Défense.

Red Cross

D^r Hans Kerstnig, Vice-Président.

M. Hans Polster, Secrétaire général.

D^r Friedrich Wendl, Conseiller juridique.

M. Sepp Schwarz, Secrétaire général de la Croix-Rouge de la jeunesse.

BAHAMAS

Red Cross

Mr. C. B. Moss, President.

BAHREIN

Red Crescent

Dr. Ramzy Fayez, General-Secretary.
Mr. Mohamed Al Muraikhi Khalil, Treasurer.
Mr. Mohamed A. Rasoul Al-Khayyat, Assistant to
General-Secretary.

BANGLADESH

Government

Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, Judge,
Supreme Court.

Red Cross

Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, Chairman.
Mr. Khondker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, Member,
Managing Board.
Mr. Touhidur Rahman, Member, Managing Board.
Major Ali Hassan Quoreshi, Secretary-General.
Mrs. Salima Quoreshi, Member.

BELGIUM

Government

D^r Wilfried De Pauw, Ambassadeur de Belgique
aux Philippines.
M. Filip Cumps, Premier Secrétaire, Ambassade
de Belgique à Manille.

Red Cross

M. Raymond Vermeylen, Administrateur Général.

BÉNIN

Government

M^{me} Véronique Ahouanmenou, Présidente
de la Croix-Rouge Béninoise.

Red Cross

M^{me} Véronique Ahouanmenou, Présidente.
M. Jules Johnson, Secrétaire général.

BOLIVIA

Red Cross

Dr. Hugo Palazzi Moscoso, Presidente.

BOTSWANA

Red Cross

Lady Ruth Khama, President.
Mr. Edward Komanyane, Treasurer.

BRAZIL

Government

Mr. Luiz Lacerda, Representative.

Red Cross

Mrs. Mavy A. A. Harmon, President.
Dr. Alberto Coutinho, Director, Member of the
National Board.
Mr. T. W. Sloper, Member, National Board.
Lt. Col. José Fonseca, Administrative Secretary.

BULGARIA

Government

M. Georgui Gospodinov, Premier Vice-Président de
la Croix-Rouge bulgare.

Red Cross

M. Georgui Gospodinov, Premier Vice-Président.
M. Alexander Marinov, Chef du Département des
relations extérieures.
M. Ivan Pouchkarov, Assistant exécutif,
Département des relations internationales.

BURMA

Red Cross

U Kyi, President.
U Tun Nyein, Executive Secretary.

BURUNDI

Government

D^r François Buyoya, Président
de la Croix-Rouge du Burundi.

Red Cross

D^r François Buyoya, Président.



*Opening ceremony.
Arrival of the President of the Republic, H.E. Ferdinand E. Marcos.*



Solemn reading of the Red Cross Fundamental Principles by the Vice-president of the Philippine National Red Cross, Governor Pacifico E. Marcos.

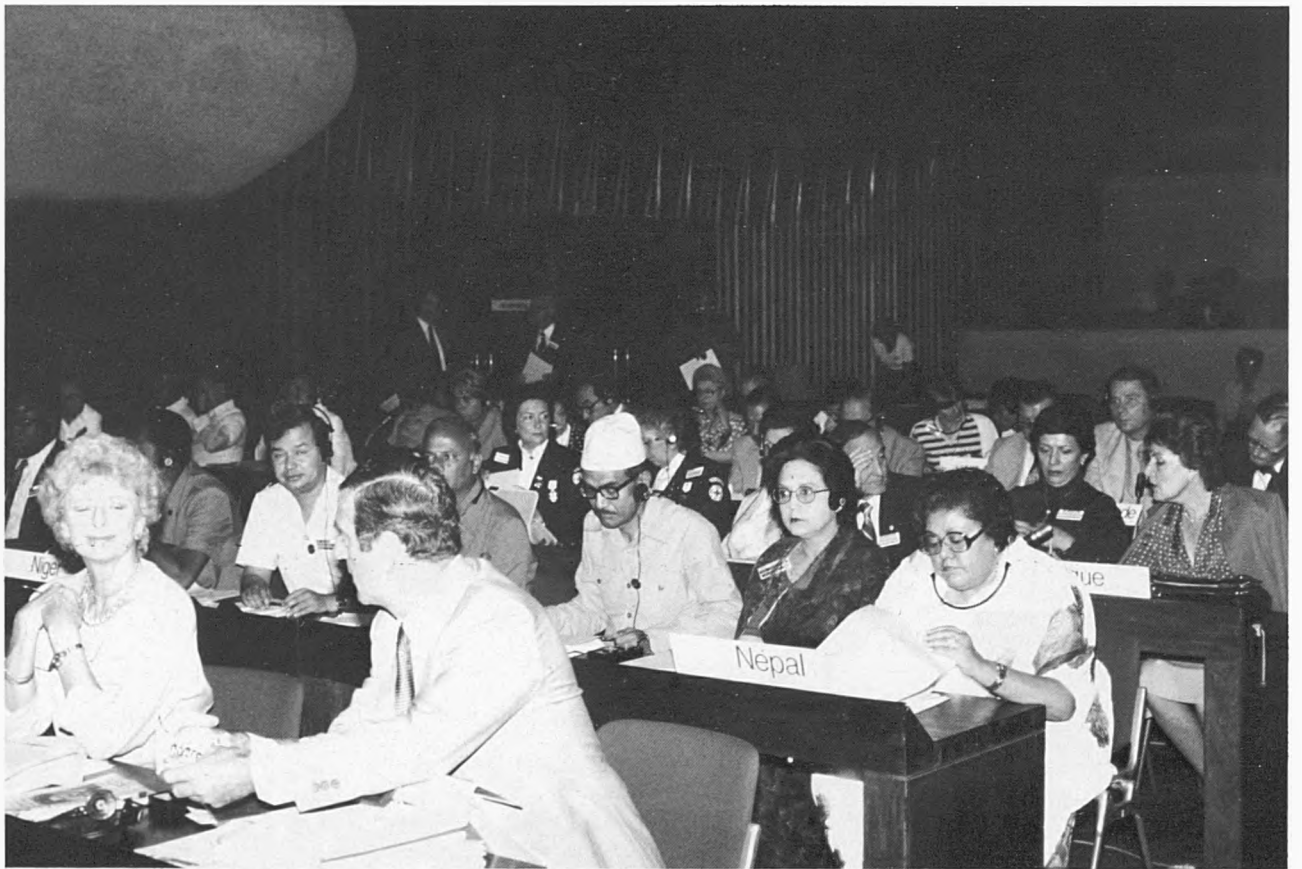
On the podium (left to right): General Romeo C. Espino, President of the Philippine Red Cross; Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Chairman of the Standing Commission; H.E. Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines; Mr. Alexandre Hay, ICRC President; Mr. Enrique de la Mata, President of the League.

The hall for plenary meetings. ► ▲

Opening of the Conference by H.E. Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic. ►



A meeting in progress.



BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC

Government

Dr. Vladimir I. Semukha, Chairman of the
Central Committee of the Byelorussian
Red Cross Society, Minsk.

CAMEROON

Red Cross

M. El Hadj Wadjiri Yaya, Vice-Président.
M. Hajal Massad, Vice-Président.
M. Pierre Ngon a Mbara, Secrétaire général.
Dr Joseph Robert Bowen, Trésorier général.

CANADA

Government

Mr. David M. Miller, Ambassador.
M. Jean Devlin, Coordinateur Secours humanitaires
et aux réfugiés.
Mr. William J. Fenrick, Director International Law -
Defence Dept.
Mr. J. A. Des Roches, Lawyer.
Mr. M. J. Molloy, Counsellor.
Mrs. Ingrid Hall, Counsellor and Consul, Canadian
Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

Judge Darrell D. Jones, President.
Mr. James Kane, National Vice-President.
Mr. Jean A. Desjardins, National Vice-President.
Mr. Henri Tellier, National Commissioner.
Mr. Paul Miki, National Director, International
Affairs.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Red Cross

M. Pierre Ouandebala, Président.
M. André-Félicité Kommando, Vice-Président.

CHAD

Government

M. Mahamat M. Saleh El Habbo,
Directeur général Ministère.

CHILE

Government

Sr. Medardo Lagos de la Fuente, Chargé d'affaires,
Embassy of Chile in Manila.

Red Cross

Srta. Maria Luisa Torres de la Cruz,
1^a Vice-Presidenta.
Sra. Beatriz Fernandez de Fernandez,
Inspectora General.

CHINA (People's Republic of)

Government

Mr. Qian Xinzong, Minister of Public Health.
Mr. Cheng Keru, Deputy Director, Foreign Affairs
Bureau, Ministry of Public Health.
Mr. Wang Jiechen, Chief of Division, Department of
International Organizations.
Mr. Zhang Yu, Deputy Chief of Division, Department
of International Treaties and Law, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Wang Lizhong, Deputy Chief of Division,
General Office, Ministry of Public Health.
Mr. Cao Yonglin, Interpreter.

Red Cross

Mr. Qian Xinzong, President.
Mrs. Gu Jinxin, Vice-President.
Mr. Guo Simian, Member of the Board.
Mrs. Fu Wuyi, Assistant Director, International
Liaison Dept.
Mrs. Song Li, Interpreter.
Mr. Wan Yanping, Interpreter.

COLOMBIA

Government

Sr. Jorge L. Araneta, Cónsul a.h., Embajada ante el
gobierno de Filipinas.
Sr. Horacio Ch. Nable, Embajada ante el gobierno de
Filipinas.
Sr. Manuel P. Azarcón, Embajada ante el gobierno de
Filipinas.

Red Cross

Dr. Guillermo Rueda Montaña, Presidente.
Sr. Artemo Franco, Vicepresidente.
Dr. Roberto Liévano Perdomo, Miembro Comité
Ejecutivo.

Dr. Hernán Restrepo, Miembro Comité Ejecutivo.
Dr. Miguel Angel-Arcos, Director Ejecutivo General.
Sr. Alberto Vejarano, Miembro Comité Ejecutivo.
Sra. Lucy Betancourt de Palacio, Miembra Comité Ejecutivo.
Sr. Oscar Alfonso Zuluaga, Director National de Juventud.
Sra. Gloria de Restrepo, Miembra Comité Ejecutivo.
Sra. Olga de Franco, Miembra.

CONGO

Government

M^{me} Ida Victorine Nze, Présidente de la Croix-Rouge congolaise.

Red Cross

M^{me} Ida Victorine Nze, Présidente.
M. Auguste M'Bengo, Vice-Président.

COSTA RICA

Government

Sr. Miguel Carmona Jimenez, Presidente de la Cruz Roja Costarricense.

Red Cross

Sr. Miguel Carmona Jimenez, Presidente.
Sr. José Manuel Loria Sánchez, Tesorero General.

CUBA

Government

Sra. Aracelis Mastrapa Melero, Alto Funcionario del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.
Sr. José A. Arteaga Hernández, Embajador ante el Gobierno de Filipinas.

Red Cross

Dr. Esmildo Servando Gutiérrez Sánchez, Secretario General.
Sra. Aracelis Mastrapa Melero, Miembro del Consejo Nacional.

CYPRUS

Government

Mrs. Stella Soulioti, Law Commissioner.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Government

Mr. Imrich Hatiar, First Vice-Minister of Health, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Vitezslav Halek, Member of Delegation.
Mr. Jiri Vogl, Embassy Attaché, Member of Delegation.

Red Cross

Mr. Imrich Hatiar, M. D., Chairman.
Mr. Vitezslav Halk, Head, Foreign Relations Dept.
Mr. Jiri Vogl, Legal Adviser.

DENMARK

Government

Mr. Tyge Lehmann, Head of Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Jens Faerkel, Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Ole Wøhlers Olsen, Chargé d'Affaires, Royal Danish Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

H.R.H. Prince Henrik of Denmark, Honorary President.
Mr. Erik Stampe, President.
Miss Lone Hørup, Vice-President.
Mr. Eigil Pedersen, Secretary-General.
Mr. Holger Reedtz Funder, Deputy Secretary-General.

DJIBOUTI

Government

M. Abdi Khayreh Bouh, Directeur général du Croissant-Rouge de Djibouti.
M. Absieh Omar Warsama.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Red Cross

Dr. José Leonor Guzmán Fernández, Presidente.

ECUADOR

Government

Dr. Hugo Merino Grijalva, Presidente Cruz Roja Ecuatoriana.

Red Cross

Dr. Hugo Merino Grijalva, Presidente.
Sr. Luis Chiriboga Parra, Primer Vicepresidente.
Dr. Ulpiano Torres, Asesor Jurídico Nacional.
Dr. Carlos Enrique Nebel, Director de Salud,
Cruz Roja Guayas.

EGYPT

Government

H.E. Shaffie Abd El-Hamid, Under-Secretary of
State.
Mr. Ezzat Ali Elbeheary, Minister, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.
Mrs. Nihad Abou Zidry, Second Secretary, Ministry
of Foreign Affairs.

Red Crescent

Mr. Yehia H. Darwish, Secretary-General.

ETHIOPIA

Government

Dr. Amare Tekle, Ambassador, Head of Asian
Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Dr. Dawit Zawde, Chairman.
Ato Getatchew Araya, First Vice-Chairman.
Ato Teserra Kifetew, Executive Secretary-General.

FIDJI

Red Cross

Mrs. Susan Douglas, Director General.

FINLAND

Government

Mr. Klaus Snellman, Ambassador of Finland.
Mr. Heikki Puurunen, Counsellor.

Red Cross

Mr. Kauko Sipponen, Chairman.
Mr. Kai J. Warras, Secretary-General.
Mr. Juhani Leikola, Director Central Laboratory,
Blood Transfusion Service.

FRANCE

Government

M. Jean Fernand-Laurent, Ministre plénipotentiaire.

D^r Jean Fourre, Sous-Directeur, Ministère de la
Coopération et du Développement.

M. René Naggiar, Conseiller.

M. Jean-Luc Florent, Diplomate.

M^{lle} Sylvaine Carta, Deuxième Secrétaire,
Mission permanente à Genève.

M. Philippe Royère, Conseiller, Ambassade de France
à Manille.

Red Cross

M. Maurice Bocquet, Premier Vice-Président.

M. François de Rose, Deuxième Vice-Président,
Ambassadeur de France.

D^r Robert Metge, Membre du Conseil
d'Administration.

M. Guy de Bretagne, Chargé des affaires
internationales.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Government

Amb. Dr. Kurt Merkel, Ambassador Extraordinaire
and Plenipotentiary to the Philippines

Dr. Hans-Jürgen Micheel, Counsellor,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Dietrich Mitdank, third Secretary of the
Embassy to the Philippines.

Red Cross

Prof. Dr. Siegfried Akkermann, President.

Prof. Dr. Werner Ludwig, Vice-President.

Dr. Winfried van Treek, Vice-President.

Mr. Werner Horney, Chief, Department
of International Relations.

GERMANY (Federal Republic of)

Government

H.E. Mr. Richard Balken, Ambassador.

Dr. Reinhard Hilger, Counsellor.

Mr. Wilhelm Josephi, Counsellor, Federal Ministry
of the Interior.

Red Cross

Mr. Walter Bargatzky, President.

Fürstin Marie-Thérèse zu Salm-Horstman,
Vice-President.

Dr. Hartwig Schlegelberger, Vice-President.

Dr. H. C. Alfons Goppel, Member of the Präsidium.

Dr. Anton Schlögel, Member of the Präsidium.

Dr. Jürgen Schilling, Secretary-General.

Dr. Ruth Auffermann, Delegate.
Mr. Andreas von Block-Schlesier, Legal Adviser.

GHANA

Red Cross

Mr. Myles Christian Hagan, President.
Mr. Joe Myles-Abadoo, Secretary-General.

GREECE

Government

M. George Assimacopoulos, Conseiller, Ambassade de Grèce, Tokyo.

Red Cross

Prof. Orestis Louridis, Président.
M^{lle} Maria Demertzis, Directeur des Relations internationales.

GUATEMALA

Red Cross

Sr. Jorge Toriello Garrido, Presidente.
Sra. Leonor Saravia de Toriello.
Sra. Odette Arzu de Canivell, Director del Consejo y Relaciones Públicas.
Dr. Eduardo Enríquez-Arrve, Abogado Consultor.
Sra. Isabel de Arzu, Comité Damas y Relaciones Públicas.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Government

M. Augusto Antonio Dos Reis Pereira,
Directeur National des Arts.

HAITI

Red Cross

D^r Victor Laroche, Président.
Maître Paulette V. Laroche, Membre, Comité central.

HOLY SEE

Government

S.E. Mgr Bruno Torpigiani, Nonce Apostolique aux Philippines, Chef de la délégation.

Mgr Francisco Tantoco, Aumônier national des "Knights of Columbus".
M. Conrado Diaz, Représentant.

HONDURAS

Red Cross

Sr. Cleto Ramón Álvarez, Presidente.

HUNGARY

Government

M. Janos Hantos, Président du Comité exécutif de la Croix-Rouge hongroise, Chef de la délégation gouvernementale.
M. Sandor Simon, Ministère des Affaires étrangères.
M. Istvan Rona, Premier Secrétaire, Ambassade de Hongrie, Tokyo.

Red Cross

M. Janos Hantos, Président du Comité exécutif.
M. Imre Pásztor, Directeur du Département des relations extérieures.
D^r Ference Somos, Directeur adjoint du Département des relations extérieures.

ICELAND

Government

Dr. Olafur Mixa, Chairman of the Red Cross Society.

Red Cross

Dr. Olafur Mixa, Chairman.
Mr. Jon Asgeirsson, Secretary-General.

INDIA

Government

Mr. R. K. Jerath, Ambassador of India to the Philippines, Head of Delegation.
Mr. R. R. Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Shri Bhim Sen Rao, Assistant Legal Adviser, Ministry of External Affairs.

Red Cross

Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar, Chairman.
Dr. J. N. Vazifdar, Member, Central Managing Body.
Mr. A. H. Mondal, Member, Managing Body.
Mr. Ajit Bhowmick, Acting Secretary-General.

INDONESIA

Government

Mr. R. M. Jonohatmodjo, Head of the Delegation (Dept. of Foreign Affairs).
Mr. Hassan Abduljalil (Dept. of Foreign Affairs).
Mr. Ruslan Soeroso (Dept. of Foreign Affairs).
Mr. Sabi Oebit (Dept. of National Defence).
Mr. Djaka Wardaya (Dept. of National Defence).
Mrs. Laksmi Soemardjo (Dept. of Justice).
Mr. Amiruddin Noor (Dept. of Foreign Affairs).
Mr. Wadayatmo (Dept. of Foreign Affairs).
Mr. Tupuk Sutrisno (Indonesian Embassy).

Red Cross

Prof. Dr. Satrio, Chairman.
Mr. Soehanda Ijas, Secretary-General, Chief Delegate.
Dr. Efram Harsana Hadiwijana, Member, National Board.
Dr. Soedibjo Sardadi, Central Board Member, Director Refugee Operation.

IRAK

Red Crescent

Dr. Ghazi Jassem Al-Habash, Vice-President.
Dr. Abdul Karim A. Al-Khami.
Dr. Jomard Amer, Member.
Mr. Ghalib Mohammed, Honorary Member.

IRAN (Islamic Republic of)

Government

Mr. Nouredine Sharifaskari, Representative of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Mohammad Gourki, Consul, Iranian Embassy in Manila.

Red Crescent

Dr. Hassan Firouzabadi, President and Secretary-General.
Mr. Sadreddine Sadre, Head of International Affairs.

IRELAND

Government

Mr. Gerard Scully, Assistant Secretary, Department of Defence.

Red Cross

Col. Joseph Adams, Chairman.
Mr. Barry O'Hagan, Secretary-General.

ISRAEL

Government

Mrs. Ann M. Lambert-Finkler, Director of Human Rights Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Y. Aviad, Ambassador of Israel to the Philippines.
Prof. Ruth Lapidot, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Brigadier General D. Shefi, Judge Advocate General, Ministry of Defence.

ITALY

Government

Prof. Giuseppe Barile.
M. Vittorio Torri, Ministère de l'Intérieur.
M. Giuseppe Capriulo, Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Red Cross

D^r Giovanni Jula, Commissaire extraordinaire, Chef de délégation.
Général Pietro Verri, Membre du Conseil.
M^{me} Manuela Lavignino, Chef du Service des affaires internationales.
D^r Massimo Barra, Inspecteur national des volontaires.
M^{me} M. Brachetti-Peretti, Secrétaire générale des infirmières.
D^r Gian Galeazzo Monarca, Conseiller juriste.

IVORY COAST

Red Cross

M^{me} Monique Basque, Secrétaire générale.

JAMAICA

Government

Mr. Vincent Matross-McIntosh, President Jamaica Red Cross Society.

Red Cross

Mr. Vincent Matross-McIntosh, President.
Miss Yvonne Clarke, Secretary-General.
Mr. Ronald Coke, Member Central Committee and Vice-Chairman Finance Committee.

JAPAN

Government

H.E. Mr. Hideho Tanaka, Ambassador of Japan to the Philippines, Head of the Delegation.

Mr. Renzo Izawa, Assistant Director, Political Affairs Division, United Nations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Dr. Yoshi Hirose, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Manila.
Mr. Hiroyasu Ando, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Manila.
Mr. Yukie Yoshii, Official, Planning and Coordination Division, United Nations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Red Cross

Mr. Keizo Hayashi, President.
Mr. Mamoru Tsunashima, Counsellor, International Relations Bureau.
Mr. Koichi Watanabe, Director General, International Relation Bureau.
Mr. Mori Sakai, Director General, Promotion Bureau.
Mr. Akihide Shibusawa, Acting Director, International Relations Bureau.
Mr. Toshiaki Mori, Asst. Director, 1st Dept., International Relations.
Mr. Shoichi Sugiyama, Director, Shizuoka Prefectural Chapter.
Mr. Noboru Yamashita, Director, Kagawa Prefectural Chapter.

JORDAN

Government

H.E. Dr. Waleed M. Sadi, Ambassador, Head of Delegation.
Brigadier-General Riad Matar, Legal Adviser, Armed Forces.
Dr. Salem Y. Elkiswani, Asst. Under-Secretary, Ministry of Interior.

Red Crescent

H.E. Dr. Ahmad Abu-Goura, President.
Dr. Muwaffak Fawaz, Member of the Executive Committee.
Mrs. Claremaria Fawaz, Member.
Miss Sahar Rawas, Member.

KENYA

Government

Mr. J. Simani, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Dr. J. Thuku, Senior Deputy Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health.

Red Cross

Mr. John Mullei, Secretary-General.

KOREA (Democratic People's Republic of)

Government

Mr. Son Song Pil, Chairman of the Red Cross Society, Member of the Standing Committee of the People's Supreme Assembly.
Mr. O. Mun Han, Vice-Chairman of the Red Cross Society, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations abroad.

Red Cross

Mr. Son Song Pil, Chairman Central Committee.
Mr. O. Mun Han, Vice-Chairman Central Committee.
Mr. Paek Yong Ho, Deputy Secretary-General.
Mr. Pyo Duk Son, Director, International Relations Dept.
Mr. Pak Dong Chun, Chief of Division, International Relations Dept.
Mr. Kim Chol Su, Chief of Division, Publication and Information Department.
Mr. Ra Yong Hun, Officer, Youth Department.
Mr. Kim Tae Hwa, Member Standing Committee.
Mr. Kim Gwang Su, Member Standing Committee.
Mr. Li Tae Hwan, Interpreter.

KOREA (Republic of)

Government

Mr. Chung Choo Nyun, Delegate, Minister to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea in Geneva, Switzerland.
Mr. Nam Ki Lee, Ambassador to the Philippines, Manila.
Mr. Hyung-Ki Kin, Delegate, Counsellor, Rep. of Korea Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

Mr. Yong Shik Kim, President.
Mr. Choon Ki Paik, Chairman, Kyungbuk Red Cross Chapter.
Mr. Yoo Yoon Chun, Director, Public Information and International Relations.
Mr. Cheol Wha Cho, Director, Youth Department.
Mr. Eun-Bum Choe, Director, Humanitarian Law Institute.
Mr. Sa Ryong Hong, Assistant Director, International Relations Department.

KUWAIT

Government

Mr. Barges Hamoud El-Barges, Secretary-General,
Kuwait Red Crescent Society.

Red Crescent

Mr. Abdul Aziz Al-Sager, President.
Mr. Barges Hamoud El-Barges, Secretary-General.
Mr. Mohamed Fouad Tewfik, Director.

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Red Cross

D^r Oudom Souvannavong, Vice-Président.
D^r Son Mixap Bonnthank, Membre du Comité
Central.

LEBANON

Government

S.E. M. Joseph Naffah, Ambassadeur du Liban
au Japon.
M. Félix Assad, Consul du Liban à Manille.

Red Cross

M^{me} Alexandra Issa-El-Khoury, Présidente.
M^{me} Nimat Kronfol, Vice-Présidente.
M^{me} Marcelle Hochar, Membre du Comité Central
(Responsable de l'enseignement).
M^{me} Rose Kettaneh, Présidente de la Croix-Rouge
de la Jeunesse.
M^{me} Hamida Hibri, Membre du Comité Central
(Presse).
M^{me} Marilys Ezzedine, Membre du Comité Central
(Information).
M^{me} Nada Slim, Membre du Comité Central
(Information).

LESOTHO

Government

Judge P. Mofokeng, President of the Lesotho
Red Cross Society.

Red Cross

Judge P. Mofokeng, President.

LIBERIA

Government

Mrs. Linnie Kesselly, President of the Liberian
Red Cross Society.

Red Cross

Mrs. Linnie Kesselly, President.

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

Red Crescent

Mr. Sulleiman Elgomari, Vice-President.
Dr. Ahmed Abdallah El Sherif, Secretary-General.
Mr. Farag Elmugasbi, Secretary of General Affairs.
Mr. Ali Said Ali, Secretary of International Affairs.
Mr. Saleh M. Azzuz, Delegate.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Red Cross

S.A.S. la Princesse Gina de Liechtenstein, Présidente.
D^r Emil Heinz Batliner, Secrétaire.

LUXEMBOURG

Red Cross

M. J. W. de Waal, Premier Secrétaire de l'Ambassade
néerlandaise.

MADAGASCAR

Red Cross

M^{me} Aimée Rakotonirina, Membre du Comité
national.

MALAWI

Red Cross

Mr. Justin Daddie Liabunya, Chairman.

MALAYSIA

Government

Mr. B. Rajaram, Minister-Counsellor, Embassy of
Malaysia, Manila.
Mr. S. Nadarajah, Principal Assistant Secretary,
Ministry of Welfare Services.

Red Crescent

Tunku Tan Sri Mohamed, Vice-President of the
League, and Chairman of MRCS,
Head of Delegation.
Hon. Justice Tan Sri Dato Abdul Hamid Omar,
National Vice-Chairman.

Mr. V. T. Nathan, National Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Thomas T. Oommen, Chairman National Planning and Development Committee and Council Member.
Datin Ruby Lee, Secretary-General.
Dr. Chong Yew Chong, Chairman National Emergency Committee and Council Member.
Dr. J. K. Fozdar, Medical Officer Sarawak Branch and Council Member.
Mr. Leong Hun Khoo, Chairman, Penang Branch.
Mr. Chik Manan.
Mr. Aziz Badli, Secretary, Trengganu Branch.
Mr. S. M. Aidid, Vice-Chairman, Penang Branch.
Tunku Puan Sri Azizah, National Appeal Committee.
Puan Sri Azian Hamid, Chairman National R.C. Lottery.

MALI

Red Cross

Maître Assane Seye, Président actif.
M. Oumar Koné, Secrétaire général.

MAURITANIA

Red Crescent

M. Traore Lassana, Secrétaire général, Chef de la délégation.
M. Diallo Mamadou Amadou, Responsable national Secourisme et Jeunesse.

MEXICO

Government

Excmo. Sr. Joaquín Bernal, Embajador, Manila.

Red Cross

Sra. Rosa María Quijano de Méndez, Presidenta Comité Nacional de Sangre.
Lic. Jorge Soberón, Asesor Internacional del Presidente.
Sr. Vicente Ferrer-Segura, Director Nacional de Delegaciones.
Sr. José Carredano Pérez, Consejero Nacional.
Sra. Beatriz Madero de Quintinilla, Consejera Nacional y Presidente del Comité de Juventud.
Sra. Laura Casablanca de Peláez, Coordinadora voluntaria de Relaciones Públicas.
Sra. Margarita de Pablo, voluntaria.
Sra. Olvido Salazar, voluntaria.
Sra. Teresa Rojas de Calderón, Consejera.

MONACO

Government

D^r Etienne Boeri, Conseiller technique, délégué permanent aux Institutions sanitaires internationales

Red Cross

M. Denis-Louis Gastaud, Secrétaire général.
D^r Michel-Yves Mourou, Directeur national du Secourisme, membre du Conseil d'Administration.

MONGOLIA

Government

Dr. (Mrs.) Dorjyn Munhu, Chairman of the Red Cross Society.

Red Cross

Dr. (Mrs.) Dorjyn Munhu, Chairman.
Mr. J. Luvsan, Director of External Relations Department.

MOROCCO

Government

M. Abdelkhalek Ibnibrahim, Ministre plénipotentiaire aux Affaires étrangères.
M. Abdelkhaled Ben Brahim.

Red Crescent

M. M'hamed Bargach, Chef de la délégation.
M. Lahbib Derfoufi, Secrétaire général.
M. Mohamed Maazouzi, Membre du Comité central.
M. Mehdi Bannouna, Membre du Comité central.
M. Mohamed Nashnesh, Membre du Comité central.
M. Mustapha Mouhdi, Membre du Comité central.

NEPAL

Red Cross

H.R.H. Princess Princep Shah, Chairman.
Mr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. B. K. Maskey, Treasurer.
Mrs. Kamal Rana, Adviser, Central Committee.
Prof. G. R. Singh, Member.
Mr. T. R. Onta, Chief executive.
Mrs. Sunanda Nembang, Member.

NETHERLANDS

Government

H.E. Ambassador Christian T. F. Thurkow,
Dutch Embassy, Manila.
Mr. J. H. Burgers, Head of Division, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.
Mr. J. Demmink, Legal Adviser.
Mr. Jean Willem de Waal, First Secretary, Dutch
Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

H.R.H. Princess Margriet of the Netherlands,
Member, Executive Council.
Jonkheer G. Kraijenhoff, Chairman.
Dr. Frits Kalshoven, Legal Adviser,
Executive Council.
Mr. W. H. van Dijk, General Director.
Mr. D. van Kleef, Head General and Foreign
Affairs Dept.
Mr. Y. Kraijenhoff-Kessler, Volunteer.

NEW ZEALAND

Government

H.E. Mr. David G. Holborow, Ambassador of
New Zealand, Manila.
Mr. John G. Carter, Counsellor, New Zealand
Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

Mr. John A. Wilson, National President.
Dr. Judy Wilson, Adviser.
Mr. D. G. Whyte, Commissioner of International
Affairs.
Mrs. P. Whyte, Member.
Mr. J. W. Talbot, Secretary-General.
Mrs. F. Nation, National Executive Member.

NICARAGUA

Red Cross

Sr. Ismael Reyes Icabalceta, Presidente.
Sra. Olga Amanda Mejía de Reyes, Presidenta del
Comité Auxiliar de Damas.

NIGER

Red Cross

M. Ali Bondiaré, Trésorier général.

NIGERIA

Government

Mr. E. U. Akang, Delegate, Nigerian Embassy,
Manila.

Red Cross

Mrs. Yewand Oyediran, National Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Patrick Orimoloye, National Secretary.
Mr. D. A. Pam, Chairman, Plateau State Branch.
Dr. F. O. Nwator, Chairman, Rivers State Branch.
Prof. M. I. Jegede, Advisor.

NORWAY

Government

Mr. Bjarne E. Solheim, Deputy Director General,
Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Knut Moerkved, Head of Division, Royal
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Morten Ruud, Counsellor, Royal Ministry
of Justice.
Mr. John Grieg, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Norway
to the Philippines.

Red Cross

Mr. Hans Hoegh, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Bjørn Egge, President.
Mr. Odd Grann, Secretary-General.
Mr. Bjørn Marthinsen, Director of Public
Information.
Mrs. Anne-Sofie Trosdahl Oraug, Research
Consultant.

OMAN

Government

Dr. Martadha Jaffar Suleiman, Director of
Planning, Ministry of Health.

PAKISTAN

Red Crescent

Syed Wajid Ali Shah, Chairman.
Dr. Mir Rifat Mahmood, Secretary-General.

PANAMA

Red Cross

Dra. Ilka V. de Amaya, Segunda Vicepresidente.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Red Cross

Lt. Col. Herman Komeng, Chairman, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Ken Lifu, Deputy Chairman.
Mrs. Jeanne Jelke, Secretary-General.
Dr. Ikenna Nwokolo, Honorary Legal Adviser.
Mr. Ezekiel Amos, Secretary Treasurer, Kavieng Branch.

PARAGUAY

Red Cross

Dr. Hugo Berkemeyer, Miembro Comité Central.
Dr. Arnaldo Lefebre, Secretario general.
Sra. Beatriz de Morabito, Directora de Relaciones Públicas.

PERU

Red Cross

Sr. Augusto del Solar Gamarra, Presidente.
Sr. Maximiliano Ugarte Hurtado, Vice Presidente y Director de la Cruz Roja de la Juventud.
Sra. Rosario de Del Solar, Comité Damas.

PHILIPPINES

Government

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Pacífico A. Castro, Delegate.
Acting Director-General, Foreign Service Institute.
Secretary General, Office of the Prime Minister.
Hon. José I. Plana, Director-General, Office of Foreign Affairs.
Hon. Consuelo Arranz, Director-General, Office of Cultural Affairs and Information.
Hon. Rosalinda V. Tirona, Acting Assistant Minister, Office of United Nations and International Organizations.

Ministry of National Defence

BGen Hamilton B. Dimaya, Delegate.
The Judge Advocate General, AFP.
Col. Victor R. Pagulayan (Ret.), Administrator, Office of Civil Defence.
Atty. Ramón F. Nieva, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs.
Dr. Román L. Kintanar, Director-General, PAGASA.

Ministry of Public Information

Mrs. Orenca D. Balio, Assistant Chief, Public Relations Office, Office of Media Affairs.

Ministry of Education & Culture

Mr. Vedasto G. Suarez, Delegate, Assistant Secretary.
Mr. Jovencio T. Revil, Head Executive Assistant.
Hon. Felicitas G. Bernardino, Deputy Minister.
Mrs. Hortensia Benozza, Assistant Secretary.

Ministry of Justice

Hon. Jesus N. Borromeo, Delegate, Deputy Minister of Justice.

Atty. Josefino Directo, Senior State Counsel & Assistant Chief of the Special Service, Legal Staff.

Atty. Alfonso G. Abad, State Counsel.

Atty. Romeo R. Robiso, State Counsel.

Ministry of Social Service & Development

Miss Corazon Alma de Leon, Delegate, Regional Director, MSSD Region V.

Miss Rita Florence C. Roque, Regional Director, MSSD Region VIII.

Mrs. Rosita Luna Fondevilla, Assistant Secretary, Office of the Minister, MSSD.

Mrs. Milagros Llanes, Acting Assistant Director, Bureau of Assistant, MSSD.

Ministry of Health

Mrs. Juanita P. Hernando, Nursing Program Supervisor.

Mrs. Josefina L. Albao, Medical Social Worker Adviser.

Dr. José R. Ybanez, Regional Director, Regional Health Office No. 4.

Dr. Manuel Roxas, Regional Director, Regional Health Office No. 8.

Ministry of Human Settlements

Mr. José R. Lacson.

Red Cross

Representatives

Gen. Romeo C. Espino (Ret.), Chairman.
Gov. Pacífico E. Marcos, Vice-Chairman.
Gov. Dolores H. Sison, Assistant Secretary.
Gov. Gualberto B. Lumauig, Member, Board of Governors.
Gov. Lazaro M. Zulueta, Member, Board of Governors.

Experts

Gov. Adelina S. Rodriguez, Secretary.
Gov. Flora R. Jacinto, Treasurer.

Gov. Alfred X. Burgos, Ass. Treasurer.
 Gov. Enrique D. Tayag, Counsellor.
 Gov. Aguedo F. Agbayani, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Vicente Alberto, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Buenaventura U. V. Angtuaco, Member,
 Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Annie S. Bagatsing, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Elena L. Benjamín, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Eliodoro D. Congco, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Juan P. Dayang, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Gabriel A. Daza, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Pacífico M. López de León, Member,
 Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Concordio C. Diel, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Clemente S. Gatmaitán, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Jaime C. Laya, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Jesus S. Lazatín, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Pio Pedrosa, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Rosa Rosal, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Protacio R. Sotto, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Hernando P. Zenarosa, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Gov. Mariano Santiago, Member, Bd. of Gov.
 Mrs. Geronima T. Pecson, Former PNRC Chairman.
 Judge Antonio Quirino, Former PNRC Chairman.
 Dr. Vicente Gálvez, Secretary-General.
 Mayor Ramón D. Bagatsing, Chairman,
 Manila Chapter.
 Mrs. Felicidad Ty Pimentel, Chairman,
 Surigao del Sur Chapter.
 Col. José A. Estrella, Jr., Chairman,
 Caloocan City Chapter.
 Atty. Juan D. Hernández, Chairman,
 Baguio City Chapter.
 Mrs. Amelia J. Gordon, Chairman,
 Olongapo City Chapter.
 Gov. Justiniano Cortez, Chairman, Cagayán Chapter.
 Dr. Florentino P. Feliciano, President,
 Philippine Society of International Law.
 Dean Irene R. Cortez, Vice-President,
 Philippine Society of International Law.
 Justice R. Coquia, Executive Secretary,
 Philippine Society of International Law.
 Col. Claro C. Gloria (Ret.), Former Deputy Judge
 Advocate General.
 Justice Porfirio V. Sison, Former Member of the
 Bd. of Gov.
 Dr. Generoso C. Caridad, Asst. Sec.-Gen.
 for Operations.
 Atty. Liwayway P. de Jesús, Asst. Sec.-Gen. for
 Administration.
 Mrs. Gloria B. Senador, Director, Nursing Service
 and Director, Fund Raising (concurrent capacity).

Mr. Vicente P. Majarocón, Director, Disaster
 Preparedness & Relief Service.
 Dr. Manuel R. Luno, Director, National Blood
 Program.
 Dr. Alejandro Jauregui, Director, Safety Services.
 Mrs. Porthia L. Guevarra, Director, Social Services.
 Mrs. Amparo L. Oriol, Director, Red Cross Youth.
 Miss Esther Abad Santos, International Relations
 Officer.
 Mrs. Lourdes R. Loyola, Administrator, Davao del
 Sur Chapter.
 Mrs. Palmyra L. Hautea, Administrator,
 Iloilo Chapter.
 Miss Consuelo R. Barte, Administrator,
 Leyte Chapter.
 Miss Felisa B. Yambao, Administrator,
 Manila Chapter.
 Miss Delia V. Hollero, Administrator,
 Pangasinan-DC-San Carlos City Chapter.
 Mrs. Otilia S. Obsequio, Administrator,
 Sulu Chapter.

POLAND

Government

M. Tadeusz Grzybowski, Chargé d'Affaires,
 Ambassade polonaise à Manille.

Red Cross

Dr Ryszard Brozowski, Président.
 M^{lle} Alina Kusmierczyk, Chef du Département des
 Relations internationales.

PORTUGAL

Government

S.E. M. Inacio Rebelo de Andrade, Ambassadeur,
 Canberra, Australie.

Red Cross

Colonel Raul Duarte Cabarrao, Président national.
 Colonel António França Dória, Secrétaire général.

QATAR

Red Crescent

Mr. Hassan Rached Al-Souidi, Executive Director.
 Mr. Mohammad Radi, Head of Public Relations
 Committee.

ROMANIA

Government

S.E. M^{me} Olimpia Solomonescu, Ambassadeur,
Chef de la délégation.

M. Paul Ionescu, Chargé d'Affaires, a.d.,
Ambassade à Manille.

Red Cross

D^r (M^{me}) Lidia Oradeanu, Secrétaire générale.

M. Stelian Ciuta, Chef du Département des relations
internationales.

D^r Gheorghe Enache, Membre du Conseil National.

SAN MARINO

Red Cross

D^r Raimondo Fattori, Président.

SAOUDI ARABIA

Government

Dr. Abdul Aziz Mudarris, Minister.

Mr. Abdul Kadir Ramazani, Director of
Minister Office.

Red Crescent

Mr. Abdul Aziz Mudarris, President.

Mr. Abdul Kadir Mohammed Ramazani,
Director, Press & Publicity.

Mr. Bilal Ibrahim Mostafa, Delegate.

Mr. Ibrahim Mohammad Al-Daayan,
Director of Youth.

SENEGAL

Red Cross

M. Mohamed Abdoulaye Diop, Président.

D^r Sidy Guisse, 1^{er} Vice-Président.

El-Mamadou Dial, Secrétaire général.

El-Ibrahima Diop, Trésorier général.

M. Babacar Youm, Directeur national, Croix-Rouge
jeunesse.

SIERRA LEONE

Red Cross

Mr. Lloyd Ado Durning, National Chairman.

Mr. H. A. Jenkins, National Secretary.

Mr. E. A. Nylander, National Youth Representative.

SINGAPORE

Red Cross

Mr. Goh Kee Song, Chairman.

Dr. Yeo Khee Quan, First Vice-Chairman.

Datin Akiko Aw, 2nd Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Bernard Chong Tong Lau, Honorary Treasurer.

Mrs. Yen Yee Tan-Wong, Deputy Director,
Welfare Division.

Mr. Michael Po Chuan Cheok, Member.

Dr. David Roy Paul, Director

Voluntary Aid Division.

Mr. Chia Hong Kit, Council Member.

Mr. Michael M. Tan, Council Member.

Mrs. Beatrice Davies, Secretary-General.

SOMALIA

Red Crescent

Mr. Nuur Elmi Osman, 2nd Vice-President.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government

Mr. J. S. F. Botha, Ambassador.

Mr. R. F. Crowther, Member.

Mr. E. A. Venter, Member.

Red Cross

Mr. Kelsey Stuart, President.

Mr. Charles Bashew, Vice-President.

Dr. Ben Ngubane, Regional Councillor.

SPAIN

Government

Excmo. Sr. D. Pedro Ortiz Armengol, Embajador
ante el Gobierno de Filipinas.

D. Rodrigo Aguirre de Cárcer, Miembro.

D. Jorge Montealegre, 1^o Secretario Embajada.

Red Cross

Excmo. Sr. D. Enrique de la Mata, Presidente.

Excmo. Sr. D. Miguel Garcia Chaparro,
Vicepresidente.

Sr. D. Manuel Antón Ayllón, Secretario General.

S.A.R. Dña. Maria Sol Mesia y Lesseps, Princesa de
Baviera, Presidenta de Enfermas y Hospitales.

Sr. D. Manuel Fiol Calafat, Director de Asuntos
Internacionales.

Sr. D. Carlos Balea Arribas, Director de Socorros y
Emergencias.

Sr. Carlos Montolio, Vicepresidente.
Sra. Francisca Miranda Carrigues, Directora,
Departamento de Refugiados.
Sr. Manuel Perez de Diego, Colaborador,
Departamento Recaudación y Promoción
de Fondos.
Sr. José Álvaro Jimenez Andrade, Director Adjunto
Asuntos Internacionales.
Sra. Maria Antonia Jordana, Directora África.
Sr. C. Portillo, Presidente, Sección madrileña
de la Cruz Roja Española.

SRI LANKA

Red Cross

Mr. E. B. Abeyasakera, Chairman of the Council.
Mr. P. H. Manatunga, Honorary Secretary.

SUDAN

Red Crescent

Dr. Moyhi Eddin Mahdi, President.
Sayid Ahmed Ibrahim Idris, Director General.

SWAZILAND

Red Cross

Mr. Zacheus Mandla Nkosi, Chairman.
Mrs. Thandiwe Stella Dlamini, Secretary-General.

SWEDEN

Government

Mr. Björn Skala, Director, Head of Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Torgil Wulff, Commodore, Ministry of Defence.

Red Cross

Brigadier Börje Wallberg, Chairman.
Mrs. Gudrun Göransson, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Erik Janson, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Anders Wijkman, Secretary-General.
Mr. Matts Bergom Larsson, former Chairman.
Mrs. Anita Klum, Consultant.

SWITZERLAND

Government

M^{me} Francesca Pometta, Ambassadeur, Département
fédéral des affaires étrangères.

M. Arthur Bill, Délégué du Conseil fédéral pour
l'aide en cas de catastrophe, Département fédéral
des affaires étrangères.

D^r Willy Kauer, Vice-Directeur, Suppléant du
Médecin en chef de l'armée, Département
militaire fédéral.

M. Heinrich Reimann, Chef de section diplomatique,
Département fédéral des affaires étrangères.

Red Cross

Prof. Hans Haug, Président.
M. Jean-Paul Buensod, Vice-Président.
D^r Hans Schindler, Secrétaire général.
M. Anton Wenger, Chef du Service des secours.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Government

M^{lle} Mawia Sheikh, Fadli, Ministre Plénipotentiaire
au Ministère des Affaires étrangères.

Red Crescent

D^r Fouad Hamza, Président.
D^r Ziad Darwich, Vice-Président.
M. Ghazi Ayache, Secrétaire.
M^{lle} Mawia Sheikh Fadli, Membre,
Conseil administratif.

TANZANIA

Red Cross

Mr. Henry Limihagati, Chairman.
Miss M. L. Mackeja, Secretary-General.

THAILAND

Government

Mr. Somphand Kokilanon, Director,
Southeast Asia Division.
Mr. Vidhya Rayananonda, First Secretary, Embassy,
Manila.
Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul, Second Secretary, Embassy,
Manila.
Mr. Chakarin Chayabongse, Third Secretary,
Embassy, Manila.

Red Cross

Mr. Sunthorn Hongladarom, Council Member.
Dr. M. L. Kashetra Snidvongs, Honorary Secretary-
General.
Dr. Sariporn Vanikieti, Assistant Secretary-General.

Dr. Wongkulpat Snidvongs, Deputy Director,
Central Bureau.
Dr. Thornthanase Songgumpol, Medical Officer,
Relief Division.

TOGO

Red Cross

M^{me} Adjoa Mivedor, Présidente.
M. Akani Olympio, Secrétaire à l'Administration.

TONGA

Red Cross

Mrs. Judith Finau, Executive Officer.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Red Cross

Dr. S. Moosai-Maharaj, Chairman of the Society
and the Council.

TUNISIA

Red Crescent

D^r Ali Fourati, Président.
D^r Tahar Cheniti, Secrétaire général adjoint.

TURKEY

Government

Mr. Ömer E. Lütem, Director General, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.

Red Crescent

H.E. Dr. Kemal Demir, President.
Mr. Ihsan Ruhi Berent, Permanent Delegate to the
ICRC and the League.
Mr. Kunt, Assistant Permanent Delegate to the ICRC
and the League.
Dr. Bostancioglu, Member, Central Committee.
Mr. Unal Somuncu, Director General.
Mr. Arslan Basarir, Director, Foreign Relations.

UGANDA

Government

Dr. Rufino Omodi-Engoda, Deputy Director of
Medical Services.

Red Cross

Mr. Tom W. Buruku, Director.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Government

Mrs. Valentina Ferenz, Chairman of the Central
Committee of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.

U.S.S.R.

Government

Dr. Valeri A. Baltiyski, Chairman of the Executive
Committee of the Soviet Red Cross.
Mr. Victor Petrusevich, Delegate, Embassy, Manila.
Mr. Toulkoun S. Karimov, Delegate, Embassy,
Manila.

Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Dr. Valeri A. Baltiyski, Chairman of the Executive
Committee.
Mr. Boris N. Khoutornov, Chief National Societies
Section.
Mrs. Lily Tcherkasskaya, Chief International
Organizations Section.
Mr. Evgeni Parfenov, Senior Officer, International
Relations Department.
Mr. Sergei Silishchev, Senior Officer, International
Relations Department.
Mr. Alexey Drougov, Member of Executive
Committee.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATE

Government

Dr. Moh'd Said Mahfuth, Director, Department of
Hospital Administration, Ministry of Health.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN

Government

Lord N. Nicholas Gordon-Lennox,
Assistant Under Secretary of State.
Mr. Christopher W. Long, Counsellor,
Diplomatic Service.
Miss Jean Langridge, Secretary, Foreign Office.
Mr. Ronald Godfrey, Second Secretary,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
Mr. Timothy Dowse, Adviser, British Embassy,
Manila.

Red Cross

Mr. David Bendall, Chairman of the Council.
Sir Evelyn Schuckburgh, Vice-Chairman
of the Council.
Mr. D. J. Piggott, Director General.
Mr. A. Brian Hodgson, Counsellor.
Mr. Brian Elliott, Special Projects Officer.
Miss Eirlys M. Rees, Nursing Adviser.
Miss Susan Balfour, Overseas Development Officer.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Government

Mr. James B. Hoderman, President University of
South Carolina.
Mr. Stephen Palmer, Acting Assistant Secretary for
Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs,
Department of State.
Mr. William Carter, USAID, U.S. Embassy, Manila.
Mr. Joseph A. Roach, Commander, USN, Office
of the Judge Advocate General,
Department of the Navy.
Mr. Frank Sieverts, Bureau for Refugee Programs,
Department of State.
Mr. James Rosenthal, Chargé d'Affaires.

Red Cross

Dr. Jerome H. Holland, Chairman.
Mr. George M. Elsey, President.
Dr. John Henry Felix, Member, Board of Governors.
Mr. Joseph P. Carniglia, Director,
International Services.

UPPER VOLTA

Red Cross

M. Georges Tassebedo, 1^{er} Vice-Président.
M. Bernard Yugbare, Secrétaire Général.

URUGUAY

Government

Cnel. Dr. Carlos Alberto Maynard Zolesio, Delegado.

Red Cross

Dr. Domingo Jorge Prat Piffaretti, Presidente.

VENEZUELA

Red Cross

Dr. Miguel A. Villaroel, Presidente.
Dr. José María Guillén, Segundo Vicepresidente.
Dr. Pedro J. Manrique Lander, Secretario General.
Dr. Eulogio Moros Ghersi, Delegado.
Dr. Mario Villaroel Lander, Delegado.

Dr. Pedro Ali Zoppi, Delegado.

VIETNAM (Socialist Republic of)

Government

S.E. M. Hoang Hoan Nghinh, Ambassadeur, Chef de
la délégation.
M. Ngo Hoang, Premier Secrétaire, Membre de la
délégation.
M. Le Van Doan, Attaché, Membre de la délégation.

Red Cross

D^r Nguyen-van-Thu, Président.
M. Truong-Xuan-Nam, Secrétaire général adjoint.
M. Le-Duy-Van, Membre du Comité national.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Government

Dr. Ahmed Ali Alkhadher, Under-Secretary,
Ministry of Health, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Ghaleb S. Al-Adoofi, Minister plenipotentiary,
Legal Department Director, Foreign Ministry.
Mr. Sharaf H. Alsharafi, Second Secretary,
Foreign Ministry.

YUGOSLAVIA

Government

Dr. Bozidar Raspopovic, Member of the Presidency
of the Yugoslav Red Cross, Head of Delegation.
Mr. Jure Gasparic, Chargé d'affaires, Yugoslav
Embassy in Manila.

Red Cross

Mrs. Stefa Spiljak, Member of the Presidency,
Head of Delegation.
Dr. Maksimilijan Klansek, President of the Assembly.
Dr. Bozidar Raspopovic, Member of the Presidency,
Vice-President of the League.
Dr. Bosko Jakovljevic, Senior Adviser.
Mrs. Vidanka Misic, Chief of International
Relations Department.

ZAIRE

Red Cross

M. Bompese Bokolombe Bangangalaka, Président.
M. Nsadi Kawadio, Membre du Bureau du Comité
Central.

ZAMBIA

Red Cross

Dr. Mashekwa M. Nalumango, President.
Mrs. Faith B. Mwila, Secretary General.
Mr. Harrington Elias Jere, Youth Adviser.

International Committee of the Red Cross

- Mr. Alexandre Hay, President.
Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President.
Mr. Marcel A. Naville, Member.
Dr. Athos Gallino, Member.
Mr. Maurice Aubert, Member.
Mr. Rudolf Jäckli, Member.
Miss Andrée Weitzel, Member.
Mr. Jean-Pierre Hocké, Director, Operations Department.
Mr. Jacques Moreillon, Director, Department of Principles and Law.
Mr. Nicolas Vecsey, Deputy Director, Central Tracing Agency.
Mr. Alain Modoux, Head, Press and Information Division.
Dr. Rémy Russbach, ICRC Chief Medical Officer.
Mr. Michel Martin, Head of National Societies and Principles Division, Department of Principles and Law.
Mr. Robert Gaillard-Moret, Head of Documentation and Dissemination Division, Department of Principles and Law.
Mr. Hans-Peter Gasser, Head of Legal Division, Department of Principles and Law.
Mr. Jean de Courten, Delegate General for Asia and Oceania, Operations Department.
Mr. Serge Nessi, Head of Financing Division, Finance and Administration Department.
Mr. Francis Amar, Head of Division, Central Tracing Agency.
Mr. Etienne Paridant, Head of Financial Management Division, Finance and Administration Department.
Mr. Jean-Louis Cayla, Assistant to the Director, Department of Principles and Law.
Mr. Dominique Borel, Lawyer, National Societies and Principles Division.
Mrs. Marion Harroff-Tavel, Lawyer, National Societies and Principles Division.
Miss Floriane Truninger, Lawyer, National Societies and Principles Division.
Mr. Christophe Swinarski, Lawyer, Legal Division.
Miss Françoise Perret, Lawyer, Documentation and Dissemination Division.
Mr. Jean-François Olivier, Regional Delegate.
Mr. Paul-Félix Michel, Delegate.
Miss Christine Ahl, Press and Information Division.
Mr. Roland Hammer, Press and Information Division.

League of Red Cross Societies

- Mr. Enrique de la Mata, President.
Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, Vice-President.
Dr. F. Buyoya, Vice-President.
Dr. A. Fourati, Vice-President.
Professor Hans Haug, Vice-President.
Dr. J. H. Holland, Vice-President.
Jonkheer G. Kraijenhoff, Vice-President.
Shri Nihar R. Laskar, Vice-President.
Dr. G. Rueda Montaña, Vice-President.
Mrs. E. Spiljak, Vice-President.
The Hon. Justice J. A. Adefarasin, Outgoing President.
Dr. V. Baltiyski, Outgoing Vice-President.
Mr. R. J. Kane, Outgoing Vice-President.
Tunku Tan Sri Mohamed, Outgoing Vice-President.
Dr. B. Raspopovic, Outgoing Vice-President.
Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General.
Mr. Bengt Bergman, Under-Secretary-General.
Dr. Andrei Kisselev, Under-Secretary-General.
Mr. Alfred Schmid, Acting Under-Secretary-General.
Mr. Jürg Vittani, Acting Under-Secretary-General.
Mr. Olof Stroh, Responsible for Operations.
Mr. Grant Akopov, Adviser.
Mr. Abdul Ghani Ashi, Adviser.
Mr. Enso Bighinatti, Adviser.
Dr. Zarco Hantchef, Adviser.
Prof. J. Patrnoxic, Legal Adviser.
Mr. Jean-Pierre Robert-Tissot, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General.
Mrs. J. W. Sheppard, Assistant Representative to the United Nations.
Mr. Jean Cassaigneau, Director, Regional Services Bureau.
Mr. William Cassis, Director, Personnel and Administrative Services Bureau.
Mr. Tadateru Konoe, Director, Relief Preparedness Bureau.
Mr. Anthony J. Murdoch, Director, Information Bureau.
Mr. Mohamed Othman-Chande, Director, Youth Bureau.
Mr. Paul Tischhauser, Director, Finance Bureau.

Mr. R. Alcantara, Member of the Standing Commission.

Experts:

Miss Christiane Camoletti.
Mrs. Yolande Camporini.
Mr. Martin Ekue.

Miss Monique Esnard.
Mr. Nils Gussing.
Mr. Youcef Kiamouche.
Dr. Hugo Prado.
Mr. Cyril Ritchie.
Dr. Kingsley Seevaratnam.
Miss Clarissa Starey.
Mr. Jean-David Urfer.

Observers

**A. NATIONAL RED CROSS OR
RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES
IN PROCESS OF FORMATION
IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:**

Angola

M. Domingo Alfonso Neto, Vice-Président.
M. E. Capela Narutu Singa.
M. Francesco Alberto Antonio, Chef du Département de l'extérieur.

Chad

M. Mahamat M. Saleh El Habbo, Président.

Djibouti

M. Abdi Khaireh Bouh, Directeur général.
M. Absieh Omar Warsama, Membre.

Guinea-Bissau

M. Augusto Antonio Dos Reis Pereira, Secrétaire Général.

Yemen (Arab Republic of)

Dr. Abdella Hamud Al Khamisi, Secretary-General.

Zimbabwe

Mr. E. Matara, Chairman.
Mr. T. Mupanduki, Secretary-General.

B. OTHER OBSERVERS

Henry-Dunant Institut

M. Jacques Meurant, Directeur.

Amnesty International

Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, Secretary-General.
Mr. Clayton Yeo, Deputy Head of Research Department.

Caritas Internationalis

Sister Iuminada Torres, Emergency Aid Desk Coordinator, c/o National Secretariat of Social Action, Manila.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Mr. Francis X. Carlin, Director, Manila.

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Dr. Hans Meliczek, Representative.

Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM)

Mr. Richard Kocher, Representative for the Philippines.

Dr. Carmencita Yap, Medical Officer.

International Council of Nurses (ICN)

Dr. Fe M. Valdez, Member ICN Board of Directors.

International Institute of Humanitarian Law

Prof. Dr. Enrique P. Syquia, Vice-Président, Manille.

Dr. Ugo Genesisio, Secrétaire général.

International Union for Child Welfare

Mrs. Amelia D. Felizmeña, Director, Bureau of Youth Welfare, Ministry of Social Services & Development, Manila.

Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Mr. Esa Uitto, Director, LWF/WS, Bangladesh.

Magen David Adom

Prof. Arie Harell, President.

Mr. Mordechai Degani, Chairman, Executive Committee.

Mr. Dov Frankel, Chairman, Foreign Relations Committee.

Palestinian Red Crescent

Dr. Fathi Arafat, President.

Mrs. Wijdan Siam, Member of Executive Council.

Mrs. Naheda Tagi.

Mr. Youxel Yaacoubian, Legal Consultant.
Mr. Abderrahman Bseiso.

Pugwash
Mrs. Loretta Makasiar Sicat, Member.

Sovereign Military Order of Malta
Mr. Pedro Picornell, Knight of Magistral Grace.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Mr. Stephen H. Umemoto.

United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Ross H. Milley, Resident Representative
a.i., Manila.
Miss J. Langenkamp, Programme Officer.

United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO)
Mr. Klaus Wiersing, Coordination Officer.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
M. Pierre de Senarclens, Directeur, Division
des droits de l'Homme.

United Nations High Commissioner for
Refugees (UNHCR)
Mr. Jacques Cuenod, Deputy Director, Assistance.
Mr. Jovica Partnagic, Deputy Director,
International Protection.
Mr. Manfred Paeffgen, Representative in
the Philippines.

United Nations Organization
Mr. E. Smith, Resident Representative
in Manila.

World Council of Churches
Bishop La Verne D. Mercado,
General-Secretary, National Council
of Churches in the Philippines.

World Food Programme (WFP)
Mr. Abdalla Hersi, World Food Programme
Deputy Representative, Manila.
Mr. Pedro E. Alojado, Jr., Programme
Assistant.

World Health Organization (WHO)
Dr. Yong Sung Kim, WHO Programme
Coordinator in the Philippines.
Mr. Jakko Tuomilehd, Regional Officer.
Mr. Remigio D. Mercado, Director Planning
Health Services Development.

World Jewish Congress
Dr. Joachim Schneeweiss, President, Executive
Council of Australian Jewry & Member, Board
of Directors, WJC.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Mr. Peter Rogers, Special Projects Officer.

World Scout Bureau
Mr. Jaime P. Neric, Relationships Executive,
Asia-Pacific Region.

World Young Women's Christian Association
Mrs. Mabini S. A. Gonzales, Member.

Members of the Conference with Official Functions

Chairman:

General Romeo C. Espino, Chairman of the
Philippine National Red Cross.

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 and Red Crescent
Societies.

Secretary-General:

Dr. Vicente Gálvez, Secretary-General of the
Philippine National Red Cross.

Assistant Secretaries-General:

Mr. William Cassis, Director of the LRCS
Administration and Personnel Bureau.
Mr. Jean-Louis Cayla, Assistant to the Director,
Department of Principles and Law (ICRC).

Conference Bureau

General Romeo C. Espino, Chairman of the
Twenty-fourth International Conference
of the Red Cross.

Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Chairman of the Standing
Commission of the International
Red Cross.

Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
Mr. Enrique de la Mata Gorostizaga, Chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies.
Mr. D. G. Whyte, Chairman of the Commission on Protection and Assistance.

Mr. Mohamed Abdoulaye Diop, Chairman of the General and Organizational Commission.
Mr. Vladimir Semukha, Chairman of the Community Services and Development Commission.
Mr. Vicente Gálvez, Secretary-General of the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross.

Drafting Committee

Chairman:

Mr. Noel Buckley (Australian Red Cross).

Members:

Mrs. Aracelis Mastrapa Melero (Cuban Red Cross).
Mr. Jean-Paul Buensod (Swiss Red Cross).
Dr. Wongkulpat Snidvongs (Thai Red Cross).

Council of Delegates Bureau

Chairman:

Mr. Alexandre Hay (ICRC).

Vice-Chairman:

Dr. Guillermo Rueda Montaña (Colombia).

Secretaries:

Mr. William Cassis (LRCS).
Mr. Jean-Louis Cayla (ICRC).

Commission Bureaus

A. COMMISSION ON PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman:

Mr. D. G. Whyte (Red Cross of New Zealand).

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Kauko Sipponen (Red Cross of Finland).

Rapporteur:

Mr. V. T. Nathan (Red Crescent of Malaysia).

Secretaries:

Mr. Francis Amar (ICRC).
Mr. Mohamed Othman-Chande (LRCS).

Drafting Committee:

Mr. V. Matross-McIntosh (Jamaica Red Cross Society)
Mr. Aguirre de Casa (Spanish Government).
Mr. A. Drougov (Government of the Soviet Union).
Dr. Hans Knitel (Austrian Government).
Mrs. Mawia Sheikh Fadli (Government of the Syrian Arab Republic).
Mr. J. L. Florent (French Government).
Mr. Frank Sieverts (Government of the United States of America).
Mr. H. A. Jenkins (Sierra Leone Red Cross Society).

B. GENERAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL COMMISSION

Chairman:

Mr. Mohamed Abdoulaye Diop (Red Cross of Senegal).

Vice-Chairman:

Dr. (Mrs.) Lidia Oradeanu (Red Cross of Romania).

Rapporteur:

Dr. Ziad Darwich (Red Crescent of Syria).

Secretaries:

Mr. Dominique Borel (ICRC).
Mr. Jean Cassaigneau (LRCS).

C. COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Chairman:

Mr. Vladimir Semukha (Byelorussia, Government).

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Yehia Hassan Darwish (Red Crescent of Egypt).

Rapporteur:

Dr. Mohamed Nashnesh (Red Crescent of Morocco).

Secretaries:

Miss Monique Esnard (LRCS).
Miss Christine Ahl (ICRC).

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

First Meeting

Friday, 6 November 1981

SUMMARY: Opening of the meeting by General Romeo C. Espino. — Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretaries of the Council of Delegates. — Proposals for the election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-General, Assistant Secretaries-General, Drafting Committee of the Conference, Chairmen and Rapporteurs of the Commissions and approval of the provisional Conference Agenda drawn up by the Standing Commission. — Election of the Drafting Committee of the Council of Delegates and proposals for the election of the Drafting Committee of the International Conference. — The Red Cross as a factor of Peace. — Report of the Working Group on the Emblem.

The meeting was opened by General Romeo C. Espino, Chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross, at 9.30 a.m.

OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS

General Romeo C. ESPINO (Chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross): — As chairman of the host society, the Philippine National Red Cross, it is my privilege to welcome you again today, as the Council of Delegates starts its meeting.

We hope that your stay in the Philippines has been enjoyable so far, as much as we enjoyed preparing for your visit.

The four colours of our name-plates indicate four languages: red for English, green for Arabic, yellow for Spanish, and blue for French. But this could be deceptive because more than four languages are involved in our conferences. Our delegates are composed of a diverse aggregation of peoples of different origins, different cultures, and different beliefs, but on one subject we all agree and that is the subject of international peace for the whole world. On the subject of peace I am sure that everybody is united. Happily this subject is one of the items on the agenda of these meetings.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARIES OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

General Romeo C. ESPINO (Chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross): — In accordance with long established tradition I now propose that Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the ICRC, be elected chairman of this conference. (*Applause.*)

This applause indicates approval of the proposal, so may I now ask Mr. Hay to take the chair. Thank you.

Mr. Alexandre HAY (Chairman): — Mr. Chairman, I would like first to thank you very much for the kind words you just addressed to me and take this occasion to thank you in the name of the ICRC and of course of all participants here for the great hospitality you are so kind to extend to us here in this really marvellous conference centre, which is ideal and will certainly favour our discussions here.

(Original French): — I should like to open this meeting of the Council of Delegates by warmly welcoming you here. This meeting directly precedes the International Red Cross Conference which will start tomorrow.

Before starting to discuss the various items on the agenda, and since you have already been meeting for several days for the League General Assembly, I first wish to express, on behalf of the ICRC, and its collaborators, and also on my own behalf, cordial congratulations and best wishes to all those who have just been elected to important posts. I particularly welcome President de la Mata, to whom I extend my very best wishes and hope that the collaboration between us will be as fruitful and as full of confidence as it was with his predecessor. I am convinced that with mutual understanding we shall be able to collaborate most harmoniously and successfully. I should also like to congratulate the new Secretary-General of the League, Mr. Høegh, and extend my best wishes to him for a long and fruitful career in his new office. We shall of course be in the regular contact with him as well, and I look forward with pleasure to his daily collaboration with myself, my colleagues and all members of the ICRC. I naturally also express my congratulations to all those who have been elected as Vice-Chairmen or members of the Executive Council of the League.

As I extend my congratulations to all those of you who will occupy responsible posts in the League, I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who are about to leave their posts, and to President Adefarasin, first of all, who, in the last four years, has carried out his task extremely conscientiously and with supreme distinction and competence. The ICRC has great admiration for his high ideals and his sense of friendship. We wish to express our utmost gratitude to President Adefarasin for everything that he has done for the Red Cross movement and for the League.

I would also like, in my name and on behalf of all my colleagues, to endorse the tribute paid to Mr. Henrik Beer. You have conferred upon him the title of Secretary-General Emeritus. I would have preferred him to be nominated Perpetual Secretary-General, as in the French Academy, but I think this is not possible.

Mr. Beer, it has been said quite rightly that you have represented the very idea of the Red Cross for many years and I think this is particularly true. I can hardly imagine no longer talking to you on the telephone once or twice a week to discuss the innumerable matters which have been of concern to us in recent years and we shall be very sorry not to see you as often. But since you will be remaining Genevese we shall no doubt be meeting again. We shall have the opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Beer in Geneva, at forthcoming meetings of the ICRC.

I would also like to express our great appreciation to two other eminent personalities who are leaving important posts in the Red Cross world: Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh and Prof. Ludwig, who do not wish to stand for re-election to the Standing Commission. They have also made a remarkable contribution to the prestige and action of the Red Cross movement, and we shall remember them as two outstanding people whose work has enhanced the image and influence of the Red Cross. On behalf of the ICRC I wish to thank them most sincerely for their work.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you will no doubt agree with me that as long as our movement can count on people such as those who have just been elected to high posts and those who are just retiring, we can look with confidence to the future of our movement.

We now come to the agenda, and I would like to say that in drawing up the programme and provisional agenda the Standing Commission has not forgotten the wish which was expressed to the Council of Delegates in 1979 by the Australian and Soviet delegations, and was approved unanimously by the Council, namely that more time be allowed for the Council of Delegates, particularly when it meets in the interval between two international conferences. The next Council of Delegates should see this wish fulfilled. But for today we shall have the traditional meeting of one day only.

Our first task is to set up the Bureau. With your permission we shall therefore elect the Vice-Chairman and Secretaries of the Council of Delegates. As Vice-Chairman I would like to propose, with the agreement of the Standing Commission, Dr. Guillermo Rueda Montaña, President of the Colombian Red Cross. *(Applause.)*

I thank you for your approval and I shall ask Dr. Rueda Montaña to come up to the rostrum.

As Secretaries to the Council I wish to propose Mr. William Cassis of the League and Mr. Jean-Louis Cayla of the ICRC, who have collaborated with the Philippine Red Cross in the preparation of this conference. *(Applause.)*

I consider that you have ratified these proposals and I ask Mr. Cassis and Mr. Cayla to join us on the rostrum.

Having thus elected the Bureau, we can now proceed with the actual work of the Council. I remind you that according to Article 4 of the Statutes of the International Red Cross, the functions of the Council of Delegates shall be 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 to be submitted to the Conference; to determine the order in which questions and proposals submitted to the Conference are to be brought up for discussion; and, where necessary, to take decisions in respect of such questions and proposals as may be referred to it by the Conference or by the Standing Commission.

As you know, the Council of Delegates is composed of duly recognized National Societies, the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross, each of these institutions having one vote.

I am happy to welcome to the Council three new Societies, which since the Bucharest Conference have been recognized by the ICRC and admitted to the League. They are the National Societies of Swaziland, Qatar and Tonga; the latter two were incidentally admitted to the League at its General Assembly here in Manila. I warmly welcome these three Societies and I would like you to show by your applause how pleased we are to have them among our members. (*Applause.*)

PROPOSALS FOR THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMEN, SECRETARY-GENERAL, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES-GENERAL, DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE, CHAIRMEN AND RAPORTEURS OF THE COMMISSIONS AND APPROVAL OF THE PROVISIONAL CONFERENCE AGENDA DRAWN UP BY THE STANDING COMMISSION

The second item on our agenda is to formulate the proposals, for submission to the Conference, for the election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Secretaries of the Conference. I would like to ask Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Chairman of the Standing Commission, to join us here and make the proposals upon which the Standing Commission has agreed.

Sir Evelyn SHUCKBURGH (United Kingdom): — Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. The following are the proposals which I have the honour to submit to you on behalf of the Standing Commission.

In the first place we have great pleasure in asking you to appoint General Romeo C. Espino, President of the Philippine National Red Cross, as Chairman of the Conference. (*Applause.*)

Thank you for your ratification of that proposal which will be submitted to the Conference.

As at previous conferences the Standing Commission suggests that you should appoint as Vice-Chairmen the leaders of all the delegations of National Societies represented here, together with the Chairman of the Standing Commission and the Presidents of the ICRC and the League—would you agree to that? (*Applause.*)

I have pleasure in suggesting also that you should appoint Dr. Vicente Gálvez, Secretary-General of the Philippine National Red Cross Society, as Secretary-General of the Conference.

And the Standing Commission suggests that Mr. Cassis and Mr. Cayla assist him in that task. (*Applause.*)

Thank you very much for your approval of these proposals.

The Standing Commission recommends that the work of the Conference be divided among three Commissions and that there be appointed a Drafting Committee—to draft resolutions and so on.

I am now going to read to you the proposals which we make for the Presidents and the Rapporteurs of those three Commissions.

For Commission No. I, Protection and Assistance, we propose Mr. D. G. Whyte, Commissioner of International Affairs of the New Zealand Red Cross Society, as Chairman, and Mr. V. T. Nathan, National Vice-Chairman of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society, as Rapporteur.

For Commission II, General and Organizational Commission, Chairman Mr. Mohamed Diop, President of the Senegalese Red Cross Society, with Dr. Ziad Darwich, Vice-President of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, as Rapporteur.

Commission III, Community Services and Development, Chairman Mr. Vladimir Semukha, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Byelorussian Society, a member society of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the Soviet Union, with Mr. Nashnesh of Morocco, as Rapporteur.

So, for Commission I, Mr. Whyte and Mr. Nathan, for Commission II, Mr. Diop and Dr. Ziad Darwich, for Commission III, Mr. Semukha and Mr. Nashnesh. May I have your approval? (*Applause.*)

Thank you Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. Those proposals will be submitted to the Conference.

Finally, for the Drafting Commission, the Standing Commission suggests that it be composed of the following people who have been selected, naturally, for their knowledge of the various languages involved: Mr. Buckley, President of the Australian Red Cross Society, Mrs. Mastrapa Melero, of the Cuban Red Cross Society, Mr. Buensod, of the Swiss Red Cross, and Dr. Wongkulpat Snidvongs of the Thai Red Cross, together with one representative of the ICRC and one representative of the League; a committee of six. Does that have your approval, please? (*Applause.*)

That will all be communicated to the Conference, Mr. President.

Mr. Alexandre HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank the Chairman and members of the Standing Commission for these proposals. This preparatory work should greatly facilitate the start of the Conference and the setting up of the Commissions which, if they agree with these proposals, will have to appoint only their Vice-Chairmen and Drafting Committees.

As at previous Conferences, the Standing Commission suggested that the press be admitted whenever materially possible to all plenary sessions and to the sessions of the Commissions, the latter being entirely free, however, to hold private sessions if they so wish.

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

Under the same item 2 of our agenda, we now have to approve the draft agenda of the Conference drawn up by the Standing Commission. I would like to remind you that a preliminary draft agenda was sent to National Societies last year in order to give Societies wishing to send in their observations the necessary time to do so.

The agenda you now have in front of you takes due account of the observations and proposals sent by National Societies to the Standing Commission.

I would like to make a proposal about the agenda. After item 6, concerning Red Cross action against torture, I would like to take up item 10 concerning the contribution by National Societies to the financing of the ICRC. So item 10 would become item 7, if you agree.

I have no other proposals. But I would also like to inform you that we shall be presenting the Henry Dunant Medals at the beginning of our meeting this afternoon. I hope we shall be able to finish our meeting this morning by 1 p.m. so that we can start at 3 o'clock this afternoon with the presentation of the Henry Dunant Medals. We must start on time, since television will be present for the ceremony. So with your agreement we shall begin at 3 p.m. with item 9.1.

If you have no further suggestions about the agenda, I take it as adopted.

ELECTION OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

With regard to the Council of Delegates, as in the past, I would like to suggest asking the Bureau of the Council to act as Drafting Committee.

Thank you for having followed my proposals so far, and I now suggest we take up item 4 and start on our substantive discussions. I give the floor to Mr. Huber, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and Chairman of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace.

THE RED CROSS AS A FACTOR OF PEACE. — REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON RED CROSS AND PEACE (Decision 2, 1977, and Council of Delegates, 1979)

Mr. Harald HUBER (ICRC) (*Original French*): — It is my privilege as Chairman of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to give you a brief account of its work. I remind you that the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, which has fifteen members, namely twelve National Societies, the ICRC, the League, and the Henry Dunant Institute, was formed by Decision 2 of the Council of Delegates, which met in Bucharest in 1977.

The main task of this Commission is to see to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a factor of peace, which was drawn up at the World Red Cross Conference on Peace in Belgrade in 1975 and approved by the Council of Delegates in Bucharest in 1977. The Commission studies the activities of the Red Cross in terms of their contribution to peace and proposes measures for the achievement of the programme objectives.

After one year of activity the Commission submitted its report to the Council of Delegates in October 1979, which adopted it by consensus. The Council, feeling that the Commission had not yet fully discharged its terms of reference, asked it to continue its work.

The report you have before you, reference CD/4.1/1, gives you a full review of the work which has been accomplished since 1979. It is in three parts:

- The first part is a summary of the Commission's work.
- The second part consists mainly of the Commission's studies with regard to the protection of health, international understanding among young people, assistance and solidarity.
- The third part briefly shows the consensus reached by the members of the Commission with regard to its immediate future.

These three parts may appear disproportionate, but in determining the guidelines of its report the Commission felt that the report should not only reflect its discussions, but should essentially put over the fundamental ideas which represent the main contribution of the Commission.

Besides this report on its activities hitherto, the Commission has also given thought to its future. It realized that it has not yet accomplished all the tasks assigned to it and that other aspects of the Programme of Action merit particular attention and could be examined in greater detail.

Aware that it is up to the Council of Delegates alone to decide whether its work should be continued, the Commission asked to be maintained with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition until it has completed its tasks. The next Council of Delegates, the date of which could be set as a time limit, could then evaluate the work accomplished and take decisions concerning the continuance or termination of the Commission, its duration, terms of reference and composition.

For the time being, however, I would just like, on behalf of the members of the Commission, to ask the Council whether the Commission should continue its work or not.

But before we start our discussion I should like to raise the question of a possible second conference on the Red Cross and peace. The Commission, which has discussed this at length, felt that if such a conference is convened, it should be held within the framework of the statutory meetings of the International Red Cross and particularly of the Council of Delegates, which would then devote one or several days to consideration of a specific subject relating to the Red Cross and peace. A subject has already been proposed for consideration, namely the Junior Red Cross contribution to peace. A number of practical proposals have been submitted in this connection and are well worth following up.

We felt that the Council of Delegates could delegate the preparation of such a day of discussion to the Commission, but it is up to you alone to so decide.

I am happy to be able to announce to the Council of Delegates that after a debate during which everybody showed a true Red Cross spirit, which I particularly wish to stress, the Commission approved by consensus a draft resolution which it is my privilege to submit to you here.

The text which has just been handed over to you is the following:

The Council of Delegates,
having adopted the Report of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace,
bearing in mind that the Commission's terms of reference, assigned to it by the Council of Delegates in 1977 and confirmed by the Council of Delegates in 1979, was to "follow the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a factor of Peace, by studying the activities of the Red Cross in terms of their contribution to Peace and by proposing to the appropriate bodies of the League, of the National Societies and to the ICRC measures for the realisation of the objectives and tasks deriving from that Programme",
mindful of the fact that these terms of reference have not been fully discharged,
asks the Commission to continue its work with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition, and to report to the Council of Delegates in 1983,
decides that the Council of Delegates in 1983 will devote a full day to consideration of the item "the Youth Red Cross contribution to Peace", and entrusts the preparation for that day to the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, stressing that such preparation must attribute importance to concrete projects,
asks the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to study all questions relating to its existence, terms of reference, composition, duration and proceedings, and to submit to the Council of Delegates in 1983, proposals relative to these points after consensus within the Commission.

This draft, as you have observed, has three main points:

- the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace will continue its work until 1983 with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition;
- a meeting of the Council of Delegates will be held to consider a specific subject, the preparation for this meeting being entrusted to the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace;
- the Commission has been requested by the Council of Delegates to study, in the next two years, all questions relating to its existence, terms of reference, composition, duration and proceedings, and to submit to the Council of Delegates in 1983 proposals relative to these points after consensus within the Commission.

Your support for this draft resolution will, I am sure, play a major part in confirming the value of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace and promoting its work, and will above all help to increase still further the contribution our movement is making to this noble ideal.

In conclusion I would like to say what a pleasure it has been for me to preside for almost four years over the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace. The friendship which has formed between us during that time has enabled us first to compare our ideas and then to converge in our opinions. Our debates have always been constructive, thanks to the good sense of all members, and all our decisions have been reached by consensus.

I therefore wish to express my sincere gratitude to each and every member for the spirit of peace which has prevailed. I also wish to thank the Council of Delegates for its attention.

Mr. A. HAY (*Original French*): — Thank you, Mr. Huber, for your interesting report and I now open the discussion on it.

Mrs. Stefa SPILJAK (Yugoslavia): — The Yugoslav delegation would like to make a statement on this important item of the agenda.

As you remember, the first World Red Cross Conference on Peace was held in Belgrade in 1975 and was attended by 81 National Societies, the ICRC, the League and the Henry Dunant Institute. It adopted the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace. At the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference in 1977, in Bucharest, a report was presented on the experience of National Societies in the implementation of this Programme, showing the activities developed on this theme.

The Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, established on the basis of the decision of the Council of Delegates in 1977, examined the problems concerning implementation of the Programme of Action. The Red Cross of Yugoslavia made its contribution to the work of this Commission. We would like to pay tribute to Mr. Harald Huber, Chairman of the Commission, for his excellent chairmanship, in dealing with very complex and delicate questions on the agenda.

The implementation of the Programme of Action is a permanent task, because efforts to strengthen the role of the Red Cross as a factor of peace are a moral obligation of the movement, in the spirit of its humanitarian purposes and principles.

The resolution submitted to you by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace is the result of a compromise. We have agreed with the resolution to help achieve unanimity on the question of peace, in conformity with the principle of developing broad international co-operation of all National Societies. However, as we pointed out in the Commission yesterday, we consider that, in addition to the tasks stated in the resolution, it is necessary to examine preparations for a second World Red Cross Conference on Peace, to be held within the Council of Delegates.

This second conference should, in our view, examine further tasks in application of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace, and education for peace in general.

Many National Societies share the view that the second World Red Cross Conference on Peace should be convened in the near future. Therefore the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace should include this question in its deliberations.

THE ALLIANCE OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES OF THE USSR: — The unrestrained arms race, and especially the nuclear arms race, is now outstripping the efforts to counter it and is becoming an immoderate danger for humanity. It constitutes a growing threat for the environment as well.

Tremendous financial and other resources are being wasted on the development and production of armaments. This unfortunately reduces the ability to meet the vital needs of mankind.

The Soviet Red Cross sees a growing danger for all people of the world in the rapidly increasing military expenditure, the disruption of ratification of the SALT III Treaty, the deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles in some European countries and, finally, in the decision to begin full-scale production of the neutron bomb, the most barbarous among the mass-destruction weapons ever made. People everywhere look with anguish and alarm at the continuing conflicts in different regions of the world which may at any time trigger off a nuclear holocaust, and which devour enormous resources capable of being used for the benefit of those who are in need of health care and social assistance, especially in the developing countries.

The Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering cannot be fulfilled without active efforts by all members of our movement to prevent war, to stop the arms race and to encourage the transition to general disarmament.

I have proceeded from the necessity to promote International Red Cross efforts in favour of peace. It is from this point of view that we consider the work of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace. We believe that the Commission has done valuable work and its report is convincing evidence to this effect.

Some documents it has produced can be regarded as an interesting contribution to the philosophy of the Red Cross as a factor of peace. However, the Commission seems to have evaded issues on which there is no convergence of opinion in the International Red Cross. It concerns in particular the matter of a direct contribution by the Red Cross to the cause of peace.

This question has not yet been fully stated and clarified, though the Commission has been asked by many National Societies to tackle that problem.

The Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace has a long-term character. That is why we see no alternative to the Commission's continued existence. In view of that we propose some concrete measures to develop and regulate the Commission's work.

Our proposals are as follows:

- to extend the Commission membership, because its work is based on the interest of all National Societies without exception and many of them have repeatedly expressed the desire to participate in the Commission's work;
- to make the Commission a permanent body of the International Red Cross;
- to request the Commission to prepare a comprehensive document analyzing the implementation of the resolutions on peace and related matters which have been adopted by various international meetings of the Red Cross;

— bearing in mind that these efforts for prevention of a new world war have a global character which affects the interest of all people and consequently all National Societies, to convene, in the near future, the second World Red Cross Conference on Peace.

At the seventh session of the League Executive Council, we submitted a draft resolution in support of the conclusions made by the First Congress of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, held last March in Washington.

The Executive Council was of the opinion that this matter came within the competence of the Council of Delegates. The Council made reference also to the lack of information about the Congress.

We therefore took the initiative of sending copies of the Congress report to all National Societies.

The International Physicians Congress, which was a competent international forum, has considered the possible use of nuclear weapons from the point of view of its health consequences, arriving at the conclusion that these would be disastrous and irreversible, and calling upon governments and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to work more energetically towards peace and disarmament.

We believe that the comprehensive information of Red Cross members concerning the fateful consequences which the use of nuclear weapons could have for human life and environment constitutes a positive contribution by the Red Cross towards the prevention of nuclear war.

Mindful that the goal to be reached by the year 2000, to which the League declared its adherence at the first session of the General Assembly in 1979, can only be attained in an environment of lasting peace, the Red Cross should contribute actively to the effort to safeguard it.

We suggest that the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, on the basis of the conclusions by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, study this problem and draft a proposal which could be recommended to the members of the world Red Cross movement as guidelines for investigating the health consequences of the use of nuclear weapons. Such co-operation with institutions working for peace, one of which is the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, is provided for by the Resolution on Peace and Disarmament adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1979. The Soviet Red Cross would like to submit to the Council a draft resolution on the role of the Red Cross in safeguarding and strengthening peace as the most important condition for the prevention of human suffering.

Mr. Chairman, the draft resolution I refer to was submitted yesterday to the League Secretariat, and we expected it would be distributed here, at the start of the meeting. This has not been done, so I would ask permission to read it out to the delegates:

“The Council of Delegates,

noting that the vital condition for the prevention of suffering, protection and improvement of health of all peoples which constitute the main mission of the Red Cross, is peace and security,

expressing deep concern about the deterioration of the international situation caused by continuing development of new sophisticated types of weapons of mass destruction and the increased danger of thermonuclear conflict which, in any form and on any scale, will result in the destruction of millions of human lives, as well as in fatal consequences for the population of all countries without exception and for coming generations of mankind, which will make the Red Cross mission impracticable,

reaffirming that the Red Cross as the universal humanitarian movement cannot become isolated from the main problems of the contemporary world, the most crucial of which remains the problem of preventing war on a large scale and especially nuclear war,

thanks the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace for the work it has done to date,

considers that the Red Cross contribution to the prevention of nuclear war can be extended by informing the members of the International Red Cross of the truth concerning the fatal consequences of the use of nuclear weapons for human life, health and environment,

recommends the ICRC, the League and the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to consider practical measures to be taken by international and national Red Cross and Red Crescent organizations with a view to preventing nuclear war, paying special attention to the following matters:

— making the public aware of the medico-biological effects of a nuclear war;

— discussing the health consequences of a nuclear war and those of the use of other weapons of mass destruction at conferences, symposia and a Round Table of representatives of the Red Cross and medical profession;

- publishing articles and other documentary material dealing with the health effects of a nuclear war and those of the use of other weapons of mass destruction.”

This is the draft resolution presented by the Soviet Red Cross and submitted for discussion at this Council.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank the Soviet Union delegation. I would, however, like to point out that such a complex and difficult matter requires serious and comprehensive consideration. I find it virtually impossible to discuss such a vast subject without having the text before us and without having had the opportunity to study it in detail. This question could be brought up again during the Conference. I will raise it myself in my opening speech, and perhaps there will be government reactions. I do not therefore propose to broach the draft resolution which has just been read by our Soviet friends, owing to the complexity of the problem, for we could hardly discuss it seriously.

I find that it will be easier to discuss the draft resolution you have received concerning the future activity of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace. It is a question of reaching agreement on extending a mandate and on the subjects to be proposed for study within that Commission:

The Council of Delegates,

having adopted the Report of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace,

bearing in mind that the Commission's terms of reference, assigned to it by the Council of Delegates in 1977 and confirmed by the Council of Delegates in 1979, was to "follow the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a factor of Peace, by studying the activities of the Red Cross in terms of their contribution to Peace and by proposing to the appropriate bodies of the League, of the National Societies and to the ICRC measures for the realization of the objectives and tasks deriving from that Programme",

mindful of the fact that these terms of reference have not been fully discharged,

1. *asks* the Commission to continue its work with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition, and to report to the Council of Delegates in 1983,
2. *decides* that the Council of Delegates in 1983 will devote a full day to consideration of the item "the Youth Red Cross contribution to Peace", and entrusts the preparation for that day to the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, stressing that such preparation must attribute importance to concrete projects,
3. *asks* the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to study all questions relating to its existence, terms of reference, composition, duration and proceedings, and to submit to the Council of Delegates in 1983, proposals relative to these points after consensus within the Commission.

Mr. Kauko SIPPONEN (Finland): — The Finnish delegation believes that the Red Cross contributes to the maintenance of peace mainly by its principles and humanitarian actions and by its daily work. But we are bound to acknowledge that the present world situation causes profound anxiety. Confrontation between the two major power blocks fuels the arms race, while the arms race feeds on confrontation. The time has come for a reassessment in the search for a new international consensus. The continuing arms race threatens the security of Europe and the globe. Nuclear weapons in Europe have become a subject of acute controversy. Whatever the merits of the claims and counterclaims concerning military balance, the result is the same, less security for all. We need negotiations in good faith and must oppose the development of all new nuclear weapons, their spread to new owners and their deployment on new territories.

The Third Regional Conference of European Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Budapest last May expressed the wish that the whole International Red Cross movement support with its moral authority the efforts made by States in the field of disarmament in relation to both conventional weapons and weapons of mass destruction, that is, mainly, nuclear weapons.

I feel this simple statement is not specially directed against any of the big powers. All of them possess enough warheads to kill each other twenty or forty times. Because this problem is of such ultimate importance to mankind, I feel that the Red Cross should try to implement the wish expressed in Budapest, to try to create increased security through military balance at the lowest possible force level.

As a result, the Finnish delegation is prepared to support all proposals which might open the dialogue. We support the draft resolution delivered to us by the Commission and hope it will be executed with vigour; and we are prepared to support other proposals with the same purpose.

We think that the substance in the resolution proposed by the Russian delegation is correct, and we might have agreement on that substance in this meeting or perhaps in the International Conference.

LIBYA, ARAB JAMAHIRIYA: — Peace is a necessity, and I think we all know this. It is a necessity in the sense that life, justice and fair social economic development are all incompatible with war and depend very much on the prevalence of peace.

Our world today is tense and human masses are on the defensive, piling up weapons and forming alliances; and if anything goes wrong war would be the next step. I think there is no need for me to expatiate on this matter any further.

Our movement is traditionally based on the preservation of human life and presumably this means we have to be more and more involved in the promotion and maintenance of peace. And as an important component in forming public opinion in favour of justice, our strategies, whether we like it or not, must be achieved through frequent re-examination and re-evaluation of the Red Cross Programme of Action for Peace.

In this respect, I would like to support the draft resolution submitted by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, and at the same time to support the proposal of the Yugoslav delegation on convening a second Conference on the Red Cross and Peace in the year 1983.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: — We support the draft resolution presented by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace and the proposal by the Yugoslav Red Cross. We agree with the opinion of the Chairman.

We have nothing to add to the discussion on this matter.

M. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — On my list of speakers I have the Federal Republic of Germany, Nepal, Romania, Bulgaria, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Mongolia and the Soviet Union.

Mr. Walter BARGATZKY (Federal Republic of Germany) (*Original French*): — I am very moved by what Mr. Sipponen, President of the Finnish Red Cross, has just said. With his assistance and with that of my dear colleague, Professor Ludwig, it was my privilege to preside over Commission I at the Third European Red Cross Regional Conference in Budapest this year.

We had the great satisfaction of seeing unanimously adopted a resolution on such a sensitive subject as disarmament, with regard to both conventional weapons and weapons of massive destruction. This was a tremendous step forward. I therefore formally request the Council of Delegates to transmit this resolution to Commission I of the International Red Cross Conference, to serve as a basis for discussion of the subject Red Cross and Peace.

NEPAL: — The Nepal Red Cross Society has studied with great interest the document of the Commission and found it a most valuable working paper. We express our admiration and congratulations to Mr. Huber, Chairman of the Commission, and to all the members of the Commission.

Undoubtedly this matter is of great importance to all human beings in this world and especially in developing countries like ours.

Tensions and rivalry in our present world at times become too portentous and lead to destabilization in some regions.

It is our conviction that peace and stability are essential to human development. Yet how many of the developing and less developed countries have been left in peace to develop in their own ways?

Therefore the most important quest of the Red Cross family might lie in striving for universal peace and non-interference, and for recognition of the principles of equality and justice without any distinction of race, colour or political beliefs.

Dr. Lidia ORADEANU (Romania) (*Original French*): — The delegation of the Romanian Red Cross congratulates the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace on its work and its report. I should like to make a few comments.

The Romanian Red Cross stresses the fact that the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace occupies a prominent place in its activities.

It also notes with satisfaction that the international Red Cross organizations are likewise giving particular attention to this activity, thus helping to promote peace, understanding, disarmament and the prevention of war.

We consider that this activity must be carried out in complete accordance with the fundamental principles of the Red Cross.

The World Red Cross Conference on Peace, which was held in Belgrade in 1975, was a most important event, for it demonstrated the growing interest of the Red Cross movement in working for peace. This conference was the logical outcome of the increasing tendency within the Red Cross movement in recent years to develop and intensify its role as a factor for peace.

It marked a turning point in the activity of the International Red Cross towards concrete action in the struggle to prevent war, to safeguard human life and health and to establish understanding, friendship and collaboration between the peoples of the world.

The Romanian Red Cross therefore proclaims its total opposition to nuclear warfare, the consequences of which would be infinitely more terrible than those of any other disaster. The Red Cross would not merely be unable to carry out its historical humanitarian task of alleviating the suffering of war victims—it would cease to exist, like the whole of mankind.

In view of the steady accumulation of weapons of mass destruction and the grave threat this represents, the Red Cross should devote greater attention to informing its members about the catastrophic potential of the arms race, and also to propagating this information on a national scale.

A second World Red Cross Conference on Peace would be a favourable opportunity to seek ways and means whereby the Red Cross might contribute to lasting peace in the world.

The idea of also discussing the problem of youth and peace is excellent and very interesting, and has our full support.

Red Cross action for peace should be much more purposive. Representatives of the National Societies and the international Red Cross institutions should take part in conferences, meetings and seminars organized by the progressive forces in the world and declaring their support for the consolidation of peace and national security. There should likewise be greater collaboration with the UN and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to establish documents and a common course of action for the defence of peace.

I also consider that the membership of this Commission should be increased; this would help to improve the quality of its decisions.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — We have only today for the Council of Delegates and there are several very important items on the agenda. The one we are discussing at present is certainly of particular importance, but I should like to remind you that it can very well be taken up again in Commission I under item 6 of its agenda.

I should therefore be most grateful if further speakers on this subject would kindly be as brief as possible, because I feel that we should soon decide whether or not to adopt the draft resolution which has been submitted to us.

Mr. George GOSPODINOV (Bulgaria) (*Original French*): — In the present tense international situation it is the duty of all peoples, their political leaders and men in positions of public responsibility to do their utmost to ensure peace.

The Red Cross movement must also take an active part in endeavours to safeguard peace and consolidate friendship among nations.

The Bulgarian Red Cross is strongly in favour of renewing the mandate of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, and considers that it should become a standing body of the International Red Cross and that its composition should be extended. The Commission would thus be able to work with more prestige and efficiency.

Our Society is prepared to help with the work of this important body. We shall also gladly take part in any discussion conducive to active participation by the International Red Cross movement in the common efforts of humanity to preserve peace.

In this way the role of the Red Cross as a factor for peace will be more convincing and will assume greater importance. Our delegation is consequently entirely in favour of convening a second World Red Cross Conference on Peace.

The Bulgarian Red Cross likewise supports the draft resolution submitted by the Soviet delegation and entitled "The role of the Red Cross in safeguarding and consolidating peace", which is vital to avert human suffering. We feel that this draft resolution accurately reflects the concerns of the Red Cross movement at this present time.

We feel that the Soviet draft resolution could be taken up either by the Council of Delegates or by the International Conference.

Dr. Olafur MIXA (Iceland): — The delegation of Iceland is of the opinion that the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace should not only extend its mandate for several years, but should be a permanent organ within the Red Cross movement, as has been suggested here already. It is very much in the spirit of the Red Cross, in view of present circumstances, to be very active in this matter, and we feel that the Commission might take a firmer stand on several of the subjects it has been discussing and even on wider issues than the more traditional ones hitherto debated within the Red Cross movement.

We want in particular to emphasize one issue that might be food for general discussion.

It is said that charity begins at home; but intolerance also begins at home, and there is a certain instrument in every home which may be considered as providing tuition in violence. I am referring to the mass media, where violence is often subtle and often quite overt with a great many so-called entertainment programmes making violence a commonplace, a continual influence on attitudes, creating apathy and indolence in the minds of the mass audience.

We would therefore suggest that the Commission considers the feasibility for the Red Cross movement and especially for the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, possibly with the Henry Dunant Institute, to study in depth the influence and implications of the current and ever-increasing propagation of violence, physical and psychological, in the media, not least in the cinema and television, as a possible deterrent to the thought and implementation of peace.

We would further like to see a study of the basic plan and means to counteract this and the possible role of the Red Cross in this task.

It is suggested that the Commission prepare a report on this for the next Council of Delegates.

Mr. Bjørn EGGE (Norway): — The Norwegian Red Cross congratulates the Commission on its excellent report. We consider the work of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace of primary importance in the fast developing situation in the world today, and we strongly recommend the continuation of the work of the Commission.

We agree with the Chairman that it is difficult to take a stand concerning the proposed Soviet resolution merely on the basis of an oral presentation. We sympathize with the spirit and the general intention, but the wording must be subject to further scrutiny before we can take a decision.

We strongly support the draft resolution presented by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace.

Miss Alina KUSMIERCZYK (Poland) (*Original French*): — First of all we would like to congratulate the members of the Commission on the work they have accomplished and for their excellent report.

The Polish Red Cross feels that efforts in this field should be continued; we therefore consider that this Commission should become a standing body. We also consider that special attention should be given to the educational and humanitarian aspects of our programmes on the Red Cross and Peace, above all those destined for young people.

Finally, plans should be made for a whole range of youth activities. A seminar could, for instance, be held in 1985, which is the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Mr. François DE ROSE (France) (*Original French*): — We would have a great deal to say about the fundamental aspects of the problem already raised by several previous speakers, but I will heed your advice and keep my comments for the Conference.

I would just like to make the following remarks. At present we have, if I am right, three proposals before us. One has been submitted by Yugoslavia, proposing that a decision be taken here and now with regard to a second World Red Cross Conference on Peace. In our opinion the Commission should first be allowed to continue its work. France is a member of it, and is glad to be participating in its work and pleased about the results achieved. So let us allow the Commission to go on with its work. There is time enough to decide whether a second conference is desirable once it has made its report.

The second proposal was submitted by the Soviet Union. I was of course only able to take notes on the text read out by our colleague of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR. I cannot comment on it in depth, and in any case it is a document far too important and far too rich in content to be able to take a decision after briefly examining it, even if we had done so for a whole day. I therefore feel that it should be given thorough consideration in the light of the conclusions reached by the European Regional Conference in Budapest, which was attended by the Soviet Union and all the European Red Cross Societies and in which the Chairman of the French Red Cross, Mr. Soutou, played a very big part. The Budapest conference approved a resolution which has the merit of having been very carefully elaborated by all the European Red Cross Societies; this represents an important segment of our movement. It therefore has the advantage of having been studied already and I endorse the suggestion made by the Red Cross of the Federal Republic of Germany that the Council could examine this text and adopt it. If it does not have the time, then the Conference itself could take it up. I think it is a very good text which defines the limits of what the Red Cross can do, and encourages us to continue our work on the subject of the Red Cross and Peace.

For the rest I reserve my right to speak during the Conference, and will only comment today on the text which has been presented by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace. This text has been given very careful consideration and represents the consensus of the members of the Commission. I think that it could well receive the consensus of this Council of Delegates.

Mr. Jacques MOREILLON (ICRC) (*Original French*): — With regard to the four matters which we have before us today, the position of the ICRC is as follows:

Regarding a second World Red Cross Conference on Peace, the ICRC would like to leave this matter open for the time being. We would prefer not to take a decision today, and hope that a consensus will emerge in the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace.

Regarding the draft resolution submitted by the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR, the ICRC proposes that it be presented to Commission I under item 6 of the agenda. If this solution is not adopted, the ICRC reserves the right to speak on the substance of the resolution in the course of the debate.

Regarding the draft submitted by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, the ICRC is most pleased by the consensus achieved. Indeed we have observed that within the Commission there were very different stand-points: firstly as regards the continuing existence of the Commission, secondly if it were to be continued, what its terms of reference, duration and composition might be, and thirdly regarding a second International Red Cross Conference on Peace, although the Commission considers unanimously that if such a conference were to be held, it should take place within the framework of one of the statutory bodies of the International Red Cross, for instance a special session of the Council of Delegates.

It is difficult at this stage to decide on all these points at a general meeting, but it is certainly very interesting and useful for the members of the Commission in general and the ICRC in particular to hear the opinions expressed today.

We feel that the Commission should be given time for consultations and to discuss these various subjects and try to submit to the Council of Delegates decisions which have been reached by consensus, or if it is unable to do so, to single out the points on which opinions diverge. We therefore strongly recommend that the draft resolution concerning the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace be adopted without further deliberation.

Finally we endorse Mr. Bargatzky's proposal that the text of the resolution adopted at the Budapest Conference be presented in Commission I and suggest that it be submitted by the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany under item 6 on the Commission's agenda, assisted by other National Societies if it so desires. No specific provision is made for the International Conference to discuss the question of peace; it can, however, be discussed in connection with action taken pursuant to the resolutions adopted in Budapest.

Mr. Börje WALLBERG (Sweden): — The delegation of the Swedish Red Cross has a very profound interest in peace and disarmament.

We welcome and strongly support the resolution presented by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, which we sincerely hope the Council will now accept very rapidly and unanimously. The Swedish delegation is also in full agreement with the basic views expressed in the resolution presented orally by the Soviet delegation, but we think we had better discuss the details further in the Commission of the International Red Cross Conference, in particular the situation concerning what types of weapons will be covered by such a resolution.

In our opinion, all weapons capable of mass destruction and weapons causing unnecessarily severe suffering should be included in such a resolution.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I feel that there might be a consensus if the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR and the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany agree that the Soviet draft resolution and the Budapest resolution be presented to Commission I of the Conference, under item 6 on the Commission's agenda. We could also note that a general consensus has been reached on the draft resolution proposed by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, if I have properly interpreted the opinion of this assembly. Do I have your approval by consensus for the draft resolution of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace? (*Applause.*)

Thank you very much. I request the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR and the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany to put the Budapest resolution and the draft resolution which was read to us this morning on the agenda of Commission I.

Mr. Leon George STUBBINGS (Australia): — As the Council has adopted the draft resolution, may I very briefly refer to the paragraph in the middle of the resolution which concerns a future seminar on peace, Red Cross Youth and its contribution to peace? A brief document has been presented to all the delegations on this subject, and I do not think it is necessary for me to read it. I wish to point out only that it is a working document, and is not intended to be put to any vote. When the Commission decided that this very important subject was one that deserved wide discussion by the Council of Delegates in the future, our Society, as a member of the Commission, did produce a programme which we submit as a possible programme for 1983. I simply want to point out now that the Commission, in organizing this seminar, would accept any other ideas on the theme. So this is just a working document, for information only.

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE EMBLEM (Decision 3, 1977)

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — We now take up item 5 on our agenda, which is the report by the Working Group on the Emblem. As it has been my privilege to preside over this working group I shall ask our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Rueda, to take the chair, and shall myself speak in my capacity as Chairman of the working group and as President of the ICRC.

Dr. Guillermo RUEDA MONTAÑA (Chairman) (*Original Spanish*): — We shall now open the discussion on the report by the Working Group on the Emblem. I first give the floor to President Hay, who chaired the working group.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — It is in my capacity as Chairman of the Working Group on the Emblem that I have the privilege of addressing you, to draw some conclusions on the four years of work done by

this Group, which was set up by the Council of Delegates in Bucharest in 1977. In Report CD/5/1, submitted by the ICRC and the League of Red Cross Societies, is an account of the various stages in the Working Group's discussions and the results of the questionnaire sent to National Societies. My purpose therefore is only to remind you, very briefly, of the essential issues you must bear in mind before coming to any conclusion about the question submitted to you in the Report: "Does the Council of Delegates wish the Working Group to continue its study of the emblem question? If so, can the Council of Delegates indicate to the Working Group in what direction its study should be oriented?"

The Working Group, composed of nine National Societies, the ICRC, the League and the Henry Dunant Institute, was given the task of studying all questions relating to the emblem and reporting to the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference. The Council of Delegates, meeting in Bucharest, decided that the recommendations of the Working Group should be adopted by consensus.

Our Group has met six times. After determining the shortcomings of the present situation, it decided to use as a basis for its discussion the four proposals put forward by Mr. Tansley, namely:

- to return to the original symbol;
- to adopt a single new symbol;
- to use the original symbol as the dominant one, and permit each National Society to add its own in conjunction with the original symbol;
- to admit further symbols without limitation up to the number of National Societies.

After discussion, the Working Group decided to focus on the idea of a combined emblem and to submit to National Societies of the movement several variants to this solution. It was also suggested that the status quo be maintained, which some members of the Group preferred to any other option.

The consultation of National Societies carried out in 1979 showed a divergence of views within our movement on the question of the emblem. Although admittedly the replies came in before the Islamic Republic of Iran decided to discard the red lion and sun and adopt the red crescent, they nevertheless reflect a variety of opinions, which you will find in the Working Group's report.

As you no doubt realized in reading this document, the Working Group itself is divided. The majority of its members is in favour of the status quo and of dissolving the Working Group, considering that it would be not only useless but dangerous for the unity of the movement to continue along the same course. A minority within the Group wishes to pursue its work, because it considers that the present situation, even though the number of emblems in use is less than before, is unsatisfactory, and the Group should not give up trying to reach a solution.

The Working Group has not succeeded in reaching a consensus agreement on a recommendation, either as regards the substance or the procedure. It is now up to the Council of Delegates to decide whether or not it wishes to renew the mandate of the Working Group. This is a major decision, and before it is taken, I invite all delegations who so wish to express their opinion on the matter. I shall be taking the floor again later, in my capacity as President of the ICRC, to explain to you the position adopted by the International Committee.

Before concluding my statement, I should like to thank all the members of the Working Group for the constructive spirit in which they undertook the extremely delicate task entrusted to them. For four years now we have been openly discussing and reflecting on the question of the emblem, which touches the sensitive chord in all of us and is extremely important not only for our movement but for the safety of all persons protected by the Geneva Conventions.

I hope that during the discussion I shall now open, we shall bear in mind the fact that the emblem worn by each of us is not the privilege of any one State, people or religion, but a sign of respect for wounded and defenceless victims and a token of solidarity with human beings in distress.

Dr. G. RUEDA MONTAÑA (President) (*Original Spanish*): — So that the discussion can begin, I would like to ask all those who wish to take the floor to raise their name cards and keep them raised until the secretariat has taken down all the names, as unfortunately we cannot read them from here.

Mr. Matts Bergom LARSSON (Sweden): — The Swedish delegation has studied with great interest the report of the Working Group on the Emblem.

It is indeed a strange situation that a universal movement whose strength lies in the solidarity of its members does not present itself under a single emblem. It is a situation that carries a latent risk of division instead of unity. It is also a standing invitation to create a new emblem, when people and populations attaching religious significance to the emblem cannot identify with any of the present emblems. The Working Group has not been able to find a solution to these problems. After thorough investigation, the members have expressed divergent views; some of the members, preferring the line of least resistance, recommend the status quo, the Working Group to be dissolved. Others feel that the Red Cross movement should not regard as settled a situation which presents serious disadvantages.

The Swedish Red Cross Society is very much in line with those who think that this report must not be the last word, that the dialogue must continue, and that the mandate of the Working Group should be renewed.

We attach special importance to the position of the ICRC on the question of the emblem. On page 31 of the report, you will find a letter from the ICRC, urging the Working Group to continue its efforts for a fair and satisfactory solution. The ICRC mentions, in this letter, two solutions which it could accept, one being the universal adoption of the red cross combined, for those who so wish, with a special sign of equal size, such as the red crescent or any other freely chosen by the State and admitted by the international community. The other solution mentioned by the ICRC in this letter is the combination of a new unifying sign with one or other of the existing emblems, or even with a new emblem admitted by the international community.

It seems to us that the Working Group has not examined these or other possibilities in depth.

We therefore move that the Working Group continue its study of the emblem question in the directions envisaged by the ICRC or in other directions where constructive and unbiased minds may lead them.

Mr. Justice SHAMABUDDIN AHMED (Bangladesh): — The subject is so important and sensitive that I would prefer to start by saying the last words first: the present status quo with two emblems, red cross and red crescent, should be maintained, and the Working Group should be immediately dissolved. Despite four years of hard but fruitless labour, it has brought about a situation in which we find little result and utility. Further deliberation on this subject is far too dangerous to the unity of the movement. Therefore in the interest of unity, which is more important than the emblem, this subject should be brought to a full stop.

Now I give my reasons. The attempt to find unity in the emblem is certainly praiseworthy and laudable, and the Working Group, as we have seen, has tried a number of variants, but the more the matter is pursued the more confusion is created. Of all persons, I am ready to accept one single emblem, provided all the members of the Red Cross family agree. But in present circumstances, and in view of historical background, this is an impossibility. We cannot now return to the original red cross, nor can we find a completely new single emblem overnight. Both the red cross and the red crescent have history behind them. Not only that: emotion and sentiment have to be taken into account; we cannot overnight take a decision which completely ignores historical considerations. When this Working Group was set up four years ago there were three emblems: the red cross, the red crescent and the red lion and sun. Last year, the Islamic Republic of Iran decided to drop the red lion and sun, and this has helped us to reach a solution of this intricate question by retaining the other two symbols.

But Iran has set a condition, namely that if any other Society brings any new proposals on the emblem, Iran has the right to resume the lion and sun. This means further deliberation on the subject, which will leave the door open for controversy. The question of the emblem started 105 years ago, when the Government of Turkey replaced the red cross by the red crescent. This replacement was recognized officially in 1929 and since then it has been used side by side with the red cross. Now, after 105 years, what is the justification for raising this issue again: only to create confusion, only to open the door for further controversy?

In the interest of the Red Cross movement, it is our sincere belief that the question should be solved forever by retaining these two emblems, the red cross and the red crescent.

I want to add one word. At the Asia and Pacific Red Cross and Red Crescent Regional Conference held in Djakarta last February, this subject was discussed and the feeling was that the red crescent should be maintained. But in the Djakarta Conference these things were not properly drafted. That is why, yesterday, the resolution of the Djakarta Conference was amended, with the addition that this feeling prevailed and it was agreed that the crescent should be maintained.

Miss Mawia CHEIKH FADLI (Syria) (*Original French*): — The distinguished Bangladesh delegate has already very eloquently stated what I was going to say, and I support his statement.

Mr. Arslan BASARIR (Turkey): — First of all, I would like, on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent delegation, to thank the Working Group on the Emblem for its report, which we have read with great care.

It is comprehensive and well prepared, but the topic is a very delicate one and has been a matter of controversy for approximately a century. It is a subject deeply rooted in the National Societies and is even reflected in national legislation.

It is therefore not surprising that the Working Group did not succeed in reaching agreement on any of the proposed solutions to the problem of the emblem.

Taking into account the crucial problems encountered, we have pointed out in our reply to the questionnaire that we think the most appropriate and the least controversial way is to maintain the two existing emblems, namely the red cross and the red crescent, which have both been in use for more than a century as distinctive signs of the Red Cross movement, and avoid proliferation of emblems which may lead to endless discussions and even jeopardize the unity of the movement.

We therefore agree with those who think that the Working Group has fulfilled its mission and we do not see any need for it to continue.

Dr. Valeri A. BALTIYSKI (USSR): — Our delegation would like to associate itself with the previous speakers, who have set out at length the various sound reasons existing for maintaining the existing protective emblems, that is the red cross and the red crescent, and consequently for dissolving the Working Group on the Emblem.

We don't feel that we should go into further detail on that matter. It has been convincingly done by the previous speakers.

We would only like to point out that the withdrawal of the red lion and sun emblem has facilitated the matter a great deal, and somehow played down the controversy on that problem.

We think that ensuring respect for the present two emblems, the red cross and the red crescent, is what our movement should be primarily concerned with at this stage, because the continuing and multiplying violations of the emblem and disrespect of it are causing increasing concern to many in our Red Cross community.

The ICRC should look very seriously into this matter and try to devise measures to protect the emblem in a more effective way. I think it is this problem that should be occupying both the ICRC and the National Societies, rather than any continued attempt to revise existing emblems or devise new ones. There are so many dangerous implications for the unity of our movement in this activity, that we should drop it and dissolve the Working Group.

Mr. Noel W. BUCKLEY (Australia): — The Australian Red Cross Society believes that the Working Group should continue its activities. We feel the present situation remains unsatisfactory for the reasons that have been outlined in the report of the Working Group.

In our opinion, it is vital to try to make certain the effective identification and protection of innocent victims of conflicts. And that is the major reason why the Working Group should continue.

As we see it, there is a need to persist in trying to find either one universally accepted sign or a universally acceptable unifying combination of signs; but there should not be any increase in the number of accepted emblems, because this would only compound the problem that already exists.

Prof. Orestis LOURIDIS (Greece) (*Original French*): — The Greek Red Cross would like to congratulate the chairman of the Working Group and Group itself for the excellent work which they have done. However, from a general point of view, it maintains that the multiplicity of emblems is incompatible with the fundamental principles of unity and universality of our movement.

On the grounds of humanitarian doctrine we advocate the universal use of the original emblem as the predominant emblem, and would like to suggest that each National Society add its own emblem by the side of, but

secondary to, the original emblem, thus paying due tribute to the origins of our movement and our universal character.

This is the reason for our proposal. We therefore wish the Working Group to continue its study on the question of the emblem, and our statement is intended to guide their work in that direction.

Mr. John A. WILSON (New Zealand): — The New Zealand delegation feels that while the conclusions drawn from the information available to the Working Group are completely valid, nevertheless in the report there is no evidence that the effectiveness of the various emblems has been considered. It is one thing to adopt an emblem as a protective device, and it is another to consider the extent to which that emblem in fact confers protection in the conditions found in armed conflict.

The New Zealand delegation would wish the Working Group to continue its work and requests the ICRC to provide it with information from its records on the practical value of the various protective emblems.

We feel that to do this would be to deal with the problem from a practical viewpoint, as well as from the theoretical one.

Mr. George M. ELSEY (United States of America): — The American Red Cross strongly favours continuation of the mandate of the Working Group on the Emblem. It is our opinion that the work of the Group is far from complete.

My Society has been privileged to participate in the Working Group's debate during the past four years and we have learned much from our participation.

One lesson that is very apparent is that there is constant change in this matter of emblems, and particularly the point just alluded to by the previous speaker from New Zealand, the effectiveness of the emblems.

I would strongly concur in the remarks made by the delegate from New Zealand, that this is an area needing great study by the International Committee and the Working Group. The status quo is definitely not satisfactory. Much more is involved than just the proliferation of emblems, which seems to have been the topic of many previous speakers. There is confusion in the use of the two emblems: the Working Group learned that the crescent is presented in various ways, not always in the way that we see before us in the emblem over your heads; it sometimes faces in the opposite direction.

There is a difference in the definition and design of the cross: my Society uses a cross of the same proportions as that in the emblem of this Conference; however, that is not of the same design or proportions as the cross used by the International Committee of the Red Cross or by many National Societies. The very fact that the red cross appears in different forms causes confusion. An example: in my country, the United States, we do not have adequate legislation to protect the use of the cross; if my country did have legislation protecting the cross as we use it in our Society it would be contrary to the use of the cross displayed by the International Committee.

This may be a minor point, but it is an example of the confusion in the present situation, and it does keep us from having, in many countries, adequate legislation to protect the significance of the cross or the crescent. The present situation is definitely not satisfactory.

We are tolerant of variations in the use of the present emblem, yet we are intolerant on another very significant matter: we call ourselves a "universal movement", we have alluded in this Conference hall for many days now to the universality of our movement, and yet we are all very well aware of the fact that the present situation prevents us being universal. The insistence on the use of the present emblems has prevented one very strong National Society, fully qualified in every way, from joining us and from keeping us truly universal. That is one more reason why the status quo is far from being satisfactory, and therefore the American Red Cross strongly endorses the motion made at the beginning of this debate by Sweden for a continuation of the Working Group on the Emblem.

Mr. Yehia H. DARWISH (Egypt): — I associate myself with what has been said by Bangladesh, by Syria, by the USSR, and by Turkey, that we had better keep the status quo as indicated now, and after we modify the League Constitution by deletion of the red lion and sun. I remind the distinguished delegates that the red cross and

the red crescent were adopted for traditional and historical reasons, and therefore I would support the views as expressed by four countries and also propose that the Working Group should be brought to an end.

Mr. Sadre SADREDDIN (Islamic Republic of Iran): — I would like to point out the position of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the emblem.

Our position is: first, the red lion and sun is rejected and abolished for good, by our Society as well as by the League, with no conditions; second, we join with our sister Societies in maintaining the present two emblems which represent each and all of the Societies, and confirm the mutual respect and understanding between the National Societies.

Mrs. Aracelis MASTRAPA MELERO (Cuba) (*Original Spanish*): — The Cuban Red Cross congratulates the Working Group on the Emblem for the considerable work accomplished. At the same time it wishes to take the opportunity of saying how advisable we feel it is to keep the red cross and the red crescent as our emblems, in view of the greater clarity and safety afforded by the use of signs already symbolically so important for the application of international humanitarian law. We should also like to remedy what appears to be an unfortunate error in the document on the emblem, according to which Cuba appears to be proposing the use of a single emblem. We are on the contrary in favour of maintaining the status quo and continuing to use the two existing emblems; i.e., the red cross and the red crescent, as the sole emblems used for all Societies.

Dr. Ahmed Abdallah EL SHERIF (Libya, The Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriya): — When this Working Group was created, we had a problem, but now we have two groups of Societies forming a federation, in one movement, and they are using two great international emblems, deeply rooted in the hearts of the people served by these Societies.

The two emblems which exist now are non-religious, with international significance which has no local or limited historical value of any kind. Accordingly I think that the Working Group should stop here to avoid any further arguments.

I would also like to stress here that the universality of our movement, which is unique, is beyond dispute, and that the value which it represents is not only unique and full of meaning, but is also eternal and deeply rooted in the hearts of all those who work for the Red Cross and the Red Crescent. However the emblems of the red cross and the red crescent, which have been adopted by the institutions of our movement, serve not only to demonstrate and uphold the unity of our movement, but also guarantee its respect and its validity.

These elements of unity, respect and validity are the bed-rocks upon which the universality of our movement is founded. We have no option but to retain the present status quo with regard to the emblems.

Dr. G. RUEDA MONTAÑA (Chairman) (*Original Spanish*): — Before going on with our discussion I would like to read out the list of speakers, which I would then like to close because we must wind up this point before adjourning for lunch. On my list I have the Federal Republic of Germany, Jamaica, Italy, Poland, Sudan, German Democratic Republic, Niger, Nicaragua and Mauritania.

Dr. Anton SCHLÖGEL (Federal Republic of Germany): — Our Society is very much in favour of the Working Group's pursuing its work. I refer to the remarks by Sweden, the United States, and some other Societies, which were of the same opinion.

I would like to remind you that this study, which really is a very careful one, had to omit some points which are now more important than before. When the Working Group started, there were three different emblems and quite a lot of different possibilities which had to be discussed. Now we have only two signs, and perhaps this makes things a little easier for the Commission.

I think the main point we have to decide is the direction this Working Group should pursue. In my opinion it should discuss whether the difference between the protective emblem and the distinctive emblem is of any importance. The protective emblem is regulated by the States which have signed and ratified the Geneva Conventions, but the distinctive emblem is more a problem for the Red Cross itself, since the organization itself is the only body

which can use this distinctive emblem, with very minor exceptions given in Article 44 (Convention I). I think the discussions should be specific and perhaps it would then be easier to reach a solution.

As we pointed out in the proposal which we made to the Working Group, there are only three possibilities.

The first is to debate whether a single emblem is acceptable. This has many great merits, but I am fully aware that it will be extremely difficult. The second is to leave this situation as it stands. It is very easy to come to this conclusion and many Societies feel that the easiest way is always the best one. But I am not quite sure if that is true. I refer to the Tansley Report which made it very clear that maintaining the present situation has many disadvantages.

The third possibility is a different view of the protective emblem and the distinctive emblem and I think that, if we examine this situation very carefully, we might perhaps arrive at a better solution than the present one.

Therefore our Society is very much in favour of the Working Group's continuing.

Dr. G. RUEDA MONTAÑA (Chairman) (*Original Spanish*): — Thank you Sir.

Before going on I would like to ask the delegations to kindly limit themselves to the essential subject in hand, namely whether the Working Group on the Emblem should continue or not.

Mr. Vincent MATROSS-McINTOSH (Jamaica): — It is the feeling of the Jamaican delegation that if the Working Group, with the President of the ICRC at its head, has submitted a recommendation that the Group should continue its work to attempt to find a satisfactory compromise, then this recommendation should be entertained.

The point that the emblem is still regarded as a sign of unity, rather than necessarily identified with religion, is a very sound one. And perhaps the Working Group will eventually come up with a solution reflecting this thinking.

General Pietro VERRI (Italy) (*Original Spanish*): — For the same reasons as those given by the delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany, Australia and Sweden, the Italian delegation is in favour of having the Working Group on the Emblem continue its search for a solution which would be acceptable for all Red Cross Societies.

Dr. Ryszard BRZozowski (Poland): — We are acting in a period of significant changes and the changing of the guard, of the generations, in National Societies. There are fewer and fewer of those whom we have been meeting for years. Red Cross activities are being taken up by new people, frequently better prepared for this job than we are. They have certainly less experience, but they are full of enthusiasm and initiative. Making a deep bow to the past and to the people who are not with us any more, let us look to the further development of our movement in its humanitarian and deeply human shape.

Please excuse me for these general reflexions. I wish to stress how much unites us, how much remains to be done in order that our organization shall best serve the people and serve them more fully. For that reason, in the opinion of the Polish Red Cross, we cannot change the present emblem of our movement.

Dr. Moyhi Eddin MAHDI (Sudan): — All the arguments for and against which have been mentioned are valid and wise. To anybody here in this room, the red cross and the red crescent do not carry any religious significance. But to the man in the street they do.

I am sure that in my country, as in many other countries where Islam is the religion, the red cross means to the public a religious background. This is a fact and we should admit it.

If we are interested in the Red Cross movement, I think for this generation at least we should maintain the status quo. I know of many countries where the Muslim religion predominates, and society there takes the red cross as a Christian symbol; many people refuse to join the movement simply because of this sign. I think we should be practical, we should realize that, at least in the Muslim countries, the red cross would not be tolerated and we would not get an increase in our membership if we decided to go back to one emblem. The status quo is essential at this stage, for this generation and perhaps for the next generation. I see no reason for the Working Group to continue, at least at present.

The question of the emblem has been raised time and again; the present Working Group is not the first. This question was discussed many years ago, and there is no reason why, in the far future, another working group may not be formed.

But at present I think it should stop and we should be satisfied with this status quo.

Prof. Dr. Siegfried AKKERMANN (German Democratic Republic): — I just want to express the opinion of the Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic regarding the topic of discussion.

This is that any change in the use of existing emblems might lead to unfortunate misunderstanding and reduce their protective value. Therefore we support all those who do not want the work of the Working Group to be continued.

Mrs. Yewande OYEDIRAN (Nigeria): — We would like to congratulate the Working Group for the work done so far, but we note with great regret that a solution has not been found.

The question of the present emblem has affected the membership and participation of some religious groups in the projects of the Nigerian Red Cross a great deal in certain parts of our country. We were hoping that the delegation would return home with a definite solution to the problem. We have recommended to the Working Group the use of all the five equal red squares that form the red cross and the red crescent as an emblem to be adopted by us in Nigeria.

If the Council of Delegates approves this we would seek an elementary endorsement of our use of the red cross and red crescent jointly throughout Nigeria. We need this very much as we are hindered by the fact that the question of the emblem has not yet been solved.

Mr. Ismael REYES ICABALCETA (Nicaragua) (*Original Spanish*): — I wish to congratulate the Working Group on the Emblem. Under the present circumstances, however, I do not feel that it is necessary for it to continue its work, since the two emblems which we now have, the red cross and the red crescent, are sufficient for all Societies in the world. I consider that at the present time it would be more advantageous to ensure respect by governments for these emblems through the dissemination of international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross at government level, among the armed forces, students and the general public. Several National Societies, including my own, have at various times been the object of attacks or forcible entry, and lives have been lost in acting in accordance with our principles, in bringing aid to victims of internal armed conflicts.

I believe that it is important, now more than ever, to ensure that the emblems of our institution are respected.

Mr. François DE ROSE (France) (*Original French*): — Since the present situation prevents Societies, of whose existence we are aware, from joining the Red Cross movement, and since the principle of universality is embodied in our Constitution, we feel it is necessary for the Committee to continue its work.

Mr. Traore LASSANA (Mauritania) (*Original French*): — It was my intention to reaffirm the opinion of the Mauritanian Red Crescent Society with regard to the proliferation of the emblem. Since this aspect is not under consideration at present, I have no comment to make.

H.E. Dr. Ahmad ABU-GOURA (Jordan): — I feel that we are not in 1981, I feel that we are in 1874/1875, when they started to discuss the emblem and the recognition of the red crescent. If we are going to continue to discuss this problem, we might do so for a hundred years or more. To those who have not read the history of the emblem, I advise them to do so.

These emblems, as was mentioned by many delegates before me, are deeply rooted in the hearts of the people within the movement and in the hearts of people outside our movement. They are well known all over the world and now, after more than 100 years, to try to find another emblem is against the movement as I see it.

I strongly support the proposal to maintain the two emblems and to discontinue the Working Group.

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — History cannot be erased. Historical facts remain the guiding factors to be followed for the future. Suspicion created in the minds of organizations such as ours is harmful. It should not serve any useful purpose after what I have heard from many speakers.

Speakers are getting hardened. My opinion to the wise delegates sitting here is to solve, not create, difficulties. Unite under the accepted emblems as they are.

If this organization, as we admit, has made strides in the past under the present emblems, what is the difficulty now facing us that we should disregard them, or try to devise a single emblem?

This is my opinion, and I will conclude with a request to put an end to something which is creating suspicion, whatever it may be; this is where I will stop.

Dr. G. RUEDA MONTAÑA (Chairman) (*Original Spanish*): — Before closing the discussion, I give the floor to President Hay.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — Please allow me to add a few words, as President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, to my introductory speech as Chairman of the Working Group on the Emblem. In my first speech I described the proceedings of the Working Group and the deadlock it had reached. I should now like to explain the position of the ICRC itself on the question posed to the Council of Delegates.

At the suggestion of the ICRC and the League, the Council of Delegates decided, in Bucharest in 1977, to establish the Working Group on the Emblem. Both institutions, confronted directly by the problems raised by the state of the emblem issue in the Red Cross movement, considered it essential to urge the Red Cross as a whole to undertake at last and for the first time a thorough study of this highly delicate and important question.

Since that time there has been one change: the Islamic Republic of Iran decided in 1980 to adopt the red crescent. This is a step towards the unity of the sign; we appreciate that step, the importance of which we recognize.

There is no denying, however, that it does not entirely settle the question of the emblem; there are, in particular, three fundamental reasons for this:

- First, although it is better for our movement to have two emblems rather than three, two is still too many for a movement that aims to be universal and whose unity should be reflected by a single symbol. Every one of us has surely been struck, when trying to explain that our movement uses two emblems, by the surprise and bewilderment on the faces of our public. The plurality of signs seems to show that the movement has had a setback and been unable to transcend religious, ideological and philosophical differences.
- Secondly—and this is particularly true since the use of the red lion and sun was discontinued—the coexistence of the two emblems of the red cross and the red crescent may give the false and unfortunate impression that our movement has two poles, a Christian one and an Islamic one, and that all other religious or lay modes of thinking are ruled out. Fortunately, many countries do not attach religious significance to the red cross. Nevertheless, the religious connotation attributed by some to the red cross and the red crescent remains a problem: it weakens the protective value of the emblem, and it may appear to favour two religious communities.
- Thirdly, the ICRC and several National Societies are concerned about the situation of the Magen David Adom in Israel. That Society cannot be recognized by the ICRC, and thus become a member of the International Red Cross, since it uses an emblem which is not recognized by the first Geneva Convention of 1949, the red shield of David.

I mentioned to you earlier that the ICRC considers that a single symbol should reflect the unity of the movement. While this is not possible in present circumstances, we must realize that it may seem discriminatory to some and contrary to our principles that the Magen David Adom is not recognized. Indeed, that Society, in a member State of the international community which has signed and ratified the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and which has not been spared by conflict, that Society, as I was saying, is not a member of our movement because at least part of its people feel they cannot identify with the emblems we like to consider and actually call universal.

Our movement does not serve the interests of any one State or people, but those of suffering human beings. It therefore should be present in all countries and benefit all mankind.

For the three reasons I have mentioned, the status quo is not good enough and the ICRC may not be satisfied with it on the assumption that it is the lesser evil. The Committee therefore wishes the Working Group to continue its work. It is aware of the difficulty of the task assigned to the Group and of the fact that to continue discussion does not offer only advantages, but it retains the hope that a solution acceptable to all will eventually be found. I stress the "acceptable to all" for, as you know, the ICRC is not trying to impose a solution on the movement. It has the greatest respect for the existing signs and for the attachment to them demonstrated by the National Societies and people of the countries where they are displayed. It made this clear in its letter of 8 April 1980 to the Working Group. That letter is quoted in the report you have before you.

Let us therefore take the time to try to find together a solution transcending the differences between us. Let us not leave for future generations the burden which weighs on our shoulders. Let us have the courage to continue the thinking we have begun, conscious of the responsibility we bear. Such is the opinion of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Dr. Valeri A. BALTIYSKI (USSR): — It seems to me that at this stage two quite clear-cut opinions have been expressed here: that the mandate of the Working Group had to be renewed, or that the Group should be dissolved. I think that this should be now put to the vote.

Dr. G. RUEDA MONTAÑA (Chairman) (*Original Spanish*): — You are quite right. We will now ask the Council of Delegates to vote on a very simple proposal, to decide whether the Working Group on the Emblem should continue its work or not. Therefore would all delegates who are in favour of the Working Group's continuing its work please raise their name cards, and keep them raised while we count. Now would those who feel that the Working Group should be discontinued please raise their name cards. You can now lower your cards. Would those who wish to abstain now please raise their name cards. The results are as follows: 44 votes in favour; 50 votes against; 5 abstentions. The proposal is therefore rejected.

I will now ask President Hay to take over the chair of the Council of Delegates again.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Rueda, for so competently taking my place. I do not think there is enough time to take up another item on the agenda. I would therefore suggest that we meet again at three o'clock sharp for the presentation of the Henry Dunant Medal. We shall then proceed as planned with the other items on the agenda. Thank you. The meeting is adjourned.

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

Second Meeting

Friday, 6 November 1981

SUMMARY: Presentation of the Henry Dunant Medal. — Red Cross action against torture. — National Society contributions to the financing of the ICRC. — Information on ICRC-League Working Groups. — Report on the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute. — Funds and medals. — Report of the Council of the Foundation for the ICRC. — Miscellaneous.

The meeting was opened at 3 p.m. by Mr. Alexandre Hay, Chairman.

PRESENTATION OF THE HENRY DUNANT MEDAL

Mr. A. HAY (President) (*Original French*): — We resume our work with the presentation of the Henry Dunant Medal.

Sir Evelyn SHUCKBURGH (Chairman of the Standing Commission): — Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great privilege and honour for me to be here this afternoon to confer the Henry Dunant Medal on the four persons to whom the Standing Commission has awarded this honour this year.

This, as you know, is the highest honour which the Red Cross movement can offer.

The first recipient is Mrs. Krista Djordjevic of the Yugoslav Red Cross Society. The Standing Commission had already decided to make this award when, very sadly, Mrs. Krista Djordjevic died. Therefore this particular award is a posthumous award, and I ask the head of the Yugoslav delegation to come forward to receive it from me, on Mrs. Djordjevic's behalf.

Posthumous tribute to Mrs. Krista Djordjevic: — An honorary life member of the Yugoslav Red Cross, Krista Djordjevic dedicated her whole life to humanitarian and cultural work in her country and thus became a living symbol of the high ideals of the Red Cross. Between the two world wars, she set up mobile health units and hospitals in rural areas and in the Second World War she played a leading role in the organization and development of the Yugoslav Red Cross, a task which she continued for many years. Her kindness and comforting presence were a source of encouragement to her co-citizens in all the catastrophes, both natural and man-made, which occurred during her long life. She was well known internationally and nationally, and showed unfailing devotion and remarkable energy and perseverance in the service of the Red Cross. The Standing Commission would like to pay tribute, posthumously, to this outstanding Red Cross member, for the contribution she made to the social well-being of her country and for the example she set of outstanding humanitarian devotion.

The next award goes to Mr. Melchior Borsinger of the ICRC and I ask the President of the ICRC to receive it on his behalf.

Tribute to Mr. Melchior Borsinger (*Original French*): — Throughout the 40 years from 1940 to 1980 in which he served the ICRC, Melchior Borsinger put all his energies into his work as an ICRC delegate both at headquarters and in the field. This job required not only technical knowledge but also exceptional personal qualities, a

sense of duty, discretion, endurance and courage. In order to ensure the observance of the Geneva Conventions during wars, civil wars and situations of tension and violence, the ICRC delegate must be present at all the worst trouble spots. The list of missions carried out by Mr. Melchior Borsinger seems to be that of all the tragic and violent conflicts which have beset mankind over the last 40 years. He fulfilled his duty with the courage and intelligence which we have learned to associate with the true ICRC delegate, and which give additional prestige to the movement of the Red Cross.

In awarding the Henry Dunant Medal to Mr. Melchior Borsinger, the Standing Commission also honours all those who risk their lives while working for the Red Cross in critical conditions.

The third award goes to Mr. Ismael Reyes Icabalceta, who is present, and I ask him to come forward.

Tribute to Mr. Ismael Reyes Icabalceta (*Original Spanish*): — Mr. Icabalceta has been a member of the Nicaraguan Red Cross for 15 years; during that time he has been treasurer and then president. He has at all times given his support to the members of the National Society, at times risking his own life, as in the recent civil war in Nicaragua. The heroism which he has shown in times of crisis has earned him the respect not only of his compatriots but also of international circles concerned with humanitarian action. The Standing Commission of the International Red Cross has awarded Mr. Reyes Icabalceta the Henry Dunant Medal in recognition of his outstanding service over the past years.

Mr. Ismael REYES ICABALCETA (Nicaragua) (*Original Spanish*): — May I express my gratitude to the Standing Committee of the International Red Cross for having awarded me its highest distinction, the Henry Dunant Medal, for 15 years of Red Cross work and specifically for the work carried out in the years of violence which my country has suffered. I would like to take advantage of this occasion to thank the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies once again for the great help which they gave us. Without it we would not have been able to bring aid to and feed each week more than 850,000 people and save the lives of thousands of Nicaraguans. I would also be ungrateful if I did not remember with deep emotion the 18 first-aid workers who gave their lives and the hundreds who came to help us, in particular Alain Sánchez Cerda and Carlos Vega Bolaños from the Departmental Council of Masaya, Eudoro Reyes from the Departmental Council of Matagalpa and Wilson Cross, Leopoldo Navarro, Alfonso Bombaye of the National Council and Jüber Martínez, the institution's driver who risked his life time and time again to accompany me on a mission of mercy. I share this honour with them. (*Applause.*)

In conclusion, I would like to point out that I am receiving this medal not so much for my own merit but rather as an honour for my country Nicaragua and for the small but dynamic National Society which has always upheld and will continue to uphold the basic principles of our Institution: the Nicaraguan Red Cross. Thank you.

Sir Evelyn SCHUCKBURGH (Chairman of the Standing Commission): — The fourth award goes to Mrs. Alexandra Issa-el-Khoury.

Tribute to Mrs. Alexandra Issa-el-Khoury (*Original French*): — She is the incarnation of a long tradition of devoted and heroic work in the service of the Lebanese Red Cross. A member of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Red Cross since 1951, she succeeded her mother as president of that Society. She has also been vice-president of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.

Under her leadership the Lebanese Red Cross has been able to regain and maintain a truly unique position of impartiality and humanitarian spirit, which is respected by all the parties to the tragic conflict in Lebanon. Her complete devotion to the Red Cross mission, her courage and endurance in a climate of permanent danger and anxiety have made her someone to whom very few Red Cross leaders can be compared.

How many times, Ladies and Gentlemen, have we had to do without her at International Red Cross meetings because she felt she could not leave the front line, the danger and the suffering.

The Standing Committee would like to pay a very special tribute to her remarkable personal qualities which she has demonstrated time and again in exceptional circumstances at the risk of her life.

Mrs. Alexandra ISSA-EL-KHOURY (Lebanon) (*Original French*): — It is with great emotion and pride that I receive the highest distinction of the International Red Cross, the Henry Dunant Medal.

I said with great pride but also with great humility, because much of the credit should go to the excellent teams which seconded me in my difficult task and who made it all possible: the Central Committee of the Lebanese Red Cross, its regional committees, the voluntary blood donors, the nurses, the social workers, the voluntary relief workers. Several were killed while carrying out their humanitarian task. Others have been crippled for life.

I would like to make it clear that I intend to share this great honour with the entire Lebanese Red Cross. I would like to thank His Excellency, Mr. Naffah, Lebanese Ambassador to Japan and the Philippines who has brought me the greetings of my country.

To all of you, dear colleagues and friends, I would like to express my sincere gratitude. With all my heart I hope that the humanitarian spirit of the Red Cross and Red Crescent will be felt throughout the world and that everywhere there will be peace and fellowship.

H.E. Mr. Joseph NAFFAH (Lebanon) (*Original French*): — As a personal friend of Mrs. Alexandra Issa-el-Khoury and admirer of her work and person, and on behalf of my government, I would like to thank you for the award of the Henry Dunant Medal as a tribute to her exemplary devotion to duty often in the face of grave danger.

This is also a tribute to the Lebanese Red Cross which is represented here by a delegation of noble women accompanying the president, representing Lebanese people from all regions and all walks of life and all of the Lebanese who have died trying to bring help. It is a tribute, too, to all Lebanese who have unjustly suffered the effects of a treacherous war for seven years as a result of foreign machinations which have tried to take advantage of Lebanon and its humanity, democracy and freedom and have used it to try and solve the well-nigh impossible problem of the Middle East.

Here in this assembly there is no talk of political wars, but of peace and humanity. But it is unjust that Lebanon, which has from ancient times been known as the home of peace, humanity and human rights, and that the Lebanese people, reputed for their pacifism, should be uselessly sacrificed, without any sign of genuine peace being perceptible.

The International Red Cross, the men and women of the Red Cross, wherever they may be, represent all that is noble and are the best hope of putting an end to war and bloodshed in the world.

My thanks go to the Red Cross, to the Standing Commission for voting unanimously in favour of awarding this medal, my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and once again my hearty congratulations to the President of the Lebanese Red Cross.

RED CROSS ACTION AGAINST TORTURE

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — After this moving ceremony I think that we can continue with our agenda, starting unfortunately with the less pleasant subject of the agenda, item 6: the action taken by the Red Cross against torture.

This will be introduced by Mr. Naville, an ICRC member, if he will kindly step up to the rostrum. I shall then call on the Swedish and Swiss delegations who are putting forward a resolution on this matter.

Mr. Marcel A. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference held in Bucharest in 1977 adopted Resolution XIV rather tersely entitled "Torture".

By placing this item on the agenda of the Council of Delegates, thus enabling us to exchange views on the action taken by the Red Cross to combat torture, the Standing Commission no doubt wanted to underline that torture was still sadly topical.

The first part of the report which the ICRC has the honour to present and which bears the serial number CD/6/1 lists the legal instruments which forbid the use of torture and the draft conventions which aim to reinforce this prohibition by effective means of prevention and repression. I do not intend to go into this again. Suffice it to say that torture is forbidden by international public law as well as by most national legislations.

In the second part of its report, the ICRC has endeavoured to evaluate its action against torture, although this evaluation can only be provisional because torture is still being practised and is even becoming increasingly cruel. The action taken by the ICRC must continue.

It is by its visits to places of detention that the ICRC can best fulfil this task. During these visits, the ICRC delegates notice all the forms of torture or suffering that is inflicted on the detainees (all types of brutality, mutilation, burns, suffocation, rape, etc.) as well as a whole range of mental torture with a view to destroying the detainee's personality, including threats to him or to members of his family, mock executions, prolonged solitary confinement, brain-washing, humiliation, and all kinds of harassment, not to mention the use of chemical agents and internment in psychiatric asylums and many more besides. In addition, very bad detention conditions may be considered as a form of torture when they are intentional. The absence of legal measures and especially the fact that a detainee may be left for any length of time in complete ignorance as to his fate can also be considered as inhuman treatment.

The action of the ICRC against torture is now based on invaluable experience. The procedures are well established and in most cases well understood by the authorities of the countries where the ICRC is permitted to visit places of detention, but its action is only one part of a general strategy to which everyone must contribute.

I should like to add a few comments on the role played by the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Resolution XIV adopted by the Twenty-third Conference invites Red Cross organizations to participate in the fight against torture. However, although it is not for the ICRC to dictate to National Societies the type of action which they should take in this connection, it must bring to their notice all the suffering endured by those being tortured, and to which no Red Cross organization can remain indifferent. Furthermore, National Societies are not powerless against the infliction of torture in their own countries. As far as the ICRC is concerned, the National Societies have a very strong moral obligation to fight against torture by the means they consider best adapted to the conditions in their respective countries; they can, for instance, encourage the ratification of international treaties protecting human beings and ensure that national legislation forbidding the use of torture is respected. While taking into account their specific situation within their own countries, they should endeavour to implement any other effective means, whether behind the scene or publicly, direct or indirect, in keeping with the ideal of humanity which it is their first and foremost task to defend. It is only by uniting all forces striving for the principle of humanity, which is the very basis of our movement, that results can be expected.

Mrs. Anita KLUM (Sweden): — Together with the Swiss Red Cross, I am now going to present the draft resolution on torture:

“The Council of Delegates,

noting that torture is condemned and forbidden by international humanitarian law, international instruments relating to human rights and the general principles of international law,

noting that despite such prohibition torture is practised to an alarming extent in many countries,

1. *urges* the governments of all States and the international organizations concerned to make greater efforts to ensure the universal respect of these prohibitions,
2. *requests* the United Nations Organization to expedite the adoption of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and including provision for the effective supervision and enforcement of its application,
3. *appeals* to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to enhance public awareness of and support for the struggle against torture and to support all efforts, including those of the International Committee of the Red Cross, designed to repress and eliminate torture.”

Torture and other forms of inhuman treatment are constantly reported from various parts of the world. According to recent estimates by Amnesty International, and by various United Nations bodies, torture in various forms is now practised in more than 60 countries in the world, in spite of the fact that a large majority of the members of the United Nations have accepted declarations and conventions in which torture is strictly forbidden.

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights, the OAS Convention on Human Rights as well, of course, as the Geneva Conventions, all strictly forbid torture. Thus, the adoption of international agreements

relating to the protection of the individual's basic rights is in itself apparently not sufficient to guarantee that those rights are not violated. Violations of human rights take place every day all over the world, in many instances with the approval of individual governments.

In the previously-mentioned conventions, there must be no exception to the prohibition of torture. Torture may not be practised under any circumstances. The prohibition is absolute, yet we know that violations take place.

In our society we have devoted a lot of time to studying various forms of human rights violations, as well as violations of the Geneva Conventions. We have had a special working group whose main objective has been to analyse how human rights can be better protected. Special attention was paid to the situation of political detainees.

The background of our work has been continuous demands from our members to try to see how our Red Cross movement could be more involved, both internationally and nationally, in the promoting of human rights.

People are quite right to react against violations of human rights. We consider it to be the duty of the Red Cross movement to be a channel for such public reaction. In our view, our movement must become more active in human rights issues in general and, in particular, in the important work of trying to prevent the use of torture and other inhuman treatment.

In the United Nations a draft convention against torture has been proposed by the Swedish Government. What the final outcome will be is difficult to judge. The need for a convention against torture in itself has been questioned, since as I mentioned before, torture is already prohibited, both by the Geneva Conventions and by the United Nations Conventions and Declarations.

The promoters of the draft convention, however, consider that it would be of great value if the prohibitions in these conventions and declarations could be defined in a more precise form in international law.

We believe that all efforts should be made to support the endeavours for a special convention on torture.

In the draft resolution against torture tabled by the Swiss Red Cross and the Swedish Red Cross, we make a few suggestions as to how Red Cross Societies could intensify their work against torture. The fact that torture is prohibited by the Geneva Conventions ought to, and does, give the National Societies strong motives for fighting for human rights, for instance, by trying to persuade their governments to speed up work on the draft convention against torture, and the draft protocol.

The National Societies could also contribute in various ways, on a national basis, to increase awareness of the problem of torture and form public opinion for more intensive work for human rights.

We also think that the Red Cross, in its national activities, should create public opinion by approaching special groups thought to be specially aware of the importance of the problem: for example, in the universities, through seminars arranged by the universities themselves or by student associations, through scholarships, topics for research, newspaper articles, etc. Other important groups are prison directors, journalists, news agencies, clergymen, politicians, and so on.

One special aspect in this context is the difficulty facing the ICRC in its protection work among political detainees. We know that political detainees are people who, more than others, are subject to inhuman treatment such as torture. Thus the ICRC's visits to political detainees are of great importance, the main objective behind these visits being to improve the conditions of detention. And we know from a number of individual cases that the ICRC visits have improved conditions and in particular reduced the use of torture.

The ICRC needs economic contributions in order to widen its activities and to protect victims of torture. In that respect, the National Societies also have an important duty, both directly and indirectly.

These questions are of current interest and very urgent. As the provision of protection is unique to the Red Cross movement, we must feel deeply responsible for this. Any opportunity to improve respect for human rights must be taken. Every attempt to fight torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment must be made.

I will make a few remarks on the draft resolution, which I hope you have in front of you. I have two changes in paragraph No. 3. I will read it out in order to make it clear: "Appeals to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to enhance public awareness of and support for the struggle against torture, and to support all efforts, in particular (the words "in particular" to be substituted for "including") those of the International Committee of the Red Cross, designed to prevent (not "repress") and eliminate torture."

Prof. Hans HAUG (Switzerland) (*Original French*): — As co-author of the draft resolution on torture, the Swiss Red Cross delegation would like to add a few observations to the statement just made by the delegate from Sweden.

In paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, which you have in front of you, reference is made to an international convention against torture which has been discussed for the last two years in the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations. The same paragraph refers also to provisions to ensure effective supervision of the enforcement of the Convention. Indeed, neither a definition nor a new prohibition of torture could have any effect, without proper national and international supervision. The draft convention on torture, which I have just referred to, provides for this type of effective supervision and even for preventive measures. The national supervision and preventive measures proposed are in our opinion entirely appropriate, but international supervision as presently envisaged in the draft convention is, in our opinion, not sufficient.

This international supervision is based on the supervisory system to be found in the United Nations Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, i.e. on a system of a repressive nature which is extremely weak. The draft convention, however, does provide for inquiries to be made in a country if the Human Rights Committee were to learn that torture is being systematically practised in that country. For investigation, however, the agreement of the country concerned must be obtained.

Assuming that the system of control would be too weak against a phenomenon that demands swift and effective measures to be adopted, the International Commission of Jurists and the Swiss Committee to Combat Torture have drawn up a draft optional protocol which refers to the convention against torture discussed by the Human Rights Commission. This optional protocol, which was officially filed with the United Nations by Costa Rica, does not provide for the lodging of complaint or any judicial procedure, but a system of visits to places of detention. These visits would be made by persons delegated by an international commission made up of states having signed the optional protocol. This system of visits would be modelled on the practice of the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose delegates, as you know, visit either prisoners of war and civilian internees, on the basis of the Geneva Conventions, and political detainees. This system of visits would essentially be of a preventive nature: it would respect the principle of discretion and its objective would be to ensure co-operation between the International Commission and those states which are parties to the protocol.

The Swiss Red Cross delegation would like to draw your attention to the crucial problem of supervision within the framework of a convention against torture. And we would like most of all to draw your attention to the draft optional protocol filed with the United Nations by Costa Rica.

I would add that last January the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe unanimously adopted a resolution recommending not only the adoption of an international convention against torture in line with the draft which is presently being discussed by the Human Rights Commission, but also a quick and favourable examination of the optional protocol which I have just outlined.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I now open the discussion of Mr. Naville's report and of the draft resolution presented jointly by Sweden and Switzerland.

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh): — We read with interest the presentation of the Swiss Red Cross, and we also went through the working document on this agenda.

We know that since 1978 the Human Rights Commission has been drafting a convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment or treatment. We also note that the proposal for a draft optional protocol, submitted by Costa Rica to the future convention, is under consideration by this Commission. It proposes the creation of a committee with the mandate of visiting places of detention to inspect the detention conditions and the treatment of detainees.

The ICRC has been the only organization authorized, under the Geneva Conventions and the Statutes of the International Red Cross, to visit places of detention and to ascertain and ensure that the detainees are not subjected to torture or inhuman treatment.

This task of the ICRC has been unique, and since it is the only body undertaking such humanitarian work, the ICRC enjoys special respect in the eyes of the authorities, particularly in the field of protection. Any effort to in-

crease protection for the potential victims of torture should of course be welcomed. But we should also keep in mind the possible danger of a multiplicity of operators in this field, which may result in the reduction of protection.

The Human Rights Commission is probably the most appropriate organ of the United Nations to take on this responsibility, but our delegation feels that they should do so in close co-operation and co-ordination with the ICRC.

The ICRC should assume the leadership in this field and should guard against too many operators interfering in this venture, which has so far been the exclusive domain of the ICRC. Too many operators may result in overlapping and conflict.

In the light of the above, our delegation would like to propose a short amendment to the draft resolution tabled by the Swedish delegation; it concerns paragraph 2. We simply want to add, at the end of the sentence, after deleting the full stop, "... in close co-operation with the ICRC".

And I would read the amended sentence which will now be as follows: "... requests the United Nations Organization to expedite the adoption of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and including provision for the effective supervision and enforcement of this application in close co-operation with the ICRC."

Mr. Henrik BEER (League): — On behalf of the President of the League and the League delegation, I should like to make one or two remarks.

First, it is clear that we are in complete agreement with the text of the resolution and the importance of the item.

Secondly, we feel that, for those who are not working daily with these problems, it would look strange if this resolution were not sponsored by all elements of the International Red Cross: the ICRC, the National Societies and the League. During the next few days we will be discussing the dissemination of humanitarian principles where the League is not only the co-sponsor but the co-author of documents and will therefore help to present them.

So what we want, in the interest of clarity and to show the total support of the Red Cross for this resolution, is for the drafters to agree to add, in paragraph 3 of this resolution, a phrase indicating that the League of Red Cross Societies also contributes to the efforts to enhance awareness and support for the attempts to eliminate torture. We have our Agreements on the division of work with the ICRC, but we are a part of the public information side of the Red Cross and we think that it is only natural that the League be included.

Mr. Erik STAMPE (Denmark): — The practice of torture and all other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment continues to be reported from far too many parts of the world. Not only is it practised in its most debased and horrible forms, but science and technology have been perverted by sick minds, who invent unbelievably cruel and highly sophisticated modern methods of torture.

If respect for dignity is the most basic human right and man's most precious possession, what is then to be thought of a method which seeks to transform a torture victim into a worn out, beaten-up wreck, often irreparably damaged in body and in mind? It is not without reason that the ICRC has described torture as a cancer which attacks the very foundation of our civilization, and to fight this cancer all possible means should be used, including of course Red Cross action.

The ICRC has for many years done remarkable work in this field by visiting prisoners, and by appealing to governments to put an end to the practice of torture wherever it exists.

It must be recalled, however, that there are limits to what the ICRC can do in order to diminish or end torture. Sometimes, for example, governments simply refuse to accept the services of the ICRC, either in violation of the Geneva Conventions or in internal situations by evoking national sovereignty. In addition, there are countries in which the conditions do not yet exist under which the ICRC can usefully offer its services with any chance of their being accepted or even understood. It also happens, even in countries where the ICRC is allowed to work, that it does not have access to all prisoners, in particular in order to protect those most in danger of torture, detainees under interrogation.

In these cases I feel that National Societies have an obligation to help by all the means at their disposal, because the Red Cross action against torture should not be the responsibility of the ICRC alone.

As stated in document CD/6/1, National Societies have an imperative moral duty to fight for the elimination of torture by the methods that they feel best adapted to their national conditions, whether by encouraging their government to ratify international treaties, by working for the respect of national legislation forbidding torture, or by any other effective means, discreet or public, direct or indirect.

For too long National Societies have been silent when acts of torture have been committed. But do we not deny our own humanity, Mr. Chairman and my fellow delegates, as well as abandon others to lives of degradation and suffering, when we refuse to speak out against these acts of barbarism? To my mind, to keep silence when acts of torture are committed is often nothing more than cowardice, and I sincerely hope the situation will change during this conference and in the future.

I know full well that the adoption of resolutions by this Council or Conference will not bring about the elimination of torture, nor will the adoption by the United Nations of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment bring the crime of torture to an end. But they are all elements in the fight against torture and for this reason my delegation hopes that the draft resolution submitted by the National Societies of Sweden and Switzerland will be adopted by consensus.

Mr. Son SONG PIL (Korea, People's Democratic Republic of) (*Original French*): — Mr. Chairman, the delegation of the Red Cross of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea has studied the ICRC report on the action of the Red Cross against torture with great interest. We have also studied the draft resolution on torture which was submitted by the National Societies of Sweden and Switzerland.

We all know full well that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other texts strictly forbid torture or inhuman and degrading treatment. Torture is contrary to the humanitarian principles of the Red Cross in general.

Today in brutal violation of international law there are inhuman practices in some countries, such as torture, the massacre of innocents, and unjust imprisonment. At the present time certain countries even have specialized factories for producing instruments of torture and chemical agents which make interrogation and torture easier, as well as research centres on torture. Furthermore, all types of torture are practised: medieval or modern, torture with vipers, sexual torture, electrical torture, torture by fire, the tearing out of finger and toenails with bradawls and pincers, torture using incandescent lamps, torture hanging the victim in the position of a plane in flight, torture by suspending the victim by his feet so that his head is exposed to a hot coal grill, etc. Sometimes they die, sometimes they go mad and sometimes they become cripples. All these forms of torture are intolerable.

Therefore, my delegation considers that it is the duty of the Red Cross which upholds humanitarian ideals to denounce acts of torture and inhumanity and to make the world aware of these practices.

We also believe that we should include in the draft resolution on torture the sending of a group to investigate torture wherever it occurs systematically.

Mr. Anders WIJKMAN (Sweden): — First, the distinguished member of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society has proposed that we add to the end of the second paragraph the words "in close co-operation with the ICRC".

Our reaction would be that we can accept this amendment. We cannot of course say today which kind of control mechanism will be developed in connection with this torture convention. Professor Haug referred to the protocol proposed by Professor Gautier and sponsored in the UN by Costa Rica, which proposes the creation of a committee which will be responsible for visiting places of detention in States parties to the Convention and for inspecting detention conditions and the treatment of the detainees.

The Swedish Government, on the other hand, is trying to ensure that some kind of control mechanism is included in the convention itself. The important thing of course is that we do get some kind of supervision and control. Conventions and declarations are quite useless if they lack teeth, if they lack control and supervision. And, as already indicated by Mrs. Klum in her presentation of our draft resolution, torture is being practised by the majori-

ty of members of the UN family today, in spite of the fact that they have voted in favour of the declarations and ratified conventions strictly forbidding torture.

So it is important that we do get some kind of control mechanism: and I think that the proposed amendment in this context, underlining co-operation with the ICRC, is just strengthening this objective or aim.

Secondly, there was a proposal by Mr. Beer that the League should be mentioned in the third paragraph. Of course, I think that in day-to-day work the primary responsibility must lie with the ICRC, in particular when it comes to protection work among detainees; when it comes to moulding opinion and making the public aware of the widespread use of torture, I think the National Societies have the prime responsibility. But I have of course nothing to say against this amendment, because I think that the most important thing is to have the broadest possible consensus about the need to strengthen the work of the whole Red Cross movement against the use of torture.

The Swedish delegation can accept these two amendments.

Mr. M. A. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The ICRC always welcomes any action to fight torture and we would be pleased if there were a convention condemning torture and allowing us the better to combat this scourge. The ICRC is also in favour of the draft resolution presented by the delegation of Sweden and Switzerland, and we accept the small changes suggested by Sweden in the third paragraph. As regards the proposal made by Mr. Beer, the ICRC welcomes the League's solidarity in this struggle and therefore proposes the addition to paragraph 3 of the words "and the League", after the words "National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies".

The Bangladesh proposal is of course very worthwhile, but, if you will allow me to say so, the ICRC has one small reservation which is the following: the ICRC up to now has been able to carry out its activities of visiting prisons and places of detention and to pursue efforts to eliminate torture thanks to practices which we have learnt from experience and which have shown themselves to be fairly effective. I would like to remind you in particular of the principle, to which not only the ICRC but also governments adhere, that is, the principle of discretion of the delegates regarding what they might see in prisons. I do not know whether we can be sure that the Human Rights Commission will also be governed by this same principle of discretion. If this were not the case, ICRC activities would suffer enormously from having to co-operate closely with the Human Rights Commission for these visits. I would not like it to be said that the UN, through its Human Rights Commission, must co-operate closely with the ICRC and that we must co-operate with the UN as well—since co-operation is a two-way process. I would prefer to say that we would like the UN to study what form this co-operation with the ICRC might take. This is in order to protect this absolute need for discretion which is our only chance of gaining entry into prisons and actually coming face to face with the victims.

Another wish which has been expressed, namely that the National Societies not remain silent when confronted with cases of torture. Of course, such silence might seem to be complicity, but we must consider the special situation of many National Societies who, however motivated, however sincere and despite the best will in the world, cannot always condemn certain practices in their own countries. We must keep these situations in mind, otherwise we are going to drive a wedge between the ICRC and the National Societies.

Therefore, although we hope that the National Societies will take action against torture in their own countries (because it is very easy to condemn what is done elsewhere, but more difficult to condemn what is done at home) and that they will do their utmost in this respect, we realize that there are limits. Having said this, the ICRC generally approves the draft resolution which has just been submitted.

Prof. H. HAUG (Switzerland) (*Original French*): — I too fully agree that we should mention the League in the last paragraph; we could say, for example: "... appeals to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as well as to the League to sensitize and mobilize public opinion."

As regards item 2, for which Bangladesh has made a proposal and to which Mr. Naville has just referred, I would also like to point out that this second item is basically concerned with the drafting and adoption within the UN of an international convention against torture and it could even include an optional protocol. I do not know whether it is possible for us, in this resolution, to ask the UN organization to co-operate closely with the ICRC in the preparation and adoption of an international convention against torture, since, as Mr. Naville has stated, the

draft commission does in fact provide for complaint and investigation procedures which are not ICRC practice. The only important point where there might be problems of overlapping and of competition is the system of visiting which is provided for in the optional protocol and here, if you have had the chance to study this document, you will have seen that it states that this future international commission will not concern itself with places of detention visited by the ICRC on the basis of the Geneva Conventions, namely prisoners of war, and civilian internees.

For me, however, the key element is that item 2 deals with the preparation of an international convention within the UN organization and I do not think that we need to include a sentence requesting close co-operation between the UN organization and the ICRC in the preparation of this instrument.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — Does the delegate of Bangladesh agree that it may be preferable not to mention this amendment in paragraph 2, since it is not directly related to what he said in item 2, at this stage in any case?

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh): — After hearing the delegation from Switzerland, and also the points of view of the ICRC, the Bangladesh delegation will not press this amendment.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — So I think everybody would agree on adding the League in item 3 so that it will read: "... appeals to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as well as to the League...". I think that this will be accepted, as well as the other points, which I mentioned at the beginning, by the Swedish Red Cross. Do I understand that you accept this resolution by consensus? (*Applause.*)

NATIONAL SOCIETY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FINANCING OF THE ICRC

Now, as I proposed at the beginning this morning, we will take item 10 and I ask the Chairman of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC, Syed Wajid Ali Shah, to come to the rostrum and make his report on the work of this Commission.

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — The Commission for the Financing of the ICRC was set up in 1948 to help the ICRC find adequate financing for its permanent activities. Although it relies first and foremost on Swiss contributions, we think for several reasons that the Committee should receive financial support from the National Societies. First of all because in this way each Society can show its solidarity with the ICRC's humanitarian action in troubles and conflicts in which the National Societies cannot intervene individually.

Secondly, since ICRC expenditure is continuously increasing due to the deterioration of the international situation, we should permanently ensure that these activities are fully covered financially.

Several years ago the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC proposed to the National Societies that they should pay to the ICRC annually 50% of their statutory contribution to the League. This formula was generally accepted, but several National Societies pointed out that it was not logical to link contributions to the ICRC with the League's scale of quota contributions, because the two institutions have different programmes and objectives. With this position in mind, the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC, meeting yesterday, proposed that you should adopt a resolution calling on National Societies to continue to give the International Committee regular financial support which in the future will not be 50% of your contributions to the League, but a percentage of the annual budget of the ICRC. We hope these proposals will be accepted and we are convinced that it is the duty of every Society to co-operate in the activities of the ICRC.

I hope that all of you have received the draft resolution No. CD/10/PR/1:

The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the report submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC,

noting the continual increase in the ICRC's tasks and the financial needs arising therefrom,

drawing attention to the resolutions adopted by numerous previous International Conferences,

believing that it is the National Societies' moral duty to help the ICRC achieve its humanitarian objectives,

encourages the National Societies to support the ICRC in its negotiations with their governments,
proposes that the total contributions of National Societies should reach 10% of the regular budget of the ICRC, the share of each National Society in these contributions being defined by the percentage assigned to that Society in the League scale of contributions,
urges the National Societies to remit, as far as possible, the amount of contributions thus determined,
proposes to the International Conference to renew the mandate of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC.

I would like to say a few words before the discussion is opened.

This commission has been working for two days to find out the effect of the suggestion currently before you. And I hope you will be gracious enough to appreciate that the majority—and when I say the majority, I mean the real majority—of the Societies would be paying either the same or less than the 50% contributions which were required of them under the previous procedure.

Some of the Societies whom providence has put in a position to afford more, are required to pay more. And I hope they will be magnanimous enough to come forward to help the major arm of this body to be independent in its financing instead of looking around for funds to cope with its increased work.

Mrs. Mavy A. A. HARMON (Brazil): — I am sure that I speak for all of us when I say we would all like to contribute to the financing of the ICRC. But unfortunately there are some countries like mine which are undergoing financial and economic troubles. In my country, for instance, we have 100% inflation, that means that the scale of contributions paid in Swiss francs has gone up 100% in Brazilian cruzeiros.

So I would like to propose a small alteration to the text, where it says "... proposes" in the 6th paragraph I would write "suggests", because then those who can contribute, will, and those who cannot do so now, but maybe will be able to do so later, will not feel so bad about it. You say "proposes", and then in the next paragraph, you say "urges the National Societies to remit as far as possible", so we are giving the Societies the possibility of choosing depending on whether they can contribute or not. Changing "proposes" to "suggests" is the only amendment I would ask for, and I think then we would feel a little better about it. But we support you all the way and we wish we could give you a great big contribution.

Mr. D. G. WHYTE (New Zealand): — Our contribution was on exactly the same lines as that of Brazil. We believe that the expression in the second to the last clause, "as far as possible", should be deleted.

Mr. Noel BUCKLEY (Australia): — May I say, first of all, that we would beg to differ with the last suggestion made by the distinguished representative of New Zealand. We think that the words "as far as possible" should remain, and I believe that that is what the representative from Brazil also intended.

What worries me, and probably a number of other delegates, is that we are asked to consider this without any background figures. I do not know if they have been prepared, but it would be helpful if we could have some background figures which would indicate for each Society what difference it would make for a particular year, last year or this current year.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — Yes, I think that we can give you these figures.

Dr. Friedrich WENDL (Austria): — The Austrian Red Cross confirms that we support the ICRC as far as possible but, concerning the paragraph which starts with "proposes that the total contributions of National Societies should reach 10% of the regular budget", we do not know how much it is that the Austrian Society would have to contribute to the ICRC. Therefore we cannot be in favour of the proposal in the draft resolution.

Dr. Anton SCHLOEGEL (Federal Republic of Germany): — You know that my Society always endeavours to assist the International Committee of the Red Cross as far as possible and in the past we always paid half of the amount of our contribution to the League. I found this system rather good, and it was very easy for us to put the necessary figures in the budget of our own society.

Now I am not very happy about this draft resolution, and I understand this resolution would weaken the situation of the ICRC compared with the National Societies.

First I would draw your attention to the paragraph: "believing that it is the National Societies' moral duty to help the ICRC...". It is not just a moral duty to help the ICRC; we have the same duty towards the League. The difference is that in the League we are members and therefore pay a kind of membership fee, whereas our relationship to the ICRC is not one of membership; this does not mean, however, that our duty to pay a contribution to the ICRC is any less binding. This is my first point.

The next point concerns the paragraph beginning with the word "proposes". Here I have the same opinion as Mr. Wendl; if you are speaking about 10% of the regular budget of the ICRC, then you have only a figure for all the National Societies concerned, and it is absolutely impossible for any Society to know how much the other Societies would like to pay this year. In my opinion a general figure for all the Societies is only theoretical. You will know perhaps two or three years later the exact amount they all pay. You must have a regular commitment.

Therefore I would like to propose that we go back to our old system, and that we ask of each Society a yearly amount; that it should pay half of the amount which it has to pay to the League.

This is in my opinion only one possibility. If a Society wants to pay more it is a very good thing, but the duty should be to pay the same amount as before.

Mr. Imrich HATIAR (Czechoslovakia): — Our delegation has some general remarks to make on the present topic. In discussing ICRC finances, it is necessary in our view to differentiate between the financing of the functions of the Committee itself on the one hand, and the financing of ICRC activities on the other.

Concerning the first part, we fully agree with the necessity of contributing to this aim. Obviously the Committee could not exist without adequate funding.

Concerning ICRC activities with a view to achieving its humanitarian goal, we agree with contributions to any concrete activity, and this is the first important point. The submitted draft asks the National Societies to pay a contribution without having any concrete knowledge of the actual activities on which the money will be spent. Secondly, we are asked to fulfil our humanitarian duty only by contributing to the budget. From our point of view, as proved by our practice, contributions in kind are a most effective form of relief.

And last but not least, there is also the fact that according to the figures only some seventy Societies out of 126 contributed to the budget in 1980. For the reasons mentioned, we are of the opinion that a possibility for Societies to fulfil budget duties through contributions either in cash or in kind will encourage several National Societies to do so.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — If I may make just a remark, it is not very easy to pay salaries in kind, and our main budget item is salaries!

Mr. Myles C. HAGAN (Ghana): — The Ghana Red Cross delegation wishes to express its support in general of the resolution on financing the ICRC. Our reservation, however, lies with the percentage to be calculated on the basis of the contribution of each National Society to the League. If we can be assured of the calculation, we will be ready to support the proposal to the full. Right now we are a little hazy about how much we can contribute.

Mr. Ajit BHOWMICK (India): — The various speakers have indicated, directly or indirectly, that the present resolution as tabled would bind the Societies present to an unknown amount, and therefore the opinion has been expressed that we cannot bind ourselves to a blind resolution. For the present, what we could do is reiterate the need for contributing in greater measure to the finances of the ICRC and invite the National Societies to do their utmost.

They are quite willing to give but do not have the resources to spare, because only a few days ago, when we had the General Assembly meetings, we had to commit ourselves to an increased rate of quota payment.

Now we have the problems of the National Societies, mainly the developing Societies and Societies in developing countries. Unless they cut down their activities, they cannot contribute any more. Such is the situation in several Societies, reflected also by the report made by the League Secretariat that some Societies could not even make their normal quota payment. In this situation, which is so desperate as far as the National Societies are concerned, it is better not to impose upon them something which they cannot respond to, even if they want to.

Therefore, if this present resolution is reformulated to say how very urgent and important it is for the ICRC to be given additional reinforcement by National Societies, leaving it to the National Societies to continue to do their utmost, I think that this will be the most favourable compromise at this point in time.

Mr. Soehanda IJAS (Indonesia): — The Indonesian delegation in principle is in sympathy with this draft resolution. The National Societies are indeed bound to assist the ICRC financially.

As to whether it is a moral duty or not, is beside the point in my view. In my opinion, it is the duty of National Societies to assist, and I believe that we have to assist the ICRC, not voluntarily but by obligation, and that is why I consider it unnecessary to add the words “as far as possible” in the penultimate paragraph.

As we have observed, the greatest difficulty of this draft resolution is the paragraph which starts with the word “proposes”, since we are not aware at this moment of how much each Society has to pay.

As far as I know, the system of each National Society paying the ICRC a contribution of 50% of the contribution paid to the League is still in force; at least, our Society recently received reminders from the ICRC to that effect. And I believe that we have done what was requested by the ICRC. As was mentioned by the distinguished delegate from the Federal Republic of Germany, this is a system which works for the moment.

Therefore, while for the time being maintaining the existing system, we propose that we make a further study of this problem and that the National Societies be informed by the ICRC of the total budget of the ICRC for 1982/1983 etc., since we should know how much we have to pay annually. And it would be ideal for us to follow the system of the League where we are informed about how much is to be paid for 1982, 1983 etc.

So I believe that for the time being it is best to keep to the existing system, and then later we will have to have a kind of scale of contributions and the ICRC will inform us, as early as possible, how much each Society has to pay each year. The fact that there will be some Societies who are not in a position to pay is something we should take into account.

Mr. David V. BENDALL (United Kingdom): — My Society very strongly supports the principle that the Societies, whenever they can possibly do so, should demonstrate their support of the ICRC by financial means.

We can support paragraph 6 on the understanding, and I think it is a clear understanding, that it is a guideline.

Contrary perhaps to some of the previous speakers, I think it is more sensible that, however the level of contributions of the member societies are expressed, they should be related to the budget of the ICRC, rather than to the budget of the League, but nevertheless the League scale of contributions is reasonable as a basic guideline.

We have just had one or two cogent arguments to the effect that we do not like giving blank cheques. There is a choice: either the ICRC would have in effect to discuss or clear its budget ahead of time with the Societies or the League, which I would imagine would present certain major difficulties, or we could perhaps make a small modification in the formula by suggesting that the proposed 10% be related to the previous budget of the ICRC. At least we can see what it is, and later get information on how the money has been spent. So it would involve a very small modification to paragraph 6, which begins “proposes”, so that instead of saying 10% of the regular budget, it would say 10% of the previous ordinary budget of the ICRC.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — Thank you very much for this proposal which is clearly useful.

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh): — After hearing several delegations on the subject, the Bangladesh delegation would like to suggest that we should continue with the existing system of paying 50% of what we pay to the League.

In this regard, we fully support the proposal made by the Federal Republic of Germany and by Indonesia. We also propose that the mandate of the Commission be renewed; in the meantime, the Commission should study the subject further to find a better solution. The existing system should continue for the present.

H.E. Dr. Ahmad ABU-GOURA (Jordan): — I would like to make some alterations to paragraph 6, to amend it to follow the system we are using for the time being in contributing to the ICRC. Instead of paying 10% of the

budget of the ICRC, I think that we might change this to 50, 60, 70 or 80% of the regular budget of the League. This is much easier for us to understand; we can manage it, we can do something about it for the budget of our Society. If we can do it this way I think it is much easier for us.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — I think it is time now, Mr. Ali Shah, to take a position as regards these different interventions. Because, if it is merely a question of National Societies, the ICRC is ready to accept any contribution. How it is calculated, this way or that way, is not so important to us.

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — From the speakers, it seems that the major hindrance to accepting the proposal is lack of information.

Fortunately, or unfortunately, the ICRC has to work and will continue to work with great discretion, and it is not possible to publish all the details. In my humble way, I try to assure my sister Societies that the contribution they will make will be less or the same in the majority of cases. I will read out some countries' contributions in order to give them a little more confidence in our submission.

The first speaker was from Brazil. Their contribution based on the 50% in 1980 amounted to 20,316 Swiss francs. In 1982, based on 10% of a budget of 45 million Swiss francs, the contribution required of them would go down to 19,000 Swiss francs approximately.

The second speaker was from New Zealand. The figure for that country will remain the same as they paid in 1980, and probably will be a little less in 1981, perhaps 2,000 Swiss francs less.

These are two examples: if you like, I will read more. One of the major contributing countries was on the board this morning. They were asking for information, and I was looking at their contribution: in 1980 they contributed 294,000 Swiss francs, in 1982 they will be giving 288,000 Swiss francs, so their amount will be down by about 5,000 to 6,000 Swiss francs. This is a country which is paying a substantial amount of money.

Many people have taken the floor and shown themselves very alive to their responsibilities concerning a payment to the ICRC budget, but they felt that they did not have enough information. I hope that, with the examples I have quoted to them, they will now be magnanimous enough to agree.

We must take definite action to solve the problem which has been pending for a long time.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I would like to make the following suggestion, because I think that it is difficult for you to take a definite decision today, apart from retaining the status quo.

The question of ICRC financing will be brought up as item 5 of the agenda of Commission II of the Conference, to which we plan to submit a resolution concerning government contributions.

I suggest that we distribute the financial information which you require; we can make polycopies so that you can see for yourselves what a change of system would mean.

For the ICRC the change of system would have the advantage that the 10%, if we were able to reach it, would be more than we have had up to now. But, technically speaking, the ICRC does not favour one solution rather than another. If the consensus is to keep to the League contribution, increasing it perhaps from 50 to 60%, as Mr. Abu-Goura proposes, why not? I have the impression, however, that this new formula is more logical, as it is related to the ICRC budget, and it is the ICRC, not the League, that we are trying to finance. We can give you the ICRC budget figure regularly each year, so that you will know ahead of time just how much the following year's contribution will be. The technical aspect is not really decisive for the ICRC; what is important is that we will be able to count on your solidarity, as has been the case up to now. It was certain National Societies who, considering that to base our contribution on the League budget was not logical, proposed a change. For example, our colleague from the British Red Cross brought up a point which is certainly important about deciding which budget we ought to deal with.

Would you agree therefore that we stop the discussion for today, as I think you do not have enough information to hand to reach a final decision; and that we take this up again in Commission II under item 5 on the agenda? We shall see whether we might not then be able to come to some agreement or whether we would require further study. Do you agree? (*Applause.*)

I thank you very much.

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — I would suggest that I discuss with your expert what each Society would pay and you take other items on the agenda. As soon as the figures are ready, we will circulate them; if they are ready by this evening, we can go through them, if not, you can postpone the item.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Now that the figures regarding the budget have been distributed, I wonder whether we can take this up again in order to finish this evening.

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — I am sorry for the delay in distributing the papers containing the figures required by various Societies as their contribution to the ICRC.

I hope that by now the Societies have received these papers and that they will be gracious enough to accept the resolution as proposed.

Mr. James KANE (Canada): — We have just received the literature prepared in connection with this financing, and some time will be necessary to interpret the figures and assess the complete overall impact of contributions to the ICRC's affairs. I think this can be done much better at Commission II next week, for we have a smaller group than the large meeting tonight. And I would strongly recommend that we be given enough opportunity to study it and come back and deal with it during Commission II.

Dr. Victor LAROCHE (Haiti) (*Original French*): — The position of the Haitian Red Cross is very similar to that of Canada but with one small nuance.

I think that, given the figures which the ICRC has given us regarding the contributions made by the National Societies in 1980 and 1981, when 50% of the statutory contribution to the League was applied, and considering the contribution of these Societies under the 10% rule, we must admit that the very wise arguments presented by various delegates regarding the draft resolution on the financing of the ICRC no longer apply.

We think that the Council of Delegates should take a position on this and approve it, i.e. approve the new formula for contributions suggested in document CD/10/PR/1; this could be discussed in greater detail in Commission II under item 5 of the agenda.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Thank you. I believe the general opinion is rather that it should be referred to Commission II.

Mr. R. VERMEYLEN (Belgium) (*Original French*): — I would like to support the statement which has just been made.

It is preferable that within the Red Cross family we finish with a domestic problem and that the principle be adopted today subject to discussion of the practical aspect next week.

In order to set the minds of the delegations at rest, I wonder whether at the end of paragraph 6 we might not simply add the following "the participation of each National Society in this contribution is defined by the percentage of their contribution to the League with the limit of 50% due to the League". This should allay the misgivings of any delegates who were quite justifiably concerned, before documentation was available. We can thus reassure them that their contribution will never be more than 50% of their contribution to the League. And I think that given this we can come to a decision this evening and thus settle our domestic problem.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I do not think that this is the case for all Societies. If you look at it in detail, you will see that there are certain cases in which the new formula would go beyond the 50% level. If it were not so, I do not see why we would change the formula. We could have stayed at the 50% level. We are not looking for a scale of contributions where one would pay less; that is not the object of the exercise. We wanted to find a more equitable system. We believe that our new formula is more logical and equitable than the old one. That is why we wanted to make the change, not to have a reduction in the funds for the ICRC: that is not at all what we were aiming at!

And perhaps we might decide on the principle of adopting the new system rather than the old, or would you prefer to discuss it in greater detail next week?

Dr. H. MERINO GRIJALVA (Ecuador) (*Original Spanish*): — I think that this cannot be approved so quickly. If we leave it at the original 50% level, there is no problem, but then it does not solve the ICRC's problem. We greatly admire the Committee and we support its delegates in any way possible. We have already done so in national and international meetings, but love is not always blind: when you buy a gift for the loved one, the first thing you do is to look at your wallet; you want to give more, but you have to give what you can.

Mr. Soehanda IJAS (Indonesia): — I believe that we have not sufficient time tonight to take a firm decision on the draft resolution. But on the other hand, I am of the opinion that this is a household matter, which should not be discussed with people outside the Red Cross movement.

I feel we should carry out a study of what the new formula should be.

I would like to point out that, according to the existing system which is related to the contribution to the League, whenever the League's budget is increased, then our contribution to the ICRC which is half of that to the League will be increased accordingly. But I would like to see an examination of the question of whether in the long term the increase in the ICRC budget might not be much greater than the increase in the League budget.

If that is the case, then I would prefer to keep the existing system since, by simply accepting that we will contribute 10% of the ICRC budget, we would not know how much the ICRC's budget would increase in ten years; it could be much more than the League's budget increase. I suggest a further study of this matter by the same Commission as has proposed the draft resolution.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — Do you mean that we would take this up at the next Council of Delegates two years from now?

Mrs. Aracelis MASTRAPA MELERO (Cuba) (*Original Spanish*): — I believe that this is a very important item, causing concern to the Societies represented here and I believe that this should be more adequately studied in the relevant commission so as to reach an agreement satisfactory to all. However, we would like to take this opportunity of saying that we were very satisfied this year in learning that the government of Cuba recognizes the efficient role played by the International Committee in its action in various parts of the world and that although it is a poor country, Cuba has decided that from this year onwards it would make a contribution. We do not think that it is going to be a very great contribution, as our country is poor, but a symbolic act of recognition for the action of the ICRC.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — If I may, I will perhaps make one or two comments in my capacity as President of the ICRC.

Of course this is a matter first and foremost for the National Societies. That is to say they must decide what is the most suitable way to contribute, in relatively modest proportion of course, to the financing of the ICRC. You have chosen a commission to that end and you asked it to consider this matter.

That commission has studied the matter in great depth and has unanimously come to the conclusion that the system must be changed on one condition, and it has put before you this new system. So it is your representatives who are suggesting this new system.

I do not know how you want to proceed in future. Is the commission not sufficiently representative? It would seem that a great many of you would have preferred the former system, which was turned down by the commission as it was felt that the new system would be more logical and fairer, and would give more satisfactory results as well, and that includes the ICRC.

Unless we take a decision today, we shall remain with the former system, and there is no point in the commission's studying the matter further.

That is what I wanted to say. Either you decide that you want to retain the former system, based on the League scale of contributions, perhaps with a higher percentage because the needs of the ICRC are increasing, or you decide to adopt a new system based on the ICRC budget. It is a matter of principle really. I feel we should take a vote to know whether the majority is in favour of the old system or in favour of the new system; otherwise, we will never find a way out.

Would you agree to take a vote to see if there is a clear majority either way?

Mr. J. KANE (Canada): — A point of order. My recommendation was neither of those two, but was that we defer this matter and take it up in Commission II, so that we can debate it in much greater detail.

There are far more ramifications to this than just the old system or the new system. And I think that those concerned should be heard without a prolonged conversation and debate this evening.

Mr. C. B. MOSS (Bahamas): — It is the feeling of the Bahamas delegation that this matter is most important; it is also a most personal matter, and it should be discussed within the confines of the family of Red Cross Societies.

However, time will not permit us, this evening, to complete the discussion. In our opinion, we feel that the matter should be left as it is, to be taken up and completed at the next Council of Delegates in two years' time. But we feel that in the meantime the Societies who have not been doing so, should make a great effort to pay their commitment based on the existing formula, which is 50% of their contributions to the League. Looking at the document circulated, one can see that if more of the Societies would make an effort to do that, the ICRC, which is entitled to this expression of solidarity, would be in a far better position to carry out its functions.

So the Bahamas delegation feels that these Societies should make a great effort within the next two years to pay their commitment, and that this matter be dealt with in depth and finally in two years' time.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — Is that a view which is shared?

Syed Wajid Ali SHAH (Pakistan): — I don't know, Sir. I am beaten. And although beaten, I don't accept defeat! I would like to ask Mr. Kane: is the percentage amount the main problem? If so, we can pass the resolution and sit down on Monday to hammer out the percentage to one another's satisfaction.

But if we are going to reopen the whole thing for another two years, as suggested, then this question, Sir, is never going to end, and I may as well fold up what I am doing and leave the question to my successor and wish him luck.

Mr. T. W. SLOPER (Brazil) (*Original French*): — May I say first of all that this contribution to the ICRC is voluntary. It is not at all obligatory as is the case with the League. Many countries are already having difficulty in making transfers in strong currencies, and in fact since it is not obligatory, I think that some governments might not be willing to authorize the transfer.

I move that we vote on the Canadian proposal.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I must say that I continue to be in favour of a vote to know the majority opinion. If it is in favour of the present system, based on a percentage of the League's budget, there is no reason for the commission to continue its work.

Dr. H. MERINO GRIJALVA (Ecuador) (*Original Spanish*): — In my opinion what we should discuss is the following: Canada suggested this matter be dealt with in Commission II, i.e. that each National Society will be able to say in that Commission whether or not it is in a position to pay, because it is pointless for me who cannot pay to be represented by someone who can pay. So what Canada is asking is that the matter should be studied further. Since Canada's motion has been seconded, it should now be voted upon.

Mr. Traore LASSANA (Mauritania) (*Original French*): — To vote would be to compel the delegates to make a decision, but this they cannot do since they have not had time to examine the situation which the new formula would create. So, in fact, it is a question of making a choice between the familiar and the unknown. What has been said here shows that we should be given enough time to study the question and be able to vote in full knowledge of the facts.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Under the new system, as you will have seen, most societies will be paying less, but the major societies will make up the difference by paying more, and I think they are ready

to do so. Consequently, from that point of view, you are not risking a great deal. But I notice a certain feeling of insecurity so that, despite the forum being slightly different, I think you could study the matter in greater depth in Commission II, where the financing of the ICRC will in any case be rediscussed. I do not think that it will be a disadvantage if governments are present. So I think we should bring the discussion on the matter of National Society contributions to a close and end by a vote. I would rather avoid a vote today, since a number of you feel you are not ready to decide but wish to give further thought to the matter. We could vote in a few days' time so I suggest that the matter be referred to Commission II under its agenda item 5.

I think we agree.

INFORMATION ON ICRC-LEAGUE WORKING GROUPS

Mr. H. BEER (League): — I hope you have all noted that document 7.1, which you all have in your files, is called "Information", and it is not a question for decision. What it really means—and I am sure you have read it—is the final integration of the Tansley Report proposal into the normal work of the ICRC and the League.

You remember that, after the Tansley Report was presented in 1975, it was discussed in 1977 in Bucharest, then in Geneva in 1979; and in 1979 this Council of Delegates gave us a mandate to work on Youth, as inspired by the Tansley Report, also for the two organizations to constitute three working groups on Assistance, National Societies' Development and Information. Information will be reported on separately, so I will not mention this here; but when it comes to the other points, there have been a lot of meetings on development, and several of the suggestions which came first in the Tansley Report had already been discussed in the League's sessions and others will be discussed in Commission II and Commission III of the Conference. For instance, the question of development strategy where, to give only one example, we have now really got results in integrating the ICRC's work in the report on development. That was one of the suggestions which has already materialized.

There are also other items on the agenda for the Conference, which have to do with development, in particular problems of health, integration, community services and co-operation with authorities in planning. Concerning assistance, we have received a report from this Working Group, that has been sent to all National Societies, and there the mandate has been fulfilled on a number of points. I do not need to read them; you will find them on page 3 of the English text of the report, and the points concerning the role of the Red Cross in emergencies, personnel and training, co-operation with other institutions, disaster pre-planning, etc., and the functioning of our co-ordinating organs are already under way and on our agendas.

My colleagues from the ICRC and myself are of course at your disposal at any time to answer questions; but we think frankly it will be unnecessary to go into the substance, because this is just a report on how we have completed this task.

I would like to express my gratitude to those who have done the work, in particular one who has left our service but is here with us today, namely Mr. Elliott, who is now a British Red Cross delegate, and who played a very important role in presenting these reports.

I suggest, Mr. President, that with the exception of information, which we will handle separately, the Council of Delegates take note of this report and thereby accept that we have done what we were instructed to do, to see that the different suggestions in the Tansley Report have been properly treated and properly integrated in our work, point by point.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — I think that we will first give the floor to Mr. Murdoch concerning information. We will take the whole report together.

Mr. A. MURDOCH (League): — It is my privilege to present this agenda item on behalf of both the ICRC and the League, who are its co-authors. The relevant document to which the delegates should address themselves is document CD/7.3/1.

At the Twenty-third International Conference of the Red Cross, Resolution XX requested the League and the ICRC to undertake a certain number of actions and encouraged them to welcome other specific initiatives. The document before you reports specifically on three elements contained in Resolution XX.

Firstly, the Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross; secondly, ICRC-League co-operation in information and public relations; and, thirdly, the concept of the International Red Cross. I shall not be going into the details of the document, which is available for all delegations, but would like to take the opportunity to comment on a few aspects of the three chapters of the document.

Chapter No. 1. The Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross was officially opened on 30th September this year. Delegates will, we trust, have seen the display in the lobby area on this floor. The ICRC and the League are proud to be able to bring into being the first truly joint service of the two Geneva-based bodies. We very much look forward to a fruitful working relationship with National Societies and will endeavour to ensure that the Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross provides the required support for our movement in its efforts to illustrate for specific and general audiences the activities it carries out.

Chapter No. 2. Co-operation in information and public relations. The ICRC and the League co-operate in the matter of regional and technical meetings of information staff. Particular attention has been given to working together in promoting the Red Cross through films, especially at the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, known as the Varna Festival and organized by the Bulgarian Red Cross in co-operation with Geneva.

There are many other ways in which daily contact is maintained and working co-operation achieved between the two institutions. Further examples are given in Chapter 2 of the document.

Chapter No. 3. The concept of the International Red Cross. This element in Resolution XX of the Twenty-third International Conference was a direct follow-up to the recommendations contained in the Tansley Report. Over the past four years we have found the task requested of us both extremely delicate and arduous.

The proposal we have put forward to the Council may not be a revolutionary one. But we do feel that it is a practical and above all a realistic one. We need a workable proposal, one that will stand the chance of effective implementation, and we feel that we have achieved this in the proposal set out in Chapter 3.

Delegates have before them a draft resolution No. CD/7.3/PR/1. This seeks to bring before the Conference the follow-up which has been given by the League and the ICRC to Resolution XX of the last Conference.

Promoting the Red Cross: Joint efforts of the ICRC and the League

Having examined the document entitled "Concept of the International Red Cross and Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross",

expresses satisfaction at the effective follow-up given to Resolution No. XX of the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference on "Promoting the Image of the Red Cross Worldwide",

approves the orientation suggested by the ICRC and the League for the use of the concept of the International Red Cross, taking into account the Statutes and specific nature of each of its component bodies and *adopts* their joint proposal to insert, in each of their publications and communications to the media, a boxed note mentioning that they belong to the International Red Cross and giving a short description of their respective functions, with a view to making them more easily understood by the public at large,

invites the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to follow the recommendations of the ICRC and the League to insert similar boxes in their own publications and communications to the media,

encourages the ICRC and the League to continue their joint efforts to make known to the public at large the nature and scope of Red Cross activities at international level, and to support National Societies in their information programmes,

considers that the Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross—jointly administered by the ICRC and the League—is an important means by which the Red Cross movement can attain its objectives relating to information and dissemination.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Do you have any questions or comments regarding Mr. Beer's presentation, first of all?

And regarding Mr. Murdoch's statement?

This does not seem to be the case.

You have received the draft resolution on the joint ICRC and League effort; are there any comments regarding this draft resolution? Does it meet with your approval? (*Applause.*)

Well then I can see that you have accepted the draft by consensus; are there any further comments regarding this item on our agenda?

If this is not the case, we will go on to the next item which is the report on the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute and I now invite the Director, Mr. Meurant, to present the report.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HENRY DUNANT INSTITUTE

Mr. Jacques MEURANT (Henry Dunant Institute) (*Original French*): — The Report on the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute (Document CD/8/1) says that in the course of the period from 1977 to 1981, the Institute's Assembly and Board re-examined the statutes of the Institute and re-affirmed its function as a centre for studies, research, training and publications, in the service of the Red Cross, and that they also re-affirmed its role as an aid to the three member institutions and, consequently, the entire Red Cross movement.

In these four years, the Institute tried to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the members, to take initiatives and have them approved by the Board, and to meet the wishes expressed by the Council of Delegates in 1979.

The Institute's primary object is research. It has undertaken investigations in the different fields of Red Cross activity and has sought to develop practical studies of use to the movement and taking into account new needs and changes throughout the world.

It has been preparing working and reference documents, teaching materials, especially on the subject of international humanitarian law (such as the bibliography of international humanitarian law recently published jointly with the ICRC), indexes, a compendium of commentaries on humanitarian law, working documents drawn up during seminars held at the Institute, and teaching programmes, which are available to National Societies interested in them.

The Institute is currently preparing a glossary of terms of international humanitarian law, in four languages, and has just completed the first draft of a practical guide for National Societies on the methods of dissemination of international humanitarian law and the principles and ideals of the Red Cross. This draft has yet to be discussed by the group of experts on dissemination, after consultation with a number of National Societies.

Another type of research is basic research, which makes a modest but sure contribution to the intellectual and spiritual heritage of the Red Cross (for example Mr. Pictet's commentaries on the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, the studies being carried out on the Red Cross movement's contribution to peace, the investigation into the relations between the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and the spirit of peace, the study currently under way on Red Cross volunteers in today's society, and so on).

The Institute is happy to welcome students from National Societies and researchers from universities who wish to come and work on their humanitarian topics at the Institute.

Training, which is the second function of the Institute, has been developing in a most promising way in recent years, no doubt because it meets an urgent need. Admittedly, responsibility for the training of Red Cross senior staff and volunteers lies first and foremost with the various National Societies, the ICRC and the League, but recently the Institute has emerged as a permanent centre that can provide additional training to supplement that already given by other member institutions, thereby contributing to the development of National Societies. Such training includes for instance introductory courses on Red Cross activities throughout the world, for senior staff and volunteers of National Societies.

Pursuant to one of the recommendations made by the Council of Delegates in 1979, the Institute has organized seminars on the Red Cross and international humanitarian law, at the request of National Societies, for their own staff or persons not belonging to the Red Cross world.

A second, and relatively new type of training, which is part of the efforts made by all institutions of the International Red Cross and National Societies to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross, is intended for the public and for institutions that do not belong to the Red Cross world but are directly or indirectly concerned by the application of humanitarian law, and in any case by Red Cross activities. The Institute has tried to lay emphasis on a series of training programmes in the form of seminars for army medical officers, diplomats posted to Geneva, journalists, etc.

If possible, the Institute hopes to extend this form of training to international civil servants of governmental and non-governmental organizations, youth associations and nurses.

The third type of training provided by the Institute is the regional seminars on international humanitarian law organized in recent years, jointly with academic institutions, for officials of the ministries of defence, foreign affairs and education, the representatives of the armed forces, and teachers and students. Such seminars were organized in Africa in 1977, 1979 and 1981 and in Latin America in 1979 and 1981. The Institute is hoping to hold regional seminars in Asia and the Arab countries in the near future.

With regard to the Institute's publications, I should like National Societies to help us by taking over the translation and perhaps even the printing of various documents and pamphlets.

On the subject of finance, I would mention that the Institute recently had the privilege of receiving from Switzerland a donation obtained by the sale of a coin commemorating the 150th anniversary of Henry Dunant's birth; this enabled us to consolidate the capital of the Institute. Notwithstanding, the Institute's financial situation remains a cause of concern.

What can National Societies do to support the efforts made by the Institute?

- They might first of all provide staff for humanitarian activities and for the Institute's projects and supply it with all the necessary equipment.
- They could also use the Institute to organize seminars, either for their own nationals or for other groups and of course supply it with the means of carrying out specific projects which they consider useful to the Red Cross.

This has already been done over the past few years, and, on behalf of the President of the Henry Dunant Institute I wish to express his deepest gratitude to the National Societies of Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Spain and Sweden, which have contributed to both its regular and operational budgets.

In conclusion, the Red Cross institutions have indeed acknowledged that the Institute has a personality of its own, which, however, still needs defining. In future the Institute's identity might be centred around two main issues, namely new requirements and the problems of the Red Cross and training, the dissemination of knowledge of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law, both within and outside the movement.

This is the way the Institute may contribute to the efforts of its members and of the Red Cross, unobtrusively perhaps but effectively, if only it is given the means to do so. The Henry Dunant Institute should not blow its trumpet too loudly nor too softly, but it very much hopes to continue playing "allegro moderato" with understanding and support from all.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank Mr. Meurant for a very interesting statement. You have all received the draft resolution regarding the activities carried out by the Henry Dunant Institute and you may wish to comment on it.

ACTIVITIES OF THE HENRY DUNANT INSTITUTE

The Council of Delegates,

having considered the report of the Henry Dunant Institute on its activities since the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross (Bucharest, October 1977),

expresses its appreciation of the positive results which it achieved and encourages it:

- to continue its action in the service of the Red Cross movement in the field of research, training and publications,
- to reinforce its contribution to the efforts of the ICRC in disseminating international humanitarian law,
- to continue to support the action of the ICRC and of the League in the dissemination of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross;

encourages National Societies to contribute to the activities of the Institute, especially:

- by providing it with research subjects and programmes of a humanitarian character and by making available as far as possible qualified personnel to carry them out,

- by assisting the Institute in organizing for their own nationals or for other categories of people who do not belong to the Red Cross, seminars on the Red Cross, international humanitarian law and other specific subjects,
- by helping it produce and publicize its publications and by providing it with any useful material of a historic or legal character;

invites National Societies to provide it with the means necessary to the implementation of specific projects, thus enabling it to pursue and develop its action.

Jonkheer G. KRAIJENHOFF (Netherlands): — We have listened with great interest to the exposé of Mr. Meurant, Director of the Henry Dunant Institute, and we have read his report with extreme interest. It is a brief report, but it reflects an activity which is really impressive, and in that respect it is perhaps a very good example of what a report should be.

In view of the time available, I will not go into detail about the useful work the Henry Dunant Institute is doing in its various forms. I merely want to refer briefly to the draft resolution presented to us, which I think we can all subscribe to. However, I wish to point out one element in the resolution that struck me. Let us say first of all that we are very glad to have this resolution before we adopt it, unlike the resolution on the previous item on the agenda! In the first operative paragraph of the resolution, the Council of Delegates is to express its appreciation for many things and encourage the Henry Dunant Institute to “reinforce its contribution to the efforts of the ICRC in disseminating international humanitarian law”. I would have thought that it should be the other way round; that the ICRC would have been invited to reinforce its contribution to the Henry Dunant Institute. But perhaps we may take this clause in the resolution, which we can support, as a hint to the ICRC that they might do even more than they are already doing to provide the Henry Dunant Institute with the means to contribute to the ICRC’s efforts.

Mr. N. BUCKLEY (Australia): — The Australian Red Cross Society has measured with interest the report of the Henry Dunant Institute. It congratulates the Institute and all those concerned with it for the progress which has been made in the past four years in developing the role of the Institute and of what might be called the academic branch of the International Red Cross.

We have been especially encouraged by the work which has been done in the field of international humanitarian law and in particular by the organization of a series of regional seminars on various aspects of international humanitarian law for civil servants, senior members of the armed forces and the academic community, those people on whom the Red Cross is dependent for the putting into practice of the provisions of that body of laws which protects helpless individuals caught up in armed conflicts.

I am pleased to be able to inform the Council of Delegates that the Australian Red Cross has been able to respond to a proposal from the Institute that regional seminars for the Asian area be organized in Australia at the beginning of 1983. The Australian National University in Canberra, in association with the Australian Red Cross Society, will host the seminar, and during the coming days in Manila we expect to finalize with the Institute the programme and general arrangements for the East and South-East Asian regional seminar. Though it will be aimed largely at senior government officials and academic institutions in the area, the appropriate National Societies will of course be kept fully informed of developments, and the Australian Red Cross will provide the link between the law school of the Australian National University and the Henry Dunant Institute.

Mr. Hugo MERINO GRIJALVA (Ecuador) (*Original Spanish*): — In Ecuador we are very much in favour of the dissemination of information on humanitarian law and so I wish to corroborate what the rapporteur said concerning the seminar held by the Inter-American Lawyers’ Commission in Quito, Ecuador.

I am very happy to see that the Henry Dunant Institute is progressing nicely, but I must inform the Institute that the Ecuador Red Cross was not notified of this meeting and consequently we only just managed to attend the meeting. We had to pay a registration fee as one of the contributors to it in order to be admitted and we were unable, for example, to listen to Dr. Martinez, who is national relief director of the Columbian Red Cross, who submitted a magnificent study on the performance of the military in the event of catastrophes; the Columbian Red Cross also kindly lent us an excellent film on the Red Cross for a few months. I believe that when these seminars are organized by the Institute, the National Societies should be duly informed so that we can do something constructive or at least send people who might be interested.

Mr. B. EGGE (Norway): — The Norwegian Red Cross would like to put in a good word for the Henry Dunant Institute.

We are living in an age of proliferation of research institutes. Some of these, however, are based on a particular set of special interests. In this situation, the Red Cross idea needs its own intellectual base, a source, so to speak, of inspiration for action-oriented Red Cross activities. This is somehow much more worthwhile as our basic idea is founded on universality and neutrality, not on partisan interests. We strongly appeal to the National Red Cross Societies to contribute to the continued growth and importance of the Henry Dunant Institute.

This could be done in the following ways: direct financial contributions, or contributions to special projects of particular interest to a National Red Cross Society, or scholarships to students to work at the Institute; this would enrich the intellectual environment of the Institute, and the National Societies would thus be able to widen their contacts.

The Norwegian Red Cross Society supports the draft resolution on the development of activities of the Henry Dunant Institute.

Mr. Soehanda IJAS (Indonesia): — The appreciation and gratitude of our delegation go to Mr. Meurant for his excellent report and the fine job done by the Henry Dunant Institute, of which he is the director.

During the short time it has existed, the Institute has given proof of its importance within the framework of the International Red Cross.

We are in particular very impressed by the courses which are organized by the Henry Dunant Institute and from which we have benefited.

We would like to see these courses continued and their frequency increased. Of course, a budget is required for this undertaking, and therefore I would like to propose that an appeal be made by the Henry Dunant Institute to National Societies for voluntary contributions. I believe that it has never been done, but it could be tried and I am confident that the result will be positive and that the Henry Dunant Institute will be of greater utility to the Red Cross in general.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman): — I am sure that Mr. Meurant will be very delighted.

Mr. R. VERMEYLEN (Belgium) (*Original French*): — First of all I should like to second those who have expressed their appreciation to Mr. Meurant for the excellent report he presented this afternoon and for the document which we found extremely interesting.

The resolution was presented by many Societies, the International Committee and the League. I should like to refer to two words in this text: the word “encouragement”, which appears twice in this draft resolution; firstly, encouragement for the Institute to continue its efforts in aid of the Red Cross movement in the field of research, publications and training; encouragement to reinforce its contribution to ICRC efforts even if our friend wondered if we should not reverse the order in the text; encouragement to continue supporting ICRC and League action for the dissemination of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross.

But encouragement, too, Ladies and Gentlemen, to the National Societies, for the Henry Dunant Institute is not only at the service of the Red Cross movement but also, and more particularly, at the service of National Societies. They should benefit from this and learn to have recourse to the Institute and help it; this is why the resolution requests the Societies to suggest research subjects of a humanitarian nature and as far as possible to provide the Institute with qualified personnel; and to help the Institute to organize seminars on international humanitarian law for their own members or for others, and to assist the Institute in producing and disseminating publications.

Last but not least, the resolution invites—and I would add “encourages”—National Societies to provide the Institute with the necessary means for it to implement specific projects thus allowing it to continue and develop its action.

This, Mr. Chairman, in a nutshell is the support which the Belgian Red Cross wishes to give to the Institute and my delegation hopes that all delegations will be unanimous on this matter.

Dr. Bosko JAKOVLJEVIC (Yugoslavia): — From the report of the Director of the Henry Dunant Institute and from our contacts with him and the Institute, we see that various types of activities are being pursued. I would like to give just a few examples to show how different these activities are.

The Institute is a member of the Commission of the Red Cross and Peace and so is able to contribute to examining this question in depth. At our centre for training executives of developing countries the Institute provides lecturers on the principles of the Red Cross. The Institute possesses valuable historical documents which it keeps at the disposal of National Societies wishing to research their history. The Institute, as you know, has recently undertaken an important study on voluntary service. It has also published other studies, organized courses and seminars on the dissemination of international humanitarian law, etc. So we appreciate very much the work of the Director and his collaborators in all these various directions and we think it should continue that way. For this reason we support the resolution.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I believe that there is a consensus to support the draft resolution and to thank the Institute for its activities and to encourage it to continue. I believe that we can approve the draft resolution by consensus. (*Applause.*)

FUNDS AND MEDALS

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — We have already presented the Henry Dunant Medals and now we come to the report on the awarding of the Florence Nightingale Medal, on the revenues of the Augusta Fund and on the French Fund Maurice de Madre. I now call on Mrs. Weitzel, an ICRC member, to present this report.

REPORT ON THE AWARD OF THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL AND ON THE INCOME OF THE AUGUSTA FUND

Mrs. Andrée WEITZEL (ICRC) (*Original French*): — I shall speak on the report on the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal and on the income of the Augusta Fund; I shall then speak on the French Fund Maurice de Madre.

I shall briefly remind you what the Nightingale Medal is; then I shall report on the 27th award in 1979 and the 28th in 1981. I shall then say a few words about the Augusta Fund, and the French Fund Maurice de Madre, which is a special fund and which has nothing to do with a medal or a decoration but which is a special award of great interest to all of you.

First the Florence Nightingale Medal: it was at the Eighth International Red Cross Conference in 1907 that the Hungarian Red Cross suggested the creation of the Nightingale Foundation for an international commemorative medal for ladies who have played a very important role in caring for the sick. That Society wanted in this way to create a reminder of the devotion of Florence Nightingale, a British nurse, who was extremely active during the Crimean war and to honour her memory by a medal bearing the replica of the "Lady of the lamp" statuette which is at St. Thomas Hospital in London. All National Societies were in favour of this suggestion. The Nightingale Fund was thus set up and the Ninth International Red Cross Conference adopted a resolution in 1912 for the award of this medal.

On 12 May 1920, the day of the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, 51 medals were awarded for the first time. According to the present rules concerning this medal, the last revision of which dates back to 1952, the Florence Nightingale Medal is to be awarded to nurses and voluntary aids registered with the Red Cross who have distinguished themselves by their great devotion to the wounded or sick in peace and in war. It is awarded by the International Committee of the Red Cross on the basis of proposals submitted to it by the National Societies.

Counting the 28th series of awards on 12 May 1981, 853 medals have been presented to recipients in 65 countries. Red Cross nurses or volunteers from the following countries were awarded this medal in 1979 and 1981:

Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Japan, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, Thailand, United Kingdom, USA, USSR and Yugoslavia.

I would like to remind you that according to a decision of the Twenty-first International Red Cross Conference in 1969, the revenue of the Augusta Fund has been allocated, until a further decision, to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, which increases the latter's possibilities.

INFORMATION ON THE FRENCH FUND MAURICE DE MADRE

I would now like to talk about the French Fund Maurice de Madre. I would like to draw the attention of the National Societies to the existence of the French Fund Maurice de Madre. National Societies may submit cases eligible under the statutes of this fund, which is made up of Count Maurice de Madre's legacy to the ICRC, after his death on 25 December 1970. According to the rules adopted on 9 September 1974 by the ICRC Assembly, the revenue of this fund is to be used to help permanent or temporary staff, especially delegates, and male or female nurses, of the ICRC, the League or National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies who have been injured, or disabled during their work in war or catastrophes and hence who would find themselves in a difficult situation or in bad health. In the last two years, only five cases were submitted to the Council of the Fund, which includes the Count de Madre's family, the ICRC and the League. Given this small number of cases, you have all received reminders of the existence of the Fund and of the grants it makes to compensate disabled members of national and international Red Cross workers.

The Fund Council and the ICRC changed the 1974 rules, in April 1981, in order to extend benefits to the families of delegates of National Societies, the ICRC or the League who have, for example, lost their lives in the course of their humanitarian mission.

I would now like to point out the changes in these regulations, as they are recent and not yet known by everyone. They aim to extend the range of beneficiaries, because there were very few requests under the original regulations. I would like to inform you of some of these changes, so that you can know in what circumstances you may appeal to this fund depending on the cases you know.

Article 1 reads: "The French Fund Maurice de Madre consists of the property bequeathed to the ICRC".

And Article 2 reads: "In accordance with the deceased's last wishes, the income of the Fund and, depending on the circumstances, the capital, shall be used to provide assistance, by paying for rest and convalescence cures for persons of the permanent or temporary staff of international or national Red Cross institutions, such as delegates or nurses who, in the course of their work or during war operations or natural disasters, have suffered injury and have thereby found themselves in straitened circumstances or in reduced health." That is an extension of the original provisions.

Should the financial position of the persons be such that they require a financial subsidy rather than rest or convalescence, the Board of the Fund may decide, upon the advice of the ICRC, to use the grants in that way.

If the persons should lose their lives in the course of their humanitarian mission, a financial subsidy may be paid to their families, should the latter find themselves as a consequence in such straitened circumstances that financial aid is absolutely necessary..

These rules may be changed under the same conditions as for the ICRC's Rules of Procedure, but the purpose of the Fund, as inferred from the general wishes expressed in the will of Count Maurice de Madre, cannot be changed. I would like to draw your attention to the very existence of the fund and ask you to see to what degree it might be useful to you.

To conclude, we express again our gratitude for this generous bequest which helps those who suffer in the service of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank Mrs. Weitzel for her report. Do you have any questions?

As this does not seem to be the case I will now go on to the report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund, Mr. Aubert, an ICRC member, will present this report.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMISSION OF THE EMPRESS SHŌKEN FUND

Mr. Maurice AUBERT (ICRC) (*Original French*): — Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen. Since the report which was given you is very detailed, and in view of the late hour, I will be very brief.

Since the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference, the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund has paid grants to a total of 850,000 Swiss francs. This amount was shared among thirty National Societies: eight in Asia, fourteen in Africa and the Middle East, and eight in South America.

Furthermore, the Joint Commission has recently drafted bye-laws which are intended to describe the practice of this Commission over the last fifteen years.

On behalf of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund, allow me to express our gratitude to the Japanese Imperial Family, the Japanese Government and the Japanese Red Cross: over the last 69 years, they have been unfailingly generous in adding to this fund so that year after year it has helped a great number of National Societies in a most effective way.

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — I thank Mr. Maurice Aubert for his presentation.

Do you have any questions?

As this does not seem to be the case, we can now go on to the report of the Council of the Foundation for the ICRC, and I ask Mr. Naville to present his report.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE ICRC

Mr. M. N. NAVILLE (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Foundation for the ICRC was established in 1931, in Switzerland, in order to provide from its income financial aid to the ICRC.

This has been achieved only partly, even symbolically I would say, since the capital of the Foundation amounts to 1,028,000 Swiss francs, i.e. less than 600,000 dollars, so it does not produce much income.

The Foundation Council members are appointed: three by the ICRC, two by the Swiss authorities and two by the International Red Cross Conference. These last two members, Mr. Henrik Beer and Mr. Bengt Bergman, complete their term of office today, and I would like to thank them for their help.

It is up to you then to elect two new members of the Foundation Council whose mandate will extend until the next International Conference.

I would like to propose Mr. Hans Høegh, the new Secretary-General of the League, for election and Mr. Bergman for re-election. (*Applause.*)

Mr. A. HAY (Chairman) (*Original French*): — Thank you very much and at the same time I would like to thank Mr. Beer for his lengthy service in this rather difficult task.

MISCELLANEOUS

There being no further business the meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY

7 November 1981 at 10 a.m.

Entry of the colours.

National anthem.

Music.

SUMMARY: Formal reading of the Fundamental Red Cross Principles by Dr. Pacifico E. Marcos, Vice-President of the Philippine National Red Cross Society. — Address of welcome by General R. C. Espino, Chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross Society. — Address by Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross. — Address by Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. — Address by Mr. Enrique de la Mata, President of the League of Red Cross Societies. — Address by General Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

FORMAL READING OF THE FUNDAMENTAL RED CROSS PRINCIPLES BY DR. PACIFICO E. MARCOS, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETY

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 to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give 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 organization 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 worldwide institution in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME BY GENERAL R. C. ESPINO, CHAIRMAN OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETY

General R. C. ESPINO: — Mr. President, all the distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. The Red Cross has gone a long way in its more than a century-and-a-quarter of service to humanity. Its social concern for ameliorating the conditions of wounded and sick soldiers during wartime—as inspired by the experience of Jean Henry Dunant in the Battle of Solferino—soon extended to the protection of civilians from the hostilities not of their own making. Its service to the victims of war and other man-made disasters has likewise extended to the victims of earthquakes, floods, and other natural disasters all over the world. The organization has found unlimited opportunities for the service both in war and in peace.

Over time, the nature of war has changed in its sophistication and complexities—in its weapons and in its politics and economics. Natural calamities themselves have struck with alarming frequencies and intensities. Their victims have not only increased in numbers, but their sufferings have also taken new forms—including mental and psychological.

Yet, the Red Cross has always risen to its challenges and has always been equal to the task. It has adapted to the needs of the times. Where human lives are at stake, the organization has not been wanting in responsiveness, will, creativity, and dedication—at both individual and collective levels—even in the face of serious resource constraints.

The founding of the Philippine National Red Cross shows the solidarity of the Filipino people with peoples all over the world in striving for a better quality of life for entire mankind. No less than President Marcos and the inspiration of our First Lady Madame Imelda Romualdez Marcos have underscored the importance of man in the development of the nation and have likewise emphasized our duties and responsibilities as a member of the community of nations.

Now, it can truly be said that the Filipino has extended his vision beyond the confines of the Filipino community, well into the global society—in line with the vision of the Red Cross for one world where love, peace, and other humanitarian values prevail.

The holding of the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross in Manila this month is doubly significant—relevant and timely—in both space and time. In 1934, the Conference was held in Tokyo, in 1957, it was held in New Delhi. But this is the first time for the International Conference to be held in Southeast Asia. We in the Philippines, are happy and proud that this prestigious Conference is held in our country.

What remains the biggest challenge to the Red Cross is its commitment to the attainment of genuine, positive, and lasting peace.

When Henry Dunant founded the Red Cross, he did not perhaps expect it to be as big and influential as it has become. Perhaps, he did not expect its roles to be that complicated either. But redefining its roles in the face of our problems, and taking a position on issues where the organization has to, constitute the primary challenges that the Red Cross faces today—and may this Manila Conference strengthen our resolve to meet these and the rest of our challenges squarely in the interest of mankind.

On behalf of the Philippine National Red Cross—your host society—I welcome you to this 24th International Conference in Manila, and I hope you find your stay pleasant, interesting, and fruitful.

ADDRESS BY SIR EVELYN SHUCKBURGH, CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

Sir Evelyn SHUCKBURGH: — My first duty as Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross is to express our heartfelt thanks to the Philippine Government and the Philippine National Red Cross for providing us with this magnificent setting, and for creating this auspicious start to our 24th International Conference. The hospitality we are receiving, the excellence of the arrangements made for us, and the friendly attentions given to us by so many energetic and enthusiastic Philippine colleagues, volunteers and Red Cross personnel, have been most highly appreciated by us all.

The Standing Commission which has, among other tasks, the responsibility for selecting the host city of the Conference, congratulates itself on having chosen Manila on this occasion and I know that all the participants in the Conference will share our appreciation and satisfaction and will join in the thanks I am expressing.

It is a very great privilege for me to find myself standing on this podium and to address the assembled leaders of the Red Cross World in the presence of the representatives of Governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions. It is an opportunity to say something to my Red Cross colleagues and friends which I cannot let slip, more especially as this will be my last appearance on the Red Cross scene. Following the precedent set by my two predecessors, Lady Limerick and Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris, I shall try to express in a few words my thoughts about the Red Cross and its place in the contemporary world.

As soon as one has uttered the words "the contemporary world" one's mind becomes filled with dark thoughts and deep forebodings about the violence and the suffering which that world contains, and the sounds of conflict that rend the air.

Then when you listen with greater attention, you can hear in the background a distinct, pure voice, a voice of mercy and forgiveness trying to make itself heard above the din. This is the recognizable voice of the Red Cross. It is not, alas! always listened to, but it never ceases to sound and it will never cease to sound.

This perpetual melody, the "Song of the Red Cross" I might call it, is made up, like the complicated score of some orchestral work, from the voices of each one of us in the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Every utterance from any one of us contributes to the total effect and the total influence of our song. How very necessary it is, therefore, that our voices should sound in harmony.

We, as representatives of all the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the world, have been here together in Manila for one week, discussing our affairs, and we are now about to engage, for another week, in a dialogue with the Governments, signatories of the Geneva Conventions. Only once every four years do we have this opportunity to engage the direct interest and support of Government representatives, and to enter into colloquy with them about the humanitarian problems that confront them as well as us.

It seems to me obvious that we should use these rare occasions to bring to the attention of the Governments, through their representatives, the enormous range of constructive work carried out by the Red Cross throughout the world, and show them the value of our activities. This means that we should concentrate, during this second week in Manila, upon the real, as opposed to the procedural or structural or "conferencial" aspects of our performance.

I leave aside, at this point, the first and perhaps the most essential element in the Red Cross' mission, the function of "Protection", the function of active and impartial intervention on behalf of individuals in situations of conflict, because this is the function of the ICRC whose President, Mr. Hay, is about to address you himself. Apart from that vital matter, Governments are interested in what voluntary organizations like ours can do, not in what we say, or in how we arrange our hierarchies. They want to know what part the Red Cross can play in the solution of their Health and Welfare problems or in meeting emergency situations in their own countries and what contributions the Red Cross can make towards disaster relief and to other international needs.

I suggest, therefore, that we concentrate our attention from now on upon this real work of Red Cross. This will be good for our reputation as well as for our morale. For so long as one is contemplating only what happens at the level of Conferences or Committees, one might be tempted to conclude that there is evidence of deep divisions in the Red Cross, or that we are enmeshed in sterile constitutional and organizational problems. One might even conclude that the Red Cross was encountering some difficulty in maintaining the purity and the high principles for which it has always been so renowned. But such a view, which would be profoundly discouraging if it were justified, would be based, in my opinion, on a wrong perspective. These problems arise at an essentially superficial level (the Conference level) and are relatively unimportant. At the ground level, where the work is done, our movement has never been more active, more effective, more greatly in demand, more true to its mission. The records of the work of National Societies, taken together with the long list of their Relief operations and Development activities coordinated through the League, provide the proof of that.

For it is at the level of National Societies and their work on the ground, Ladies and Gentlemen, that the true value of Red Cross is to be judged. If you want to envisage the reality of Red Cross, you must cast your minds

back to your own country, where the Red Cross workers, the volunteers, old and young, of your Societies are now, at this very moment, truly on the job.

When I had the honour of addressing the European Regional Conference in Budapest last May, I said that the work of the National Societies, being the real substance of what the Red Cross does, was the only thing that gave significance to the meetings and the talking and the voting of representatives in Committees. I also pointed out, and do so again today, that National Societies are independent. Apart from their independence within the State, they are independent of one another and independent in relation to the League. They belong to the League for mutual support and for the organization of mutual services, but no Society is obliged to do what it is told by other Societies or groups of Societies or by the League.

Societies have two main obligations; the first is that they must abide by Red Cross Principles and the second is that they should give one another support and assistance in Red Cross work in every possible way. That is the great—and very comforting—strength of the Red Cross, and it is because of this that we can be sure the Red Cross will survive. It is pretty well immune to any serious sickness or infection because of the flexible independence and interdependence of its component parts.

For all these reasons I invite our Government colleagues at this Conference to turn their thoughts to the record of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the last four years, since we last met.

General relief work by both ICRC and League has spanned the whole world, but the largest efforts have been in South East Asia and on the continent of Africa, where assistance has been given to literally countless victims of conflict, drought and famine. The number of refugees assisted during this period has certainly exceeded that in any similar period of so-called “peace”. Never has the League handled such a vast complex of aid and development programmes as during these years—the details, and the huge scale of these programmes were vividly described to us by President Adefarasin at the opening of our League Assembly last week. In addition to this, the League and the ICRC have been working on plans to strengthen the capacity of the smaller National Societies, who are in so many cases the channel through which international assistance is administered. A new “Strategy for the Eighties” has been evolved, and was approved by the Assembly this week, for the purpose of advancing this essential element in international aid. It would not be a great exaggeration to describe this imaginative document as our own “Brandt Commission Report”.

And so, Ladies and Gentlemen, the work of the Red Cross is in full spate. Not everybody finds it easy to understand our peculiar structure with our two organizations in Geneva and our 128 organizations round the world, and not everybody can fully comprehend the philosophy, the ethic. But everybody can understand the motivation and the Principles and everybody can understand mercy and humanity. This whole thing, the Red Cross in its entirety, can be compared to a priceless work of art which has been entrusted to each one of us for safe keeping. Here it is in our hands; if we carelessly drop it or let any part of it become stained by extraneous animosities or ambitions or by inappropriate conduct, we could bring the whole into disrepute and we would never be forgiven.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is only because I am Chairman of the Standing Commission that I have felt entitled to speak to you in this rather didactic manner. For membership of the Standing Commission does involve a broad responsibility for defending the character of the Red Cross movement and helping us all to remain true to its principles. I have been conscious of this responsibility during the eight years that I have served on the Commission, and I now thank you for having honoured me with your attention.

ADDRESS BY MR. ALEXANDRE HAY, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Mr. A. HAY (*Original French*): — Your Excellency, Mr. President, Mr. Chairman of the Twenty-fourth International Conference, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Since the honour devolves upon me in my capacity as President of the International Committee of the Red Cross to take the floor at this point of the opening session of the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference, I will make use of this opportunity to express all the gratitude of the ICRC to the Philippine Red Cross

which, with the generous assistance of the government of this country, has prepared, organized and welcomed these sessions of the movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in this marvellous setting.

And I wish also to pay my respects to the people of the Philippines whose reputation for hospitality is so strikingly confirmed today.

By holding its conference in South-East Asia, our movement has sought to underscore the full importance it attaches to the Third World in general, and to the Asian continent in particular.

Our meeting takes on a symbolic value in this country which has interwoven traditional values and modern ideas, in this city where the most diverse influences mix without clashing. The ideal of our movement exists in the consciences of all peoples, whatever may be their beliefs or their civilizations. Our meeting here, in Manila—the crossroads of East and West, of North and South—bears witness to these values.

This ideal, perpetuating itself through the young, constantly provides the movement with the renewal it needs in an epoch when we are overwhelmed by the extension of conflicts and internal tensions, by the eruption of tragic situations. This ideal is all the more necessary as we live at a time when the means for fighting an enemy, an ideology, a belief, have been frighteningly developed: terrorism, the taking of hostages and torture have become destructive mechanisms from which more and more victims cry to be saved.

I would be falling short of my duty if I did not take advantage of this occasion to tell you about the concern of the ICRC in the face of these developments. The increase of violence perpetrated indiscriminately, the constant violation of basic humanitarian principles, are assuming agonizing proportions, especially in conflicts involving ideologies or race prejudice—whether restricted to one country or international—where the struggle has all the horror of total war. Just as the attempt was made, in the past, to annihilate human beings because they belonged to a certain race or a certain people, so today, a man who thinks differently seem to lose his status as a member of the human family. He becomes an “outsider”, and the principle, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you”, no longer applies to him or to his loved ones, because ideological blindness keeps us from being able to recognize the essential inner manhood. This is the source of all terrorism: State terrorism which leads to bombarding civilian populations, to the secret “elimination” of opponents, to their summary execution or their torture in prisons; group or even individual terrorism which strikes out blindly at anything within reach, women and children, natives and foreigners alike, who have any connection, no matter how tenuous, with the enemy. In both cases, any pretext is put forward to justify these unjustifiable actions: military imperatives, State security, and the last means resorted to by oppressed peoples. And in all such cases the ICRC is aware of the element of contempt for the human race and violation of the fundamental rule of humanitarian law: respect for the non-combatant. What shreds of humanity can be left if our ideologies keep us from seeing the human being in our defenceless enemy, and even deform our vision so that we see an enemy in the innocent?

We are making our appeal to governments and to individuals, to those who hold power and to those who are fighting to gain this same power: while waiting for the real peace that we all hope for, we ask them that, in their conflicts, they spare the little enclaves of humanity before they are crushed in the machinery of violence that knows no limits. This is the message of Henry Dunant, but it is also expressed in the many humanitarian traditions which individualize the differing civilizations of our globe—those of the past, like those of the present; in the South as in the North; in the East as in the West.

Another matter that seriously troubles the ICRC is the invasion of politics in the humanitarian field. Many governments authorize the ICRC to come in where there are armed conflicts, whether international or not, internal tensions and strife. Even if, too often, their decision is not devoid of ulterior political motives, they generally are also influenced by honourable and humanitarian motives. In contrast, if the authorities oppose the humanitarian initiatives of the ICRC, it is almost always for political reasons alone.

Obviously, the ICRC is not blind to the political environment in which it must exercise its humanitarian tasks. Armed conflicts, whether international, internal, or both, are an intensified form of politics, and it is impossible to ignore this fact. The same is true of internal upheavals and tensions which almost inevitable result in the taking of political prisoners.

However, the ICRC expects governments to refrain from distorting humanitarian action by using it as a means for obtaining political goals. This attitude is not only contrary to humanitarian principles, experience has shown that it does not work. Using humanitarian action for political ends gives the illusion of settling basic pro-

blems, but actually it confuses cause and effect. When there is a sincere desire to contribute to peace, it would be wiser to look for a solution to political problems during the temporary lull provided by humanitarian action, than to try to politicize this action to produce a solution.

When it comes to interpreting international humanitarian law, we recognize the same unfortunate trend toward politicization. Much too often the ICRC finds that it has been authorized to visit military prisoners, chiefly to prove that there is an international conflict; or, on the other hand, access to prisoners may be refused because of fears (without any basis in law) that this would amount to an admission that a state of occupation or of international conflict exists. Then again, and too often, the proclamations of intention to observe humanitarian rules are made principally for their propaganda value, as the total absence of any application clearly reveals. The tree is known by its fruits, and the primary interest of the ICRC is the protection of victims, and not to provide a legal definition of what constitutes a conflict situation, or to specify the status of persons to be protected. Besides, the ICRC is perfectly aware that it has neither the competence nor the power to impose its views in these matters. The international community has given the ICRC its mission to provide protection and assistance, and in fulfilling this mission, the ICRC looks for possibilities of concrete actions, not for itself, but for the victims, and these go far beyond the limits of legalistic definitions. A particularly repugnant practice is to use humanitarian law itself to restrain the ICRC, when the very purpose of the law is to make humanitarian action possible.

I shall go into this problem more deeply in my report on Monday to Commission I on the activities of the ICRC.

And, finally, I want to introduce a subject which is very close to my heart: the contribution of the Red Cross as a whole and the ICRC in particular to the efforts being made for disarmament.

Since the beginning of its history, the ICRC has believed that its work for the victims of conflicts goes further than the immediate aim of alleviating suffering, it is also to make a contribution towards peace. The first step toward lasting peace is disarmament, and the ICRC considers that the Red Cross movement cannot hold itself aloof from the humanitarian problems raised by the armament race, by the massive delivery of arms throughout the world: nor can it ignore the difficulties that assail those who work for disarmament.

Until now, the major contribution of our movement in this field has consisted in stating its deep distress in the face of a situation which is constantly growing more dangerous, and in pleading with governments to do everything possible to end this constant balancing of terror against terror which may prove fatal to the human race.

It is only honest to admit that this is not enough. But we can also state clearly that it has not been our indifference that imposed limits on this action: disarmament has been and remains at the heart of our concerns. What else would be possible for a movement that was born on a battlefield, and day after day thereafter has been the direct witness of all of war's horror?

If it has been impossible for us to act more effectively so far, it is because two major obstacles block the way:

The first is technical in nature: questions related to disarmament call for a high degree of specialization when they are examined in depth, and as a rule, the various organizations of the Red Cross cannot count on the services of qualified experts. The Red Cross is always scraping the bottom of the barrel to find the funds needed for its traditional activities and it is hard to imagine how it could launch into costly investigations by experts without any guarantee that there would be tangible results.

The second major obstacle that bars the way to more concrete Red Cross action goes far deeper. In order to be really effective, a disarmament drive must have well-defined goals. In other words, it must leave behind the stage of general exhortations about which everybody is already in agreement, and tackle the problem of procedure. Because it is especially there that the real difficulties are encountered. All the Powers proclaim that they are in favour of disarmament, but they cannot agree on what to do about it.

And this is precisely where our movement faces a dilemma—one that may have no solution. It is impossible for us to take specific positions on procedures to be adopted for disarmament without trespassing on the political field and so deviating from the fundamental principles of the Red Cross. Are we not all fully aware that if we took positions of a political nature, they would be doomed to failure? And finally, all that we would succeed in doing would be to shatter the backbone of our movement, its unity. How could we pay such a price, and then get nothing for it?

Now that the problem has been set in context, we want to state very clearly how fully we understand those who refuse to be the passive witnesses of this monstrous extension of weapons, both nuclear and “conventional”, in a world that is suffering from hunger. We share their feelings of frustration and we agree with them that avenues must be explored that might enable our movement to take a more active part in the cause of disarmament while still remaining true to its principles. It is in fact a very narrow path, but have we really done everything we can to move along it?

I must admit that, at this stage, we do not see how we can do much more. But it would be unpardonable if we were to fail solely because of lack of will and imagination. Proposals have been made recently, and ideas have been presented. They must be analyzed with the utmost care.

But even if we are forced to conclude that our movement must be limited in the future, as it has been in the past, to exhorting the States to put an end to their mad race, we must continue to do what we can, since that is our duty, on behalf of our members and, above all, on behalf of the countless victims of so many conflicts.

But if the movement chooses to do no more, we must be certain that it is because we lack the power, but not the will.

Apart from the question of what the Red Cross movement as a whole can or cannot do, there is the question about what the ICRC—and within the movement, the ICRC alone—might be able to do. Let me say here and now that the ICRC is standing by, and that it is open to any requests that the Powers might make, if they can agree together that we could contribute, no matter how modestly, to genuine progress in disarmament.

In conclusion, allow me to voice the ardent hope of the ICRC that our worldwide movement’s humanitarian resolve can be reaffirmed before the whole international community. By remaining above politics, our movement can only strengthen its authority, its credibility and its competence. Let us have a confrontation of ideas, but let us discuss them in the spirit of understanding so that we may reach harmonious conclusions to guide our actions. If this Conference is conducted in such a spirit, we will have taken one further step toward greater respect for the individual essence of each man and woman.

ADDRESS BY MR. ENRIQUE DE LA MATA, PRESIDENT OF THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Sr. Enrique DE LA MATA (*Original Spanish*): — Your Excellency, Mr. President of the Republic of the Philippines, Your Excellency, Mr. Chairman of the Conference and President of the Philippine Red Cross, honourable delegates, ladies and gentlemen. At the conclusion of the addresses delivered at this solemn opening ceremony, I have the honour of addressing a few words to you on behalf of the 128 National Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent which make up our League.

As the new president of the League, I should have little to add to the words, ideas and issues which my dear colleague and friend, the President of the International Committee, Mr. Alexandre Hay, has so well described.

The accurate description by the President of the International Committee of the situation of the world in which we live leads us to what is doubtless concern shared by all about violence and injustice in present-day society.

Therefore, while in complete agreement and in no way detracting from the description made by Mr. Hay, I would like to add some thoughts in order to find some glimmers of light and hope for our own future and that of our children’s society. Clearly, there are more than sufficient reasons for society to feel concern. There is violence, there are armed conflicts between countries. There are internal conflicts; terrorism on a national and international scale claims new victims every day. A diabolical machine, which is destructive man, is definitely in operation. And together with destructive man, nature, which sometimes gives its bounty so generously, at other times causes us pain and suffering with earthquakes, floods, droughts and other natural disasters.

Faced with this definitely bleak situation, we men and women of the Red Cross must nevertheless seek reasons to encourage us in our work, and one of them is the existence, alongside the destructive impulse of some groups of people, of many thousands of experts, politicians, economists, sociologists, who daily make efforts to expose these ills, to define them clearly, to show the magnitude of the problems, and try to find the appropriate solutions in order to alleviate collective suffering. And this we must also see and appreciate. It is no coincidence

that the Cancun meeting, during which world leaders were specifically concerned with bridging the gap between North and South, should have concluded only a few days ago. In Cancun the voice of the Philippines was heard representing the so-called Third World countries. Likewise the General Assembly of the United Nations is meeting even now, and the earnest voices of many delegations make their concern on these issues and difficulties felt.

Nor is it a coincidence that the annual Assembly of the FAO begins its work today in Rome, seeking a way to feed five hundred million human beings who are dying of hunger. It is not coincidental that in Madrid, the capital of Spain, my country, so closely linked to the Philippines, the Conference for European Security and Cooperation is being held, also seeking solutions to all these problems facing us. It is no coincidence that leaders of world powers try to continue talks on disarmament or arms limitation. Finally, gentlemen, it is no coincidence that eight hundred delegates from all parts of the world should be here to participate in the Twenty-Fourth International Red Cross Conference inspired with the very same concern. Thus Cancun, New York, Rome, Madrid, and Manila are some examples of the common desire felt by the people of today to work and improve the society in which we live.

We delegates present at this International Conference, enjoying the traditional hospitality of the Philippine people, in the splendid framework of organization for which we must not fail to publicly congratulate the Philippine Red Cross, are about to begin our conference work, but our labours do not really begin today; the meetings of our General Assembly began last week and they have already borne fruit. The General Assembly held in the Philippines enables many of us to feel profoundly satisfied with its results, not only personally, which in this case is unimportant, but also in the feeling and the unmistakable desire for change in our organization which has manifested itself. For this reason, it is very possible that in time the Philippines and Manila should become an important and historical date in the history of the International Red Cross. We appreciate the desire to adopt a modern and realistic viewpoint, a desire to take up the challenge of building a future for all, which must of necessity be better for all. Two hundred and fifty million persons make up our organization, and most of those two hundred fifty thousand work with us voluntarily. This means that we are not a philanthropic organization, as we are sometimes portrayed, but a profoundly humanitarian organization. We are no aristocratic organization, but an interracial one, where everyone, without regard to social class and because of fundamental principles, gives of his best to alleviate the suffering of others or achieve greater well-being for them. Our principles, read aloud this morning, especially the principles of independence and neutrality, constitute the firm base from which we can work, maintain our efforts and denounce the suppression of individual rights, which, unfortunately, happens quite often. And the principles of universality, which proclaims the equality of all and the duty to help others in turn, is the firm base of our actions of solidarity. The operations already completed are the best reason for hope, the hope expressed in that old motto of the International Red Cross, "Inter arma caritas", which expands now to embrace very modern concepts, the concepts of social justice and solidarity.

Our traditional services of medical assistance, first aid, blood transfusion, nurse training, assistance to the community, and so forth, are today being supplemented by new programmes and new services as part of our total activities. I should like above all to single out for attention two fundamentals: the concern and the intensive work of the people of the Red Cross for the defence of human rights. I would also particularly like to mention the great work of assistance which is being given to the almost thirteen million displaced from their homes and seeking refuge and asylum in other countries, such as the Philippines which has had to face this experience and has done so with remarkable success. Our congratulations go to the Philippine Government and Red Cross.

This legion of voluntary workers, these united efforts, this energy, this endeavour, this refusal to accept without challenge an evil which could seem irremediable, the collective resolve to overcome difficulties, are our encouragement and hope. In this respect, Mr. President, there may be a need for discussion between political powers and the Red Cross, and this will occur when we are all agreed on the need to respect above all the liberty and dignity of man, when we agree on the need to reduce possible dangers to people and alleviate their suffering, when we agree on the need to improve the level of the future and of work to develop human relations based on mutual respect and equality.

In conclusion, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to express on behalf of the International Red Cross our most profound gratitude for all the consideration which the Philippine people have shown for us who have come from abroad. Our joy at meeting each other in a country which seeks each day to be greater is for us Spaniards—forgive the nationalism—a source of pride and satisfaction. Consequently, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to extend to you all, most affectionately, on behalf of the Red Cross every good wish: happiness, prosperity and peace for all, especially for our noble brother people of the Philippines.

(Musical interlude with the Philippine Madrigal Singers under the direction of Anrea Oveneracion as Choir Master.)

ADDRESS BY GENERAL FERDINAND E. MARCOS, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

General Ferdinand E. MARCOS: — Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Mr. Alexandre Hay, Excelentísimo Señor Don Enrique de la Mata, Vice-Chairman of the Philippine Red Cross, Dr. Marcos, Mr. Beer, Prime minister Grata of the Philippines, our host Mayor Bagatsing of the city of Manila, your Excellencies of the diplomatic corps and the various delegations from across the seas, our guests, countrymen, my friends.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Philippines, I am pleased to welcome all of you, participants and guests of the 24th International Conference of the Red Cross. As you may have heard, Manila has recently become an increasingly popular place for international meetings and conferences. It is my hope that you will find this small international centre of conferences sufficient for your purpose. I am told that the facilities are quite adequate. Since we are involved in this particular matter, we would like to hear this repeated as often as possible.

We are specially honoured by your Standing Commission's decision to hold this meeting in our capital city, and by the presence here today of so many distinguished Red Cross delegates from so many countries, I can only hope that the warmth of our hospitality becomes proportionate to our affection and respect for the Red Cross and all that it stands for. Like most of the world's peoples, we Filipinos regard the Red Cross as embodying the noblest impulses of man.

We look to your Organization's service to humanity of well over a century, a cause that we have tried to share, no matter how modestly, as somehow an affirmation of our own solidarity with all of mankind. For we too have known suffering, misery, deprivation and poverty.

As one of the 150 nations that are signatories to the Red Cross initiated Geneva Conventions, the Philippines is committed whole-heartedly to the principles for which your organization stands. Our country has also been a beneficiary of the Red Cross ministrations whenever it has received its share of natural calamities. In times of flood, typhoons, volcanic eruptions, great fires or epidemics, Filipinos have learned to look to the Red Cross for kindness, for sympathy, symbolic acts that are often more comforting than material help, particularly during those times when the more conventional mechanisms of social welfare and relief break down. The example of the Red Cross has also made the doing of good works, acts of altruism, that much easier for many of us. For the Red Cross, in helping us when we most needed help, has taught us how to share if we did not know it before. Filipinos have a saying that in paraphrase goes like this: "A single act of kindness is like a pebble thrown into a still pool. It creates ripples all along the water and so ends up much bigger than it was at the beginning."

This is what has prompted us without a moment hesitation to decide to provide a haven for those who fled their troubled homelands at the height of the Indochina troubles. As you are well aware, we have offered a refugee camp to those who have come from other lands, like Vietnam. There were those who said then that such an act would incur the enmity of some of our neighbours. Even while realizing this, we still acted calmly on our decision for we knew that even our neighbours would understand that kindness is something that is universal. For we had neither the leisure nor the inclinations to inquire into the political affinities or the racial backgrounds of those who came out of the seas into our territorial waters. To us they were simply fellow human beings in distress and we were proud to do what we could do for them, to share with them the little that we have of peace and safety and compassion. The philosophers tell us that the mark of man's ascent from his primeval beginnings is his increasingly sharpened sensibility to the suffering of his fellow-man. We in the Philippines regard the Red Cross as the guardian of this still fragile moral sensibility which defines man's humanity. Having said this, I must however tell you candidly of our apprehension about the attempts of some quarters to compromise the Red Cross tradition of being

non-partisan. The Geneva Conventions and their Protocols are sacred institutions, testaments to humanitarianism. In natural and social environments racked by turmoil these documents are there to check the momentum of violence. During fits of human fury, the Geneva Conventions and their Protocols define the norms of civilized behaviour, re-establishing sanity amid the madness that men still inflict on themselves with disturbing regularity.

That the Geneva Conventions and the additional Protocols have on the whole been observed, is a reflection not only of their intrinsic worth but also a credit to the organization which campaigns hardest for their observance, the Red Cross. As an organization whose sole concern and involvement are defined entirely by the precepts of humanitarianism, the Red Cross has an international prestige that no single similar organization can claim.

Its determination to remain aloof from political and ideological considerations, its capacity to resist the machinations of less commendable interests, its historic record of selflessness and self-sacrifice; all this has given the Red Cross a unique influence and persuasiveness that other international and often better endowed organizations can only aspire to.

Because of this unique influence and prestige that it possesses, the Red Cross must ever be vigilant against those who would use it for their own political and partisan interests. It must also take every care in dealing with the prickly nationalism of the new countries. It is true that internationalism has, since the League of Nations, been the acknowledged ideal of the world community. Yet until now, both the new nations and the old live in the era of nationalism, particularly in the Third World, this sense of nationalism is jealously guarded, perhaps because it is still so precarious, so uncertain. Many of the developing societies must still concern themselves above everything else with the task of political and economic consolidation.

The character and extent of this process may vary from one nation to the other, but it must be completed before these new societies can take their rightful place as self-confident nation states of the world community.

In this process of national integration, the new nations may sometimes be forced into policy decisions and adjustments that may seem harsh and authoritarian to all the societies whose own civic tradition is secure. When this happens, one can only hope that the liberal societies will understand the iron circumstances that may compel an emerging state to undergo this necessary process of consolidation, no matter how painful it may be.

As a new nation, the Philippines has recently been going through a somewhat similar process of nation building. Today the most critical phases have past. I am confident that the unfolding of our national destiny from here on will be less dramatic to the conventional wisdom.

Our own experience has prepared us to be sympathetic with other developing countries forced by unique circumstances to exercise the greatest vigilance in safeguarding their sovereignty. We understand how they can become so indignant over any suggestion of outside interference, no matter how altruistic its disguise, that in effect undermines their capacity for self-determination.

This is the thought that I should like to leave with you as you begin your conference and I hope that I have not misinterpreted for you the delicacy and gravity of a potential problem that I fear will arise again and again in the relationships of international organizations and their clientele in the new states.

Forbearance and understanding will come easier from you if you keep in mind that the ultimate ends of the international aid-givers and national governments do coincide.

Any government that is worthy of its popular mandate must have as its sole objective the improvement of the national condition, through the extirpation of poverty, hunger and disease from within its territory. And this effort is almost always enhanced by the help of worldwide humanitarian movements like the Red Cross. And this is why we welcome your aims, and why I say your noble intentions and objectives coincide with even the most rapid nationalism of any new country of the Third World.

Once again, let me say how happy we are to have you visiting us. I wish you not only a pleasant but a fruitful stay. I hope that you may keep coming to our country. (*Applause.*)

(*Music.*)

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

7 November 1981

Afternoon

SUMMARY: Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-General and Assistant Secretaries-General of the Conference and the members of the Drafting Committee. — Report of the Council of Delegates; appointment of the Commissions of the Conference. — Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN). — Message from the World Health Organization (WHO). — Message from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). — Message from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). — Message from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). — Opening of the procedure for election of members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross; Report of the Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross. — Miscellaneous.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMEN, SECRETARY-GENERAL AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE AND OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — As Chairman of the Conference, the Council of Delegates proposes General Espino, President of the Philippine Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (President of the Philippine Red Cross, Chairman of the Conference): — Thank you ladies and gentlemen, for the honour you bestow on me by electing me Chairman of this prestigious Conference, which I accept with deep humility. I assure you I will preside to the best of my ability. So, without delay, I call on Mr. Hay again.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Council of Delegates proposes, as at previous conferences, that the heads of all the delegations present from the National Societies, together with the Chairman of the Standing Commission, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Chairman of the League shall be designated as Vice-Chairmen of the Conference. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Thank you, the Vice-Chairmen are duly elected, please go on Mr. Hay.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — We proceed now to the nomination of the Secretary-General of the Conference. The Council of Delegates proposes as Secretary-General Dr. Vicente Galvez, Secretary-General of the Philippine Red Cross, who has contributed so greatly to the organization of this Conference. (*Applause.*)

As assistant Secretaries-General, the Council of Delegates proposes Mr. William Cassis, of the League, and Mr. Jean-Louis Cayla, of the International Committee of the Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

Under item 1 of the agenda, we must now appoint the members of the Conference Drafting Committee. The Council of Delegates proposes the following:

- Mr. Noel Buckley, Australian Red Cross, as Chairman,
- Mrs. Aracelis Mastrapa Melero, Cuban Red Cross,

- Mr. Jean-Paul Buensod, Swiss Red Cross,
- Dr. Wongkulpat Snidvongs, Thai Red Cross,

together with the chairmen of the drafting committees to be designated by the three Commissions, a representative of the ICRC and a representative of the League. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — That takes care of item 1. As the principles of the Red Cross were read this morning, I propose that we proceed to the next item: Report on the Work of the Council of Delegates. Mr. Hay, please.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Council of Delegates started by discussing the Red Cross as a factor for peace.

The Council adopted the report of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, and a resolution asking the Commission to continue its work with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition until 1983.

However, certain differences of opinion emerged concerning the future of the Commission, its composition, terms of reference and duration. Accordingly, the Council considered that the Commission should, during the next two years, seek to reach a consensus on proposals for its own future. The discussions also gave rise to two specific proposals:

- The first, on the role of the Red Cross in safeguarding and strengthening peace, was proposed by the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR.

The Council of Delegates considered that this subject could be studied in greater depth by the Conference itself and, in particular, that it could be discussed under agenda item 6 of Commission I (Protection and Assistance.)

- The second proposal, put forward by the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany and supported by the Council of Delegates, was to transmit to Commission I, likewise under item 6 of its agenda, Recommendation No. 1 adopted at Budapest by the Third European Regional Red Cross Conference in May 1981.
- The proposal by the Red Cross of Yugoslavia to hold a second World Red Cross Conference on Peace was not discussed in detail, although several National Societies were in favour of it. The question remains open and there is ample opportunity to discuss it during the next two years.

I think we have reason to be pleased with the result arrived at by the Council of Delegates and with the consensus reached on the Commission's immediate future.

Agenda item 5 of the Council of Delegates was the report of the Working Group on the Emblem. I shall not deal with this now, because the conclusions of the Council of Delegates are to be announced in Commission I, which has the question of the emblem as item 5.3 on its agenda. I shall simply say at this point that the Council decided to terminate the activities of the working group it had formed to study all questions relating to the emblem.

The Council of Delegates then took note of a report by the ICRC, reviewing Red Cross action against torture. It could only be a provisional interim review, for torture continues to be practiced in increasingly cruel forms.

The ICRC representative described the part played by the International Committee in the struggle against torture. It is mainly during visits to places of detention that its delegates are confronted with evidence of torture, and it is after such visits to detainees that the ICRC takes all the measures required to stop this abominable practice.

Delegates of the National Societies of Sweden and Switzerland then presented a draft resolution, which was well received and was adopted with minor amendments.

In this resolution the Council of Delegates urges governments and international organizations concerned to make greater efforts to ensure compliance with the ban on torture. It requests the United Nations to expedite the adoption of a convention against torture, with provisions for its effective supervision and enforcement.

The National Societies, the League and the ICRC are called upon to make special efforts to prevent and eliminate torture. This resolution will be submitted to the Conference for approval.

The Council of Delegates had before it a resolution prepared by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC. This commission, with nine members representing the National Societies of Japan, Poland, France, Senegal, Colombia, Nicaragua, the Federal Republic of Germany, Czechoslovakia and Pakistan, taking into account suggestions by a number of National Societies, proposed giving up the idea of asking Societies for annual contributions amounting to 50% of the League's scale. Instead, the Commission suggested that total contributions by National Societies should reach 10% of the ICRC's ordinary annual budget. The contribution of each Society to this amount would be determined by applying the percentages assigned in the League's scale of contributions. In the Commission's view, this would have a double advantage:

- it would make it possible to abandon the existing link between the League budget and contributions to the ICRC;
- it would reduce the contributions of the great majority of National Societies to the ICRC.

The Commission approved this proposal almost unanimously.

Although all the National Societies which took part in the discussion of the Council of Delegates agreed to participate in the financing of the ICRC, several wished to study in greater detail the financial implications of the suggestion presented by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC.

Three Societies suggested that the 50% formula, which had proved to be the simplest system, be maintained. One Society even suggested increasing this percentage. Another considered that modifying the existing system could only weaken the position of the ICRC.

One European Society declared itself in favour of contributions in kind and for specific actions. A few Societies noted the difficulties of many Third World countries in making financial contributions to the ICRC.

The Council of Delegates finally decided to refer the question to the Conference. Accordingly, it will be discussed in Commission II.

The Council of Delegates was informed of the reports of three joint ICRC-League working groups formed to follow up the Tansley Report. These groups were concerned respectively with the development of National Societies, assistance and information.

With respect to the latter theme, the Council, after examining the document entitled "Concept of the International Red Cross and the International Red Cross Audio-Visual Centre", adopted a resolution on the promotion of the Red Cross.

Mr. Meurant, Director of the Henry Dunant Institute, presented its report, stressing that besides being auxiliary to the three constituent members and thus to the entire Red Cross movement, the Institute was a centre for reflection about the Red Cross and an ideal meeting place. After reviewing the Institute's three main activities—research, training and publications—Mr. Meurant expressed the hope that the specific role of the Henry Dunant Institute would be clarified and confirmed especially in research and in its contribution to information and the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law both inside and outside the Red Cross movement.

The Council of Delegates expressed its gratitude to the Henry Dunant Institute and acknowledged its importance. It adopted a resolution encouraging the Institute to continue and develop its activities and asking National Societies to contribute to this development.

Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, Chairman of the Standing Commission, presented the award of the Henry Dunant Medal, the highest distinction of the International Red Cross, to four persons, two of whom are present at the Conference: Mrs. Alexandra Issa-el-Khoury, President of the Lebanese Red Cross, and Mr. Ismael Reyes, President of the Nicaragua Red Cross. The third recipient, Mr. Melchior Borsinger, former ICRC delegate, was unable to come to Manila. The fourth medal was awarded posthumously to Mrs. Krista Djordjevic of the Yugoslav Red Cross.

Miss Weitzel, a member of the ICRC, informed the Council of Delegates of the latest two awards of the Florence Nightingale Medal and again drew the attention of National Societies to the existence of the French Fund Maurice de Madre.

Mr. Aubert, a member of the ICRC, presented the report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund which, since the previous International Red Cross Conference at Bucharest, had distributed 836,000 Swiss francs to thirty National Societies.

Mr. Aubert took the opportunity of expressing warmest gratitude, on behalf of the Commission and the beneficiary Societies, to the Imperial Family, the Japanese Government and the Japanese Red Cross for their regular contributions to the Fund.

Mr. Naville, a member of the ICRC, recalled that the purpose of the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross, set up in 1931, was to give financial help from its revenue to the ICRC.

This purpose had been only partially achieved, since the capital was not very high, in the neighbourhood of 1 million Swiss francs. The term of office of two members of the Foundation, namely Mr. Beer and Mr. Bergman, appointed by the International Conference, having expired, the Council of Delegates elected Mr. Høegh, Secretary-General of the League, and re-elected Mr. Bergman, Under-Secretary-General of the League.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Thank you, Mr. Hay, for your report on the deliberations of the Council of Delegates. We now proceed to item 4 of the agenda: Appointment of the Commissions of the Conference.

APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — The Council of Delegates proposes that the work of the Conference be divided among three Commissions, as follows:

- Commission I Protection and Assistance Commission
- Commission II General and Organizational Commission
- Commission III Community Services and Development Commission.

For Commission I, the Council of Delegates proposes Mr. Whyte of the New Zealand Red Cross as Chairman, and Mr. Nathan of the Red Crescent of Malaysia as Rapporteur.

For Commission II, the Council proposes Mr. Mohamed Abdoulaye Diop of the Senegalese Red Cross as Chairman, and Dr. Darwich of the Syrian Red Crescent as Rapporteur.

For Commission III, the Council proposes Mr. Semukha, governmental delegate of Byelorussia, as Chairman, and Mr. Mohamed Nashnesh of the Moroccan Red Crescent as Rapporteur.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Do you approve these proposals? (*Applause.*)

I have been informed that the delegation of the Austrian Red Cross wishes to speak. I now call on the Austrian Red Cross.

Dr. Friedrich WENDL (Austrian Red Cross): — Many government delegations have drawn the attention of the Austrian Red Cross to the fact that at Bucharest only representatives of National Societies were proposed as Chairmen of the Commissions. The Austrian Red Cross has full confidence in the National Society representatives who have been proposed by the Council of Delegates as Commission Chairmen, and my Society has voted in favour of the proposal made by the Council of Delegates.

Nevertheless, the Austrian Red Cross believes that it is advisable in future also to propose representatives of governments as Chairmen of the Commissions. It does not seem necessary to me to underline the importance of participation by delegations in the work of the Conference, as provided for in Article I, paragraph 2, of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and in Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the International Conference of the Red Cross.

Therefore, my Society requests the Standing Commission to take this remark into consideration for the next International Conference.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — I believe the comment by our Austrian colleague is pertinent and I think we could already take it into account at the present meeting by suggesting that in the Commissions, which will elect one or two Vice-Chairmen as they see fit, governmental delegates be proposed for this post.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We have the honour of having here representatives of United Nations agencies. Some of them wish to deliver messages to this Conference. I now call on Dr. Yong Sung Kim, who will speak in the name of Secretary-General Waldheim and for the World Health Organization.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Dr. YONG SUNG KIM (United Nations Organization): — I have the honour of reading the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I should like to extend my sincere greetings to the participants in the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference.

In the four years which have passed since the previous Conference, the activities of the Red Cross, whether through the International Committee, the League or the National Societies, have continued at a never-remitting pace and provided desperately needed assistance to millions of people throughout the world.

The dedication, persistence and selflessness with which they have been undertaken have served as a constant source of inspiration to all those who strive to bring relief to human affliction and suffering.

We, at the United Nations, have witnessed your achievements with admiration and have particularly appreciated the many instances of co-operation between our organizations. In this context, I attach great importance to the continuing collaboration between the Red Cross and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in concerting the flow of relief from the international community in the wake of natural disasters. In times of conflict the close working relations between the International Committee of the Red Cross and various United Nations bodies have been equally effective in co-ordinating emergency relief operations.

An outstanding example is the joint ICRC-UNICEF mission set up in 1979 to save Kampuchea from the disaster it was facing. Although grave uncertainties still lie ahead, this massive effort succeeded in averting the worst of the famine and devastation that had been feared. I also welcome the continuing fruitful collaboration in the provision of humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons by the International Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. These endeavours have been closely co-ordinated and the Red Cross has given very substantial support to the UNHCR's search for solutions to refugee problems, particularly in Africa and South-East Asia.

One further result of such co-operation deserves special mention. In October 1980, the United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects concluded its work and adopted a convention and three protocols, thus adding a substantial body of new rules to the law of armed conflict. It should be recalled that the General Assembly of the United Nations convened this Conference on the basis of a recommendation of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, which in turn owes so much of its success to the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross. I am pleased to note that the new Convention has been signed by 45 States and I hope that others will follow this example.

The demands made on both the International Red Cross and the United Nations will continue to be numerous and difficult. I am sure that our co-operation in so many vitally important humanitarian fields will help us to meet these challenges and I send you my best wishes for a most successful conference. (*Applause.*)

MESSAGE FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Dr. Yong Sung Kim (World Health Organization): — On behalf of the World Health Organization, I would like to express our sincere felicitations to this august International Red Cross Conference. The World Health

Organization has a very close working relationship with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. There are mutually supportive actions among the three organizations in particular with respect to joint action in cases of natural disasters and other emergency situations. Just to cite two examples, WHO has collaborated with a League Steering Committee for the preparation of country fact sheets related to emergencies and at present a project is under way to prepare jointly an International Glossary of Disaster Technology.

In recent years, the League has adopted primary health care as an integral part of the League's development strategy in the eighties. This is a significant milestone in the global movement for attaining the goal of health for all by the year 2000. Active participation and support of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies will strengthen tremendously primary health care in all countries. WHO will be very happy to co-operate with the Red Cross further, for closer collaboration at global, regional and country levels in order to support primary health care for the people of the world. This question will be taken up in more detail in Commission III of this Conference. I am confident that people everywhere and the world at large can look forward to a brighter future for the attainment of the social goal of health for all by the year 2000, through the active co-operation of member States and collaborating agencies.

On the occasion of this historic Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference, WHO renews its highest consideration and solidarity to our fraternal organizations, the ICRC and the League of Red Cross Societies, and I wish you success in your deliberations, in order to uphold the voluntarism and humanitarianism embodied so beautifully in your fundamental principles, which are so badly needed by the world.

MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Mr. Jacques CUENOD (UNHCR) (*Original French*): — It is a great honour for me to represent Mr. Poul Hartling, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to convey to you his best wishes for the success of this important conference, which brings together the whole family constituting the Red Cross movement: the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies, the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the representatives of governments. The High Commissioner greatly regrets his absence from this great humanitarian event, but he is now in New York attending the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly which, as you know, is the supreme authority determining the general policies and activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees.

We are very happy to be here with you, because we are all pursuing an identical aim: to help and relieve the victims of various events, among whom are refugees and displaced persons. We are very well aware of the great humanitarian tasks undertaken by the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, by their federation, the League, and by the International Committee of the Red Cross, in the field of humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons. It is a real pleasure to state before this noble assembly that the co-operation which has existed for years between the ICRC, the League and the National Societies, on the one side, and the UNHCR on the other, is not only exemplary, but is also growing steadily stronger internationally.

We have especially appreciated being consulted on the drafting of a very important document proposing guidelines for the National Societies, the League and the ICRC in relief actions for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons. This document will be studied during the Conference and on this occasion we shall have the pleasure of offering our support, particularly with regard to co-operation between the Red Cross movement and the UNHCR.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for your courtesy in giving me the floor. We are convinced that this Conference, important for the National Societies, the League and the ICRC, will have positive and encouraging effects upon the future humanitarian activities of the Red Cross movement. (*Applause.*)

MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Mr. Pierre de Senarclens (UNESCO) (*Original French*): — Please allow me first to present the greetings of the Director General of UNESCO, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, who has asked me to express on his behalf the great

importance which our organization attaches to the work of this Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference and to wish you the greatest success in your endeavours.

I will not be so presumptuous on this solemn occasion as to attempt to list all the reasons why UNESCO, like the entire United Nations and its specialized agencies, follows with such special attention, and I may even say with great solicitude, the destiny of your prestigious institution. This destiny, as you know better than anyone else, has always been strangely paradoxical, for whilst it is the symbol of the most highly evolved and least controversial forms of human solidarity—it is at the same time living evidence of the intolerable and harrowing failures of that solidarity.

UNESCO, a universal inter-state organization dedicated to peace and the effective exercise of human rights, with development, education, science and culture as its pathway and its purpose, cannot and will not fail to contend with these contradictions in our world. This is why it has unceasingly sought to explore with the ICRC and the League ways and means of collaboration to propagate and develop the meaning and content of humanitarian law, to promote human rights by research, teaching and information and to work for peace, disarmament and understanding among nations through education and by sensitizing international public opinion.

This is also the reason why UNESCO, from its earliest days and at different levels, has continued to develop a wide range of studies and countless operational activities designed to strengthen international solidarity.

As this twentieth century, so fraught with history, suffering, legitimate aspirations and frustrated hopes draws to a close, our organization is looking to the future. It is currently engaged in working out its next medium-term plan and is seeking to define or redefine the best means, within its fields of competence, to take up the great challenges which are assailing the conscience of mankind, challenges in the guise of violations of human rights, the phenomena of violence and conflict, racism, apartheid and underdevelopment with its train of suffering, misery and ignorance; the disparities between nations, the social contradictions and injustice within national societies—and naturally the arms race which threatens the very future of our civilizations and which diverts to absurd or lethal purposes vast resources which could be devoted to life and development.

The magnitude, the global character and the interdependence of these problems demand, today more than ever before, a search for coherent strategies for action and also a determined quest for new forms of solidarity. This is why UNESCO, within the international community, will continue to play its part as a critical conscience and a stimulus to intellectual co-operation. It will work unceasingly to further the intellectual and moral solidarity of humanity, which is the true basis of peace. It will continue, in conformity with its Constitution, to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture, so as to ensure universal respect for justice, law, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion.

This mission, which is laid down in the United Nations Charter and is reaffirmed in resolutions at all UNESCO's General Conferences, today seems more essential than ever, above all to get to the root of certain manifold humanitarian problems which for so long have been, and alas may continue to be, of acute concern for us all and which will in any case be the subject of reflection and of work in the days to come. (*Applause.*)

MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

Dr. Hans MELICZEK (FAO): — In the name of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations I wish to express the Organization's gratitude for being invited to address the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference.

In these last years of the twentieth century, development of technologies has reached a stage impossible to imagine a few decades ago. In spite of this, the task of providing food to the human population, particularly to the poorest, following natural and man-made disasters, reducing human suffering and providing humanitarian emergency and rehabilitation assistance, is still a challenge which requires the co-operation and good will of all international, national and non-governmental organizations.

It is thus a pleasure to mention to this assembly the efficient and faithful collaboration which has been established on several occasions between the International Committee of the Red Cross and FAO in Africa, the Near East and more recently in Kampuchea.

The ICRC has spared no effort to support the Agricultural and Fisheries Rehabilitation Programme which is

implemented by FAO and other, non-governmental, organizations in favour of the people of Kampuchea. Together with sister institutions, such as UNICEF, WFP and UNHCR, FAO has benefitted from the organization and logistic facilities of the Committee in Bangkok, Phnom Penh and Geneva, established for the administration of relief assistance, communication with different operation centres, the supply of commodities and the transport of agricultural inputs and equipment.

This is also an opportunity to extend thanks and appreciation to the experienced ICRC staff at all levels for their interest, devotion and spirit of collaboration, demonstrated in the jungle of daily operational details, as well as in overall co-ordination, fund-raising and the solution of general issues of relief assistance.

Ladies and gentlemen, for thirty-six years FAO has devoted its activities to the creation of the necessary environment to ensure that the basic human right to an adequate diet, as important as the right to life itself and a prerequisite to good health, can be established for all people.

Celebrating the thirty-sixth anniversary together with the first World Food Day on 16 October, the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Edouard Saouma, called for the mobilization of public, national and international opinion and support to this action which is more needed than ever.

During the seventies, overall food production increased at an annual average rate of 3.3 per cent; however, the progress made remained far from adequate. This is demonstrated by the continuing increase in the dependence of developing countries on imported cereals, which reached an unprecedented 98 million tons in 1980-81, nine per cent over the previous year.

The cereal import requirements of the low-income countries are increasing even more rapidly, and for some of them, per capita production has been falling.

This situation is aggravated by political and civil disturbances in which the ICRC has the mandate to carry out the particularly difficult humanitarian and relief function.

It is a humanitarian duty for all of us to work together in the process of transforming our work and to ensure that in the twenty-first century food shortage and economic injustice as well as their manifold consequences will only be known as problems of the past.

In conclusion, I wish to express my best wishes for the fruitful continuation of the deliberations of this Conference to the final benefit of the innocent poor people who have the same right to live in peace and under acceptable humanitarian conditions as anybody else on this planet. (*Applause.*)

OPENING OF THE PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We now come to the agenda item which concerns the opening of the procedure for the election of members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross. The names of nominees for the five elective vacancies must reach the bureau of the Conference before Wednesday 11 November at 6 p.m.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a short biography of the candidate, which must include his experience and Red Cross work. The bureau will inform the plenary session on Friday 13 November of the names of all candidates.

The Standing Commission proposes to follow for this election, as in Bucharest, a simplified procedure that limits election to two ballots. If the five candidates do not get an absolute majority on the first ballot, a second ballot, with a simple majority will make the decision.

I hope you will agree to this simplified procedure which was used with success in Bucharest. (*Applause.*)

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

Sir Evelyn SHUCKBURGH (Chairman, Standing Commission): — I have great pleasure in presenting the report of the Standing Commission (Document P/6/1). It is mainly a factual report and there are only two points on which I wish to comment.

One is a matter of theory and the other a matter of practice.

On the point of theory, I draw your attention to paragraph I on the second page of the English version, under the heading "Mandate of the Commission". And I should like, with your permission Mr. Chairman, to read out the first ten lines of that paragraph:

"According to the Statutes of the International Red Cross, the Standing Commission, besides its specific function connected with the International Conference, is primarily a co-ordinating and harmonizing body intended to settle all disputes that might arise in the Red Cross movement, particularly between the ICRC and the League. It also has the task, subject to the final decision of the Conference, to "take any measures which circumstances demand". The Commission considers that in the accomplishment of these duties, it constitutes a supportive and conciliatory body intended to be useful, but not obtrusive, ready to render service but not to interfere in the activities of the principal Red Cross institutions."

Mr. Chairman, this interpretation, which indicates that the Standing Commission has no ambitions to become any sort of directing body or third force in the Red Cross, seems to me to fit in very well with what I think was the general feeling expressed in the Assembly of the League, last week, against the creation of directing groups and such like. It also fits in, I may say, with my experience over the last eight years. I have found that we on the Standing Commission serve most usefully when we regard ourselves as a sort of stand-by or reserve organization which can be useful to the ICRC or to the League or both when needed. And I feel sure and hope that the Conference will recognize the wisdom of this approach. (*Applause.*)

The second point to which I wish to draw your attention is a practical one, concerning the frequency and the place of the Conference.

As regards the frequency of the Conference, our most important recommendation this year is, as you know, that the next Conference should be five, rather than four, years from now. It should take place in 1986, the object of this being to dissociate the League's elections from the International Conference. You will be voting on that under item 9 of your agenda.

You will have noticed that the Standing Commission sees considerable advantages in holding the Conference in Geneva. I can inform the Conference that I have since received in writing a formal offer from the Swiss Red Cross Society to host the Twenty-fifth Conference in Geneva. The Swiss Federal Council has formally confirmed that, should this invitation be accepted by you, it would contribute financially to the costs of the Conference and would make available without charge the Geneva International Conference Centre.

I have acknowledged, and expressed the Standing Commission's great appreciation of that generous offer. Here again the matter lies with you under item 9 of your agenda and I have to add only that so far I am not aware of any other offer having been made. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Sir Evelyn's report completes the business of the first plenary session.

MISCELLANEOUS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I think it is too late to start with the meeting of the three Commissions, so may I invite the three Commission Chairmen and their respective Rapporteurs and the representatives of the ICRC and the League to meet in room 10 Monday morning at 8.30.

I likewise invite the Bureau for its first meeting at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, in the same room.

Before I adjourn the meeting I would like to request you, for the next four plenary meetings on the 13th, and on the 14th, to please come on time because we intend to start on time so we can finish the business on schedule.

The next plenary meeting will be on Friday at 9.30 a.m. in this same hall. (*Applause.*)

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

13 November 1981

Morning

SUMMARY: Procedural questions. — Message from the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO). — Report of Commission III, Community Services and Development. Adoption of the resolutions presented by Commission III. — First ballot for the election of members of the Standing Commission. — Report of Commission II, General and Organizational Commission. Discussion and adoption of resolutions.

The meeting was opened at 9.30 a.m. by General R. C. Espino, Chairman.

PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I now call the plenary session to order.

Do you have any objections to completing these plenaries by tomorrow noon? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

For the adoption of the reports of the Commissions, I shall proceed in the following order: first Commission III, then Commission II, finally Commission I.

This has to be done because some of the rapporteurs are leaving early.

When presenting his report the Rapporteur should stop after each resolution, which we shall then consider for adoption. Unless there is any discussion specifically requested, the procedure for adoption will be as follows:

I shall ask if there is any request for a vote to be taken. If so, the vote will be taken in the following order: the National Societies, the Governments, the ICRC and the League. If there is no request that the vote be taken, I shall assume there is a consensus. Thereupon I shall ask if any delegation wishes to be excluded from the consensus. After the resolutions are disposed of, we shall adopt the report as a whole.

Before we proceed any further, I would like to announce that we are going to vote for five members of the Standing Commission at 12 o'clock today. For this purpose, the Bureau proposes the following five as scrutineers:

- Mr. Boubrit of Algeria,
- Mr. Polster of Austria,
- Dr. Caridad of the Philippines,
- Mr. Ciuta of Romania,
- Dr. Prat of Uruguay.

Do we have your agreement that these five will be scrutineers? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

Before the report of Commission III, we shall first hear from Mr. Klaus Wiersing of UNDRO the message from the U.N. Disaster Relief Co-ordinator.

MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS DISASTER RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR

Mr. Klaus WIERSING (UNDRO): — It has been my great pleasure to have been able to participate at the 24th International Conference of the Red Cross, particularly to have been present during the discussions which took place in Committee II on protection and assistance to victims of natural disasters.

As you will appreciate, Mr. President, for my Organization, the Office of United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, which is the focal point within the United Nations system for disaster questions, these discussions had a particular relevance. I will of course be reporting on them in some detail on my return to Geneva.

Mr. Chairman, the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, Mr. Farouk Berkol, was regrettably unable to attend this Conference in person. However, he has asked me to say the following few words on his behalf.

Since your last Conference in Bucharest in 1977 the world has seen, to its dismay, the occurrence of all too many major emergencies, each bringing in its train renewed and urgent demands for humanitarian assistance. I use deliberately the word “demands”: a government may formally request, but our common humanity compels us to respond to the cry for help. The compulsion implied in this demand is met by an equal demand by our conscience that a response should be made, as generously and as rapidly as may be. But, as I have so often said, a humanitarian response should not be—must not be—purely an emotional reaction. It must be practical, adequate, appropriate and timely, and it can be none of these things, let alone all of them, unless it is based on a sound, informed, appreciation of the situation.

As some of you will already know, there was carried out during the latter half of 1980 an extensive and thorough review of the practice of the United Nations system in responding to emergencies of non-natural origin over the preceding ten years. I should like to quote some lines from the final paragraphs.

“The essence of the progress which has been achieved during the past ten years has consisted, not in the invention of new procedures or mechanisms for co-ordination, but in strengthening the human and material resources available to the individual agencies. Considerable experience has been gained in learning how to work more effectively together. Further improvement will depend not so much on the development of new mechanisms, as on the flexibility and ingenuity which each participating organization and each participant can show in adjusting to constantly unforeseen situations. It is on the human factor more than on the development of new mechanisms for co-ordination, that the prospects of further improving the effectiveness of concerted action by the agencies of the United Nations system and their associated humanitarian organizations will, in future, depend.”

I take these words in particular as a theme because I believe they address the concerns recently expressed by the distinguished Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, on behalf of a group of non-governmental organizations active in emergency relief.

Only a few months after the establishment of UNDRO in 1972, guidance was given to the Resident Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme about their duties in connection with disasters. This guidance included a strong recommendation to establish, wherever possible, groups or teams composed of United Nations personnel from the various agencies working in the country, international and national non-governmental organizations (specifically including the Red Cross), and representatives of donor governments. The team would be expected to come together from time to time to make its own arrangements to be prepared for emergency action, and in emergency it would work closely with the national authorities. Thus, right from the start, the association of the major voluntary agencies with the United Nations has been seen as being of fundamental importance.

You will recall that the report from which I quoted just now spoke of “the agencies of the United Nations system and their associated humanitarian organizations”. Association, in this sense, means co-partnership, a group coming together as equals, with a common aim, and with mutual respect for each other’s competence. The

report emphasized too that the success of a co-partnership of this kind depended very largely on the human factor, the personalities of those concerned and their ability to work as a team.

The competence of an agency, or a representative of an agency, implies more than professional ability and efficiency. It also means the legal power which that agency—and hence its representative—has to act in certain ways. Criticism is sometimes levelled at the United Nations agencies because it is thought (I believe wrongly) that their roles are not clearly defined, and particularly in emergency relief work this is said to lead to complications and difficulties. Now it would be obvious that intergovernmental organizations are given their mandates by governments, and not by their secretariats. I doubt very much if, formally at least, there is any uncertainty now about the actual role and actual limitations of a given agency. This is not to say that at the human level, the working or field level, in the heat of the moment, uncertainties will not be found or unwarranted claims not made: but even then it may be the urgency of the situation which does not allow time for mature reflection. If the human factor plays its part in leading people to work as a team, it may also on occasion lead to precisely the opposite result!

This question of mandates occurs too, does it not, in the world of the non-governmental organizations. In many countries, the NGO, the voluntary agency, the charity, has conferred upon it by law a special status: indeed, in the case of the Red Cross, that special status is internationally recognized. But that status depends upon the organization's not stepping outside the bounds of its recognized and authorized activity.

There are certain kinds of emergency in which the voluntary agency can operate (within its limits) more freely and therefore more effectively than the United Nations system itself. Where there is no government, or no government commanding the respect and obedience of the people, or—perhaps worse—two rival groups each claiming to be the government, then the United Nations, dedicated as it is to never interfering in the internal affairs of a sovereign State, would be placed in a very difficult, if not actually intolerable, position.

The breakdown of law and order, the state of civil strife, and outright war are all too often occurring in places which already suffer from endemic natural disaster, and particularly the disaster caused by drought. It may well be that the International Committee of the Red Cross is active at one level and the League of Red Cross Societies at another, both after their fashion bringing humanitarian assistance. Both would deserve support from the United Nations, particularly if there were (for one reason or another) no United Nations presence in the country.

It has been said that the United Nations might act more quickly and more efficiently if no distinction were drawn between natural disasters and emergencies stemming from other causes. Specifically, this suggestion means that there should not be one office which generally deals with humanitarian problems caused by war and other forms of civil disruption, and another devoted to all other kinds of emergency.

For myself, I believe that there are advantages to be found in the present arrangements within the United Nations, because it is essentially a political organization and it is well if events with a political character, cause or background be dealt with by staff accustomed to the restraints so imposed.

For many voluntary agencies, of course, these difficulties do not arise. It is rare to find such an agency voluntarily limiting itself to specific kinds of emergencies. Even a voluntary organization, however, is not wholly a free agent when working in another country. I think you will agree that flexibility and freedom of action, however desirable they may be as concepts, are as limited for voluntary organizations as they are for the United Nations.

I have been trying to show you how the opportunities for service which are open to the Red Cross and to other non-governmental organizations are as wide and at the same time, very largely as restricted as those open to the United Nations. In truth, we are all working for the same motives, with the same ends in view, and in what might be called the "state of the art" it is not surprising that we experience the same kind of difficulties. We shall not gain—and, what is more important, those who need our help will not gain—from looking at each other's operations and pointing out their weaknesses. We must each give credit to the other, not only for doing his best, but doing his best within his practical limitations. We must look for strengths and build upon them for new resources which we do not possess and draw upon them, reinforcing each other's efforts to the point where our common task is done.

It is in this spirit that I should like to wish your august assembly the best of success in its deliberations. I should like also to take this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation to the League of Red Cross Societies

for its dedicated work and spirit of co-operation, and in particular express my admiration and warm congratulations to its Secretary-General, Mr. Henrik Beer, who over the years has been a constant source of inspiration and example to all of us who are involved in humanitarian assistance. May this type of dedication and sense of duty, in these days of international concern, continue to be the hall-mark of the activities of both the national Red Cross Societies and the International Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We shall now turn to the Report of Commission III. May I request Dr. Semukha, Chairman of Commission III, and Dr. Nashnesh, Rapporteur, to come to the podium.

REPORT OF COMMISSION III. COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION III

Dr. NASHNESH (Morocco, Red Crescent) (*Original French*):

Chairman: Dr. Semukha (USSR)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Darwish (Egypt)
Rapporteur: Dr. Nashnesh (Morocco)
Secretaries: Miss Esnard
Miss Ahl

The Commission discussed the following reports presented by the League Secretariat:

1. Co-operation between governments and Red Cross in organizing Primary Health Care Programmes (follow-up to Recommendation No. 7 of the First Session of the League General Assembly, 1979).
2. Integration of Red Cross activities in community services (follow-up to Resolutions XV and XVII of the Twenty-third International Conference).
3. Development of National Societies in the context of national development plans (follow-up to recommendations of the First Session of the League General Assembly, 1979).
4. Role of the Red Cross in the development of National blood transfusion programmes (follow-up to Resolution XVI of the Twenty-third International Conference).
5. Red Cross contribution to a better human environment in relation to efforts made at the governmental level (follow-up to Resolution XXI of the Twenty-third International Conference).
6. Report on follow-up to other resolutions of the Twenty-third International Conference (Resolutions XIX and XXII).
7. Preparation of National Societies for emergency medical action.

The reports were approved by consensus.

Primary Health Care Programme

The Commission reaffirmed that health services were a government responsibility. As auxiliaries of the public authorities National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should, in view of the exceptional potential of their available volunteer force and easy access to the population, play an increasingly important role, primarily in prevention and rural and school hygiene.

The Commission:

reaffirms that a single national health plan incorporating the Red Cross is necessary to co-ordinate the assistance given to the needy population and to put such assistance on a sound financial basis,

considers that the training of qualified officers is essential to reliability and safety,

repeats that primary health care means "essential health care universally accessible to all individuals and families by means acceptable to them, with their full participation and at a cost bearable by the national community".

To be able to work properly the National Societies must co-operate closely with the central government authorities and also and especially must increase their co-operation with the local authorities.

To give effective help, the co-ordination of all interested bodies is necessary.

For all these reasons, National Societies must always be prepared to cope efficiently with all eventualities.

See below, page 160, Resolution XXII "Co-operation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with Governments in the field of primary health care", adopted by consensus.

National Development Plans

The Secretary-General of the League and his assistant submitted the report on development strategy for National Societies in the eighties. The objective of that strategy was, they said, the existence of a self-reliant Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in every country of the world, prepared to perform efficiently its task as a voluntary organization acting as an auxiliary of the public authorities.

During the subsequent discussion some twenty delegates commented on the report, which was generally approved in principle. Of the many remarks made and received with interest by the participants, we will confine ourselves to noting here those which appear to have been most widely agreed to by the Commission.

1. It was first mentioned that development, which is of necessity a long and continuous process, entails a joint effort by all Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, whether they are members of our movement or not yet formally part of it.

Each Society is urged to take part in this venture, for the sake of its own development and also to promote that of less developed Societies in accordance with the principle of solidarity.

2. The planning and execution of each national development programme are primarily a matter for the National Society, which must be free to choose its priorities and be responsible for their choice.
3. As conditions vary widely, and as there may or may not be an active desire for development in the country, results cannot possibly be identical and simultaneous everywhere. Great flexibility is therefore needed in working out and implementing programmes, and these must be quickly adapted to changing needs, or indeed to changes in leadership.
4. An appeal is made to governments to support the development programme, with full understanding of the ends and methods of the Red Cross and respect for its fundamental principles. Contributing Societies may be used as vehicles of their country's foreign aid.

Societies receiving bilateral or multilateral assistance should play their part, and when drawing up their projects should take national development planning into account.

5. The support of the public is also essential, and this makes it necessary for the National Society to plan carefully its campaigns to disseminate knowledge of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.
6. The human factor is of decisive importance in the personnel of National Societies. Personnel must be carefully selected and given as extensive a training as possible in planning, evaluation and leadership. In this connection quality is more important than numbers.
7. It is important that the ICRC should also take part in implementing the strategy.

It must in particular approach governments to remind them of their responsibilities under the Geneva Conventions and the advantages to themselves of encouraging the formation and development of a National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society.

The importance was also emphasized of taking care to see that appropriate co-ordination was introduced in good time between the Central Tracing Agency and national tracing bureaus in cases of disaster, conflict, or refugee influx.

8. The necessity of putting into effect a procedure for evaluating development results was generally agreed on, as was the necessity of monitoring the management of relief operations and of financial verification of a quality satisfying internationally recognized standards.
9. Implementation of the development strategy requires much larger funds, and since the ability of many contributing Societies to give is limited by the economic plight of their country an active search will have to be made for new sources of financing outside the Red Cross.

In this connection, it has been observed that the most effective development operations are not necessarily those that cost most, especially if the operating Society's abilities, and local resources and skills, are made good use of.

10. One Society urged that the General Assembly of the League and the Council of Delegates should make a solemn declaration recognizing that development aid was an International Red Cross task of primordial importance, and that a draft of this declaration should be submitted to the next meeting of either of these bodies.

See below, page 161, Resolution XXIII "Involvement of volunteers in Red Cross community services", and Resolution XXIV "Integrated approach to community services", page 162, Resolution XXV "Development of National Societies in the context of national development plans", adopted by consensus.

Blood Transfusion

Several National Societies are running blood transfusion programmes. Attention was drawn to the protection of donors and recipients, to the principle of the voluntary unpaid gift of blood and to optimal use of blood through the use of component therapy.

Regional training courses must continue to be held and the ethical code of blood transfusion must continue to be insisted on.

See below, page 167, Decision IV "Code of ethics for blood donation and transfusion", adopted by consensus.

The Environment

By "the environment" is understood the natural surroundings and the psychological and social background.

The encouraging results of the previous decade commit the Red Cross to supporting the United Nations initiative introduced this year under the title "The International Decade of Drinking Water and Sanitation", for the majority of the world population has neither a safe drinking water supply nor sanitation of any kind.

The environment is the responsibility of governments and of their representatives at all levels; but National Societies cannot remain aloof from such matters. For more than ten years the League and the League Secretary General have been working to organize and harmonize the work of non-governmental organizations in this connection.

Several National Societies have programmes comprising various activities, some dealing with the psychological and social environment of children and the elderly, others with workplaces and conditions in schools. Ecological games are now available. Other Societies concern themselves with sanitation, water-borne diseases and insect control.

Some Societies, however, have said that they are not entirely in favour of Red Cross work on the environment, which they consider should be part of primary health care and youth activities.

All National Societies are however at one in wishing our environment to flourish, to avoid pollution and to give the entire population peace and the joy of living.

To succeed in eliminating suffering from everyday life, all community services must be harmonized. It is of the first importance to have co-operation, co-ordination and harmonization with the authorities and all other bodies concerned; but the Red Cross must show drive and be bold in taking the lead.

The International Year of the Child (IYC)

The introductory report on the follow-up given to Resolution No. XXII of the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference, on the International Year of the Child, drew attention to the wide range of activities carried out for the IYC by National Societies and the League Secretariat.

The League has prepared a compendium of the National Societies' activities in relation to the IYC, as a source of ideas for sister Societies.

It was emphasized that whilst many National Societies were of the opinion that the IYC had provoked awareness of children's needs and provided an opportunity for introducing or expanding services to children, it was only the beginning of a process which should go on over the years, and even for decades, to meet the needs of millions of children.

The report was adopted by acclamation.

Youth

Commission III noted with interest the follow-up given to Resolution No. XIX of the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference. This follow-up consisted in various kinds of subregional and regional training seminars for Red Cross Youth instructors and officials.

- Study visits for youth officials.
- Intensification of educational programmes in and out of school.

In the ensuing discussion several National Societies pointed out that the Red Cross should take a close interest in youth problems, and gave an account of their activities in this connection (which differed widely from one another) and of some of the problems they encountered, including those of young handicapped persons. One speaker brought up the problem of young migrants and asked that the League should consider what should be done to promote their integration into the host country and in appropriate cases their return to their cultural background of origin.

It was emphasized that youth should not merely benefit from Red Cross action but should take part in it, and that all possible should be done to keep within the Red Cross movement young people who were active in its youth sections; in this connection it was suggested that continuing attention should be given to young people in colleges and universities.

Some National Societies pointed out that it was necessary for the instruction given by the Red Cross to be arranged progressively in the same way as official education.

It was also suggested that the work so far done for youth should be evaluated, as required by past resolutions, in order to find out how this work could be expanded.

Some speakers said they preferred national training seminars to subregional seminars, as this would enable more participants from a single country to take part.

Commission III approved the report submitted to it.

International Year of disabled persons

Commission III approved a resolution on the international year of disabled persons.

See below, page 163, Resolution XXVII "International year of disabled persons".

Preparation of National Societies for emergency medical action

In time of disaster human solidarity and the desire to help one's neighbour have, like other things, to be co-ordinated to avoid counter-productive and paradoxical effects.

Lack of preparation in those willing to help and those who will get the help leads to disorder, lack of co-ordination, duplication of effort, and help not suited to needs, either as regards personnel or equipment.

It is therefore essential that every National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society should prepare to cope with events of this kind if they occur in their country.

The same applies to National Societies able to bring help to another country.

In this connection the essential job of the League and the ICRC is to co-ordinate.

Whilst the preparation of equipment must meet technical standards, personnel must be selected with regard to other desiderata framed in accordance with the principles of the Red Cross.

As regards technical matters, our specialists must be given further training that will enable them to provide effective solutions to the problems of emergency medical action.

It is essential to respect the national public health policy and to co-ordinate operations with the National Society.

The ICRC and the League will in the near future draw up a planned programme to help National Societies to give suitable preparation to their operational teams.

See below, page 162, Resolution XXVI "The role of medical personnel in the preparation and execution of Red Cross emergency medical actions", adopted by consensus.

Miscellaneous

An observer proposed that an International Institute of Emergency Medicine should be formed.

This request was passed to the League Secretariat for such action as it saw fit.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We have adopted the seven resolutions. Is it your wish that the full report consisting of seven resolutions be adopted by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

I now call on Mr. Semukha, Chairman of Commission III, to make a few remarks.

Mr. Vladimir SEMUKHA (Byelorussia, Government): — Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to say that for me it was great pleasure to be Chairman of Commission III which was responsible for health and social welfare matters, youth, development, environment and so on.

I wish to say that during our meetings we have had fruitful discussions and exchanges of experience in these fields.

In conclusion I would like to thank all participants of Commission III, my Vice-Chairman, Rapporteur and secretaries and say once again that for me it was a great pleasure to be Chairman of Commission III of the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Shall we give the whole Commission both our confidence and thanks by applause? (*Applause.*)

As we are proceeding rather fast, I now declare a break of 22 minutes.

FIRST BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — While awaiting the report of Commission II, we shall proceed with the election of the five members of the Standing Commission.

I now give the floor to Mr. Cayla to explain the details.

Mr. Jean-Louis CAYLA (Deputy Secretary-General) (*Original French*): — We shall now proceed to elect the members of the Standing Commission.

We shall begin by distributing the voting papers—one per delegation—and then, with the assistance of the scrutineers who were elected this morning, we shall proceed to vote.

The voting papers for the first round of the election of the Standing Commission have now been distributed. I draw your attention to the fact that there are five members to elect, but that it is possible under the rules—and I ask you to pay particular attention to this point—to vote for more than five candidates. Your ballot is valid even if it has more than five names. You are not obliged to strike out one or several names on this ballot.

Those elected after this first round of voting will be the candidates receiving an absolute majority, that is, one-half plus one vote.

If more than five candidates obtain absolute majorities, those declared to be elected will be the five candidates who have received the largest numbers of votes.

If fewer than five candidates receive absolute majorities, a second ballot will be held and, as you will recall, in derogation of the rule, you have agreed that it shall be on the second ballot that a relative majority will be sufficient for election of the members of the Standing Commission.

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that we ask you not to underline the names of the candidates for whom you wish to vote, but only to draw lines through the names of those for whom you do not wish to vote.

I now ask the following members of the Conference who have been elected as scrutineers to come forward and supervise the procedure: Mr. Boubrit (Algeria), Mr. Polster (Austria), Dr. Caridad (Philippines), Mr. Ciuta (Romania), Dr. Prat (Uruguay).

It may be that some delegations were not in the room when the voting papers were distributed. We have made note of the National Societies and governments which have received them. If there are some delegations which have not received voting papers and are entitled to receive them, which we can verify by our lists, we would ask them to request them now.

Before proceeding to call the roll of delegations, I have been asked to repeat the names of the countries to which the candidates belong. It appears that a number of the curriculum vitae which should have been in the pigeon holes this morning did not reach their addressees.

The nine candidates are the following, in alphabetic order:

- Mr. Abu-Goura, Jordan
- Mr. Alcantara, Senegal
- Mrs. Basque, Ivory Coast
- Mr. Hantos, Hungary
- Mr. Ijas, Indonesia
- Mr. Kane, Canada
- Mr. Laroche, Haiti
- Mr. Warras, Finland
- Mr. Whyte, New Zealand.

We shall now call the roll of delegations starting with the letter C.

BANGLADESH (Red Cross): — I am speaking on behalf of the Bangladesh Red Cross delegation concerning the elections. Now, referring to Article 22 of the Rules of procedure for these elections, it is nowhere specified that a delegation can vote for more than five candidates; but as Mr. Cayla pointed out and as also written in the ballot paper a delegation is authorized to either vote for less than five or more than five candidates. We feel that a number of candidates may be more than five but the voter is not authorized to vote for more than a maximum number of seats which are limited to five in this case. And to the second point, as followed in the last Conference, only two ballots were held and for the second ballot a relative majority is required. But as written in Article 23, there are supposed to be three ballots in case no candidates obtain an absolute majority and only on the third ballot a relative majority is required. But since we are derogating from Art. 23, I would propose that we adopt this derogation by consensus first, that is to have two ballots only and therefore having the relative majority in the second ballot. These were the points to specify and to clarify.

Mr. J.-L. CAYLA (Deputy Secretary-General) (Original French): — I do indeed understand that one might be somewhat surprised at this procedure, but we have verified it in the Rules of procedure of the International Conference, from which I will read a part of Article 22, making it clear that one may vote for more than five candidates even if there are only five seats to fill. On this point, the article reads as follows:

“The members of the Standing Commission set up in conformity with Article 9 of the Statutes shall be elected by ballot by the members of the Conference.

”The five candidates obtaining an absolute majority shall be declared elected.

”If more than five candidates obtain an absolute majority, the five candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.”

It is thus perfectly clear that one may vote for more than five candidates. If not, this article would have no meaning, since it would not otherwise be possible for more than five candidates to receive an absolute majority.

If less than five candidates obtain an absolute majority in the first ballot, a second ballot, and if necessary a third ballot shall be held under the same conditions to fill any remaining vacancies. On the third ballot, only a relative majority is required. On this latter point, which was the second question raised, I would recall that last Saturday, on the occasion of the first plenary meeting, the Chairman set forth the procedure that would be followed in electing the Standing Commission and you accepted by consensus that we would follow a simplified procedure, under which a relative majority would be sufficient on the second ballot.

If there are no other questions I propose that we begin to call the roll of delegations.

Dr. Friedrich WENDL (Austrian Red Cross): — I agree completely with the last explanation of Mr. Cayla and I cannot follow the remark made by the distinguished delegate of Bangladesh. It is possible that we can vote for more than five candidates put on the list.

But, to the second remark made by the delegate of Bangladesh, I have some reservations because we adopted the rule that in the second ballot the greatest number is enough for the election of the candidate by consensus and as it has been explained by Mr. Moreillon in Commission I, consensus means that nobody is against, but for the revision of the Rules of procedure, and in fact it is a revision of the Rules of procedure, we need a majority as provided for in article 25 of the Rules of procedure of the International Conference of the Red Cross and with reference to Article XIII of the Statutes. In Article XIII of the Statutes a majority of two-thirds is necessary to amend the Rules of procedure. Therefore in my point of view the last point raised by the delegate of Bangladesh is right, namely to say that a consensus is not quite in conformity with the Rules of procedure. Nevertheless, the Austrian Red Cross is absolutely of the opinion that it is advisable not to have a third ballot. We should follow the rules made but if somebody is against then we must vote in accordance with the Rules of procedure and Statutes of the International Red Cross. This is my opinion, but I would confirm that my Society agrees with the rules proposed by the Bureau of the Conference.

Mr. J.-L. CAYLA (Deputy Secretary-General) (Original French): — Thank you. Everything is now perfectly clear. The Austrian delegate is quite right, there is no question of beginning the procedure for revising the Statutes or amending the Rules of procedure of the International Conference. Last Saturday, the Chairman asked if you would agree to derogate from the Rules by following a simplified procedure. We are therefore now ready to follow

this simplified procedure, on the condition that there is no delegation opposed to doing so. We cannot vote to decide what procedure to follow, because it is perfectly true that the Rules specify a procedure and we cannot follow a shorter and more simple one if there is any objection. Is there then any Society which opposes this procedure? If not, I think we can now proceed to a roll call of the delegations.

(Mr. J.-L. Cayla called the roll.)

Are there any delegations which have not been called? If not, the ballot is closed.

REPORT OF COMMISSION II — GENERAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL COMMISSION. DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — May I invite the Chairman of Commission II, Mr. Diop of Senegal, and the Rapporteur, Dr. Darwich of Syria, to the podium please?

Dr. Ziad DARWICH (Syrian Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour of presenting to you the report of Commission II which dealt with subjects relating to general and organizational affairs. The Commission elected the following as its officers:

Chairman:	Mr. Mohamed Abdoulaye Diop (Senegal)
Vice-Chairman:	Dr. (Mrs.) Oradeanu (Romania)
Rapporteur:	Dr. Ziad Darwich (Syria)
Secretaries:	Mr. Dominique Borel (ICRC)
	Mr. Jean Cassaigneau (League)

Report of the League of Red Cross Societies

At the request of the Chairman, outgoing League Secretary General H. Beer presented the report on the activities of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies since 1979. He put special emphasis on those activities which were a government concern, i.e. relief to disaster victims, and pointed out the increase in the number of disasters, whether natural or man made as in the case of refugees. This increase had caused the League to launch an appeal every 19 days, on average, as against every 23 days ten years ago. Mr. Beer then surveyed the relief operations undertaken in the different parts of the world, mainly in South-East Asia, Latin America and East Africa where the operational costs amounted to 13 millions Swiss francs.

Several of these operations were conducted jointly with UN specialized agencies. In this respect Mr. Beer called for better co-ordination based on reciprocal confidence and on the awareness of common responsibility. He drew attention to the importance of co-operation between governments and National Societies in relief and other activities, such as health.

Referring to the development strategy for National Societies which had been recently adopted by the League General Assembly, Mr. Beer stressed the need for increased resources both in cash and personnel.

He pointed out that more than thirty National Societies had distributed their activity reports to all the delegations, on their own responsibility. These reports illustrated the large variety of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society activities all over the world. Mr. Beer recommended the leaders of developing Societies to take advantage of their presence in Manila to exchange views and experience with their colleagues of the same region, as this could only be of benefit to all the parties involved.

Following Mr. Beer, several speakers commented on his report; some of them gave details of the refugee problem in their respective countries, and the assistance provided by their National Societies with the help of the League and sister Societies.

A delegate from Latin America asked that the League Inter-American Office, in San José de Costa Rica, be reinforced to enable it to carry out its main task, namely to promote the development of Latin American National Societies.

Another delegate requested the League regularly to report on the progress made by Societies in process of formation with a view to their recognition and admission.

At the end of the discussion the League Secretary-General's report was unanimously approved.

Red Cross attitude to the taking of hostages

(Resolution VIII of the 23rd International Conference, Document CGO/3/1)

Item 3 of the agenda for Commission II was the attitude of the Red Cross in the event of hostage-taking. A document (CGO/3/1) was submitted to the Commission by the ICRC.

Mr. Marcel Naville, ICRC member, reaffirmed the forceful condemnation which the International Committee had always levelled at the taking of hostages, prohibited by the Geneva Conventions and unjustifiable in any circumstances. Notwithstanding, he added that the ICRC did not turn a blind eye to the misery, oppression and despair which sometimes impelled people to transgress the most elementary rules of the law of nations.

In general, the ICRC did not intervene when hostages were taken. Nevertheless, for urgent humanitarian reasons, it might, and under certain conditions and as an exception to its usual reserve, agree to provide hostages with material and moral comfort. Only in exceptional circumstances would it convey communications between the parties, i.e. if the parties had no direct contact with each other, agreed to ICRC intervention and promised not to resort to violence so long as ICRC intervention was taking place, and if the ICRC was the body best placed to intervene and could cease its action at any time after notifying the parties.

He urged National Societies carefully to consider the repercussions of any action they might envisage in the event of hostages' being taken. As auxiliaries to the public authorities they could expose themselves to suspicion of bias, no matter how independently they acted. While it might in some circumstances seem imperative for a National Society to help hostages, it would assume a very great responsibility if it agreed to act as an intermediary, and the failure of its efforts could well be detrimental to the whole movement.

The ICRC was then asked about its interventions for the benefit of hostages, about its policy and about its attitude to armed intervention by a government to release hostages even if it entailed the sacrifice of lives.

In reply, Mr. Naville described the various situations in which the ICRC was called in to assist. Although it gave no statistics, it had often been approached when hostages had been taken. The ICRC had specified that its policy was related solely to the taking of hostages during internal disturbances and tension.

The ICRC policy had been laid down following the hijacking of several aircraft in the years 1970-1971. The ICRC had been alarmed by the frequency of hostage-taking which in some quarters seemed to be acquiring the status of lawful action, and it feared that its intervention for hostages might be exploited by the authorities for the preparation of countermeasures against the hostage-takers.

In order to avoid doubt being cast upon its neutrality, therefore, the ICRC had set forth the principles which should guide its action when hostages were taken. Those principles had proved their worth.

The ICRC made it clear that it demanded governments and hostage-takers to refrain from any violent action during its intervention. Apart from that, the ICRC could not dictate the conduct of a government. It could do no more than recommend that the hostages be protected.

The ICRC report was adopted unanimously.

Concept of the International Red Cross and Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross

Mr. Marcel Naville, member of the ICRC, introduced this point. He reviewed the document CD/7.3/1, and briefly summarized its three chapters. However, the first reminded the Commission of Resolution No. XX of the Twenty-third International Conference which served as a background to the document.

The Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross

The setting up of the joint Centre by the League and the ICRC may be described as a historical event in co-operation between the institutions in Geneva. The Centre should ensure better services to National Societies and other organizations. Mr. Naville expressed the thanks of the ICRC to the League for having accommodated the Centre in its building.

Co-operation

Mr. Naville mentioned this chapter briefly, stressing the work accomplished with the Bulgarian Red Cross for the organization of the Varna Film Festival.

Concept of the International Red Cross

Mr. Naville mentioned the various arguments for and against a common label for the International Red Cross. The advantages from the point of view of publicity and simplicity of the image were obvious, but from the legal point of view there were several problems.

Mr. Naville explained that the League and the ICRC had arrived at the conclusion that a clear solution was necessary to avoid any confusion among the public and that the problem might be solved in the following way: to insert, in all publications and communications to the media a "box" describing the characteristics and functions of each of the institutions, and especially its position within the International Red Cross. It was suggested to the National Societies that they adopt the same procedure.

Mr. Naville then presented the resolution which mentioned the proposal for the boxed texts and which likewise hailed the creation of the Audio-Visual Centre.

Discussion

Many National Societies were in favour of the resolution mentioning the Audio-Visual Centre. The ICRC referring to the Varna Festival emphasized not only the importance of the event itself but also the contribution of the Bulgarian Red Cross.

A question was raised by the American Red Cross. This was relative to the “boxed” text referring to the League and the connection between the phrase “in time of peace” and League operations in natural disasters. This connection does not wholly reflect reality, and the League was asked to submit a new text after consultation with the ICRC. However, this remark did not prevent the Commission from unanimously accepting the resolution submitted. (RI.CGO/4/PRI)

The League and the ICRC then discussed a new text for the League’s box, which at present was official only in its English version.

See below, page 156, Resolution XVI “Promoting Red Cross: Joint efforts of the ICRC and the League” approved by consensus.

Report of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC and proposals for the future

Commission II had before it two drafts submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC. The first concerned the support which the governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions should give to the ICRC. The second requested annual contributions from the National Societies.

The first draft gave rise to little discussion, all participants being of the opinion that the ICRC should receive adequate finance from the governments and was adopted as it stood. Two delegations (Australia and France) announced a substantial increase in their contributions to the ICRC. Others mentioned their governments’ regular contributions and intent to continue remitting them. The Canadian delegate stated that he hoped there would be more frequent contact between the ICRC and governments on the subject of the regular budget, and for more direct and clear information, without impairing the independence and integrity of the ICRC.

In contrast, the discussion on financial support from National Societies was longer and livelier. All but one speaker accepted the principle that the National Societies should contribute to the ICRC regular budget. However, how they should do so was the subject of many speeches and several changes were made to draft resolution CGO/5/PR.2. Several speakers held the view that National Societies had a duty to help finance the International Committee. Others said that there could not be any obligation to do so, in view of the difficult economic situation of many of them. A number of delegations emphasized that the contributions were voluntary. The method of calculating National Society contributions did not meet with unanimous approval. Some Societies wished to retain the system which had been applied up to the time of the meeting, i.e. that the ICRC should receive each year from every National Society an amount equal to 50% of its statutory contribution to the League.

Taking all the comments expressed during the meeting into account, the Drafting Committee drew up a new draft (CGO/5/PR.2, rev.1).

When submitting the new draft, the ICRC delegate and the delegate of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC stressed that, as in the past, the National Society contribution was voluntary. The 10 per cent was only a target, each National Society being free to decide the amount of the contribution it could afford. Finally, three proposed amendments were approved, while Czechoslovak amendment to permit contributions in kind was rejected. On the final vote, 38 National Societies and nine governments were in favour of the amended resolution, none was against it and ten National Societies and five governments abstained.

See below, page 157, Resolution XVII “Financing of the ICRC by Governments”, adopted by consensus, and Resolution XVIII “Financing of the ICRC by National Societies”, adopted by consensus, with one abstention.

Interim report on the study “Natural Disaster Relief Action and International Law—Protection of Human Beings in Disaster Situations”

The League interim report on the study “Natural Disaster Relief Action and International Law—Protection of Human Beings in Disaster Situation” met with considerable interest. The League’s initiative was highly approved.

The League representative stressed that the interim report was the outcome of preliminary analysis and that there could not yet be any question of proposing rules or a treaty.

The initial examination of the subject had shown that there were a great many publications, especially on national relief action, which had to be analysed.

The “study group” was recommended to maintain its working contacts, particularly with the specialized agencies of the United Nations which had already undertaken research in this field.

Several National Societies promised support and assistance for the “study group” in order to bring constructive results as quickly as possible.

The Commission was unanimous in congratulating the authors of the interim report and encouraging them to continue their work until they had achieved the objectives they had set themselves.

Amendments to the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief (Recommendation No. 6 of the First Session of the General Assembly of the League, 1979)

The amendments proposed by the General Assembly at its First and Second Sessions relate to Articles

- 14: Role of the League
- 14A: Initial Information
- 24: Non-solicited relief
- 29: Obligations

and to Article 20A, "Accounting and auditing for joint or separate operations and programmes of the League and/or the ICRC".

Articles 14, 14A and 29 elicited few comments, but many speakers spoke on Article 20A, mainly on:

1. the application of these rules to contributions from sources other than the League or the ICRC;
2. approval by the League and/or the ICRC of the choice of auditors of the accounts kept by the National Society of the operation;
3. the need to submit monthly rather than quarterly financial statements to the League and the ICRC.

The League and the ICRC emphasized that these procedures did not spring from any lack of confidence in National Societies, but were dictated by the requirements of financial management of the high quality expected by the donors. The League and the ICRC gave the following supplementary information and explanations:

1. These regulations do not apply to contributions from other sources except when such contributions are made in the context of an operation financed by the League and/or the ICRC.
2. The appointment or approval of auditors is not intended to interfere in any way whatsoever with the National Society's prerogatives, but such approval is a necessary guarantee that the auditors chosen will apply the principles, methods and standards universally recognized in auditing and that their conclusions can therefore be used by the ICRC's and the League's auditors.
3. The conditions for the financing of such operations require short-term management of resources and reports must be submitted monthly instead of quarterly.

After deliberation, the Commission unanimously adopted the new regulations proposed, on condition that the measures commented on during the discussions were inserted in the final draft.

See below, page 163, Decision I "Modification of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief", adopted by consensus.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — It is already one o'clock and I propose that we stop here and start again at 3 o'clock.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

13 November 1981

Afternoon

SUMMARY: Announcement of the results of the first ballot for the election of members of the Standing Commission. — Report of Commission II, General and Organizational Commission (cont.). — Discussion and adoption of resolutions (cont.). — Second and final ballot for the election of members of Standing Commission. — Miscellaneous. — Speech by Mr. Hans Høegh, new Secretary-General of the League.

The session was opened at 3 p.m. by General R. C. Espino, Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before we continue with the report of Commission II, we would like to announce the results of this morning's elections.

Mr. Hans POLSTER (Austrian Red Cross): — The results of the first ballot for election of the members of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross were as follows:

Voting papers distributed	158
Number of votes	157
Invalid	0
Absolute majority	79

The candidates obtained the following number of votes:

Mr. Abu-Goura	103	<i>(Applause.)</i>
Mr. Hantos	103	<i>(Applause.)</i>

As Mr. Abu-Goura and Mr. Hantos have received absolute majorities, they are elected members of the Commission on the first ballot.

The other candidates obtained the following votes:

Mr. Warras	77
Mr. Kane	65
Mr. Whyte	65
Mr. Ijas	64
Mr. Laroche	56
Mr. Alcantara	52
Mrs. Basque	40

For the remaining three members, it is necessary to have a second ballot.

In the second ballot, these three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We will now proceed with the report of Commission II, after which we will carry out the election of the remaining three members of the Standing Commission.

Dr. Ziad DARWICH (Syrian Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — I will continue with the text from the point where we stopped.

The role of voluntary service in the Red Cross

This topic was introduced by the League, which made a point of underlining its importance and topicality. The representative of the Henry Dunant Institute presented the objectives of the study in which the Institute had been engaged since 1980, namely to analyse voluntary service with the Red Cross today, to find new prospects and to offer a solution to the problems involved.

After expressing gratitude to the National Societies which had given the Institute support for the first phase of that study, he announced some preliminary conclusions about voluntary service, its development and its role in the light of new community needs. There remained many points worthy of thorough examination, particularly the insertion of voluntary workers in National Society programmes, taking into account the changing motivation of voluntary workers. Likewise it would be advisable for Red Cross voluntary service and methods of recruiting, selecting, training and evaluating voluntary workers in various parts of the world to be better known.

The speaker then referred to various problems relating to the disaffection of volunteers and the means to remedy this by giving them a greater part in the preparation of programmes and in the taking of decisions.

He concluded by saying that the exchange of views would be useful and that the Institute would benefit from further support for continuing the study.

Following the presentation of this report, the representative of the ICRC spoke of the great significance of the study by the Henry Dunant Institute for the future of the Red Cross and emphasized the importance at the present time of questions concerning voluntary service.

He expressed his satisfaction at the example given by Philippine Red Cross volunteers at the Conference itself and hoped that the dialogue would enable the Institute to continue its study in a concrete manner, enriched by the experiences and examples provided by the various National Societies present.

Several government delegations and representatives of National Societies expressed their appreciation both of the report and of the study undertaken by the Henry Dunant Institute. Voluntary service, today as in the past, was the backbone of the Red Cross movement, and the special character of Red Cross voluntary service was stressed as being a deliberate choice, without constraint, the expression of a desire to serve the community. At the same time it entailed obligations for Red Cross voluntary workers, in particular that of serving on a regular basis.

Stress was laid, also, on the need to give voluntary workers suitable training and to strike a balance between the career workers and the voluntary workers.

Representatives of various National Societies referred to their own experiences and the problems they had encountered. In some Third World countries, where the great majority of voluntary workers were young people, the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies had to reckon with the active presence of other public or private organizations, which might sometimes attract more voluntary workers than the Red Cross. It was therefore necessary to motivate voluntary workers, to give them greater responsibilities within the National Societies, to integrate them fully into the institution and acknowledge their services. In this connection, the training of voluntary workers was a vital investment to maintain and develop their interest. Some delegations also emphasized the difficulty of recruiting and keeping voluntary workers who were members of poor communities and had to fight to survive. It was therefore essential to give them some remuneration, to provide for their transport and to reward them for their work.

Lastly, several representatives of National Societies expressed their views on the Henry Dunant Institute questionnaire on voluntary service. One of them said that the questionnaire should be sent to all National Societies, so that the study could genuinely represent a conspectus of experiences throughout the Red Cross movement.

A draft resolution was presented on behalf of a group of National Societies. This was discussed and adopted, with minor amendment.

See below, page 157, Resolution XIX "The role of voluntary service in the Red Cross", adopted by consensus.

Report of the Joint ICRC-League Commission on the Statutes of National Societies (Follow-up to Resolution VI of the Twenty-second International Conference, Teheran, 1973)

In submitting the report on the activities of the Joint ICRC-League Commission on the Statutes of National Societies, its Chairman, Professor Patrnoic, briefly reviewed the Commission's efforts since the adoption of Resolution No. VI at Teheran which had formally sanctioned the practice established when the movement was

founded, and in accordance with which National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies communicated to the ICRC and the League their constituent and statutory documents and any amendments thereto.

This report gave participants an idea of the cases the Commission had had to deal with involving recognition and admission procedures, amendment to statutes and non-compliance with the conditions for recognition.

The report was accompanied by a draft resolution presented by the Joint Commission on the Statutes of National Societies. The General and Organizational Commission adopted the draft resolution after the addition to it of an amendment calling for coordination on recognition and admission between the Joint Commission and the League Development Programme, as part of the League Development Strategy in the Eighties (RG.CGO/9/1).

See below, page 158, Resolution XX "Joint Commission for National Society Statutes", adopted by consensus.

Revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

Miss Weitzel (ICRC) presenting this agenda item based on a document (CGO/10/1) drawn up by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, said that that Commission had considered it necessary to set further criteria for the award of the medal. It had approved in April 1980 a draft of the revised regulations which included the following new rules:

- the dedication or exceptional service to be awarded should in principle have an international aspect;
- the rank of the Red Cross member would not be taken into consideration for the award;
- for imperative reasons the Standing Commission wished to be able to award the medal in exceptional cases without regard for the two-year interval.

A draft resolution covering these new provisions was adopted unanimously. It had been commended to the International Conference by the Standing Commission which had pointed out that henceforth it would be the Council of Delegates which would be the authorized body in the matter of the Medal regulations, instead of the Conference.

It was also laid down that members of the Standing Commission may not be candidates for the medal so long as they held office.

See below, page 164, Decision II "Revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal", adopted by consensus.

Examination of the Florence Nightingale Medal Regulations (Recommendation No. 2 of the First Session of the General Assembly of the League, 1979)

The amendments to the new regulations as compared with the old consist in an increase in the maximum number of medals which can be awarded in each period of two years from 36 to 50. The definition of possible recipients was extended to include voluntary auxiliary nurses rendering exceptional services in preventive medicine.

The Commission accepted the draft of new regulations proposed by the ICRC after incorporating in them a minor amendment to Article 2 (new). This amendment was proposed by the British Red Cross Society, and supplements and lends greater precision to the definition of voluntary auxiliaries to whom the Florence Nightingale Medal may be awarded.

See below, page 165, Decision III "Revision of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal", approved by consensus.

The International Red Cross Handbook, Twelfth Edition

Since its first publication in 1889, the purpose of the International Red Cross Handbook has been to provide a compendium of the principles and rules codifying and directing the work of the Red Cross since its foundation; an essential work of reference for its members; and a practical guide for everyone interested in international humanitarian law and Red Cross affairs.

Commission II was informed that the ICRC and the League are now preparing the Twelfth Edition of the International Red Cross Handbook with the help of the Henry Dunant Institute.

The new edition updates, for the first time in ten years, agreements, regulations, resolutions, etc. The Handbook will be published in 1983 in French, English and Spanish. Orders for it may be placed with the Henry Dunant Institute as from today.

International Red Cross Action for Refugees

The representatives of the League and the ICRC submitted to the Commission a joint report on International Red Cross Action for Refugees. This report is the result of several years' joint efforts to strengthen co-operation among the various component bodies of the Red Cross with due regard to their respective responsibilities. The UNHCR was associated with this, has itself approved the essentials of the report, and has supported by the proposals it contains.

Mr. de la Mata, President of the League, congratulated the UNHCR in the person of its representative Mr. Cuenod on the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The ensuing discussions dealt mainly with the draft resolution included in the report and having as an annex guidelines for Red Cross action in aid of refugees.

Several amendments were proposed to the third paragraph of the draft resolution. They introduced the idea of international responsibility in sharing the expenses entailed by the entry of refugees into host countries.

One National Society pressed (although its suggestion was not adopted in the text) for responsibility being firmly pinned onto the refugees' country of origin. Such countries should in no circumstances be allowed to derive advantage from the generosity of host countries and the international community.

Another point raised was the exact definition of the word "refugee". When the discussion ended it did not appear possible to find a definition covering all situations: for example, that of forced repatriation by a foreign country.

It was considered advisable to extend the scope of the resolution to returnees.

On the subject of guidelines, a National Society with wide experience of this question pointed out that they were not always applicable when League or ICRC delegates were not present. It was also stressed that Red Cross relief operations should be temporary, and cease as soon as another organization could take over.

This joint report and the duly amended draft resolution were adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution "International Red Cross aid to refugees":

The XXIVth International Conference,

recalling Resolution No. 1 of the XXIIIrd International Conference, which stated that the fundamental mission of the Red Cross includes the provision, without discrimination as to race, nationality, religious beliefs or political opinions, of protection and assistance to those who need it, in the event of armed conflict and other disasters, *conscious* of the large numbers of refugees, returnees, and displaced persons and the extent of human misery caused by the displacement of populations in many parts of the world,

recalling the primary responsibilities of the governments of countries of asylum for the care of refugee on their territories, while bearing in mind the obligation of the international community to share equitably the burden of refugee protection, assistance and resettlement, in accordance with accepted principles of international solidarity and co-operation in burden sharing,

recalling that, in accordance with their auxiliary role in the humanitarian services of their governments and with the relief principles of the International Red Cross, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should take immediate actions to alleviate suffering of victims of calamities, including emergency aid to refugees, returnees, and displaced persons,

recalling the primary function of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the field of the international protection and material assistance to refugees, persons displaced outside their country of origin and returnees, as laid down by its Statutes, the United Nations Conventions and Protocol relating to the status of refugees and relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly,

considering that the ICRC and the League have respective functions in co-ordinating international Red Cross assistance to these victims, especially when they do not fall under the competence of the Office of the UNHCR,

pledges the continuous support and the collaboration of the Red Cross with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in their respective activities in favour of refugees and displaced persons,

declares that the policy of the Red Cross in this field is as set out in the statement annexed.

International Red Cross Aid to Refugees Statement of Policy

1. The Red Cross should at all times be ready to assist and to protect refugees, displaced persons and returnees, when such victims are considered as protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, or when they are considered as refugees under article 73 of the 1977 Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, or in conformity with the Statutes of the International Red Cross, especially when they cannot, in fact, benefit from any other protection or assistance, as in some cases of internally displaced persons.
2. The services offered by a National Society to refugees should conform to those offered to victims of natural disasters, as indicated in the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief. These services should be of an auxiliary character and undertaken in agreement with the authorities. They should be in strict accordance with Red Cross principles.

3. Assistance from the Red Cross should at all times take due account of the comparable needs of the local population in the areas in which refugees, displaced persons and returnees are accommodated. Since Red Cross relief programmes are essentially of an emergency character, they should be phased out as soon as other organizations are in a position to provide the aid required.
4. All National Society actions for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons should be immediately reported to the League and/or the ICRC.
5. It is the responsibility of each National Society to inform the League or ICRC of any negotiations likely to lead to a formal agreement between the Society and the UNHCR. The League or ICRC should be associated with the Society in the negotiations and concur with the terms of agreement.
6. Societies, when possible, should use their influence to encourage their governments to accept refugees for resettlement as well as to participate as appropriate by assisting with welfare programmes in the resettlement process in close co-operation and co-ordination with their government.
7. The ICRC, League and National Societies should co-operate to the maximum possible extent with UNHCR and all other institutions and organizations (governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental) working in the field of refugee relief.
8. As a neutral and independent humanitarian institution, the ICRC offers its services whenever refugees and displaced persons are in need of the specific protection which the ICRC may afford them.
9. The Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC is also always ready in co-operation with National Societies to act in aid of refugees and displaced persons, for instance by facilitating the reuniting of dispersed families, by organizing the exchange of family news and by tracing missing persons.
When necessary, it offers its co-operation to the UNHCR, as well as its technical assistance to National Societies to enable them to set up and develop their own tracing and mailing services.
10. The international institutions of the Red Cross will have regular consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on matters of common interest and whenever considered useful, will co-ordinate their humanitarian assistance in favour of refugees and displaced persons in order to ensure complementarity between their actions.

See below, page 159, for definitive version of Resolution XXI "International Red Cross aid to refugees".

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Unless there are any objections, I now propose to proceed to the adoption of the last resolution of Commission II.

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh Red Cross): — My delegation fully supports the resolution but would like to point out certain mistakes in its wording.

I would like to draw the attention of the members of Commission II in general, and our distinguished Chairman and Rapporteur, in particular, to the discussion that took place on Wednesday afternoon. The discussion and interventions centred on two points. First, with reference to paragraph 3 of the preamble, attributing primary responsibility to the governments of countries of asylum, delegates considered that, following the principles of international solidarity, the international community has the responsibility of sharing the burden. The group of speakers who shared this view were asked to present a revised draft, which was presented by the distinguished delegate from the Australian Government and which was adopted unanimously.

The second point of discussion was about the seventh paragraph.

As far as I remember, three amendments were introduced. Firstly the Red Cross Society of Ireland was in favour of inserting the word "relentless" after the word "continuous", secondly the Red Cross Society of Ethiopia wanted to insert the word "returnees" just after the word "refugees", and finally the Bangladesh Red Cross delegation introduced an amendment at the end of this paragraph. We proposed that after the words "displaced persons", and after deleting the comma, the following words be incorporated: "within the framework of the policy concerning International Red Cross aid to refugees".

If these three amendments were incorporated, paragraph 7 would read: "Pledges the continuous relentless support and the collaboration of the Red Cross with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in their respective activities in favour of refugees, returnees and displaced persons within the framework of the policy concerning International Red Cross aid to refugees."

The Chairman of the Commission accepted these three amendments and put the matter to the vote, but the coffee break came in between and, when the Commission re-assembled, the first point voted upon was the revised draft of paragraph 3. Then the whole report was voted upon and was accepted unanimously.

It was understood, when the Commission was voting, that it was voting on the amended seventh paragraph. Therefore we feel that the amended version of paragraph 7 was accepted by the Commission and that it was an important misunderstanding by our distinguished Rapporteur. I would request that the amended version be incorporated now.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Now that we have heard the Bangladesh delegate, is it your wish that this particular resolution be returned to the Drafting Committee for correction?

Dr. Ziad DARWICH (Syrian Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — With respect to the third paragraph, the idea of international responsibility was introduced into the amended text.

As for the seventh paragraph, I have no objection to having the Drafting Committee instructed to prepare a new text or to amend the existing text, but I know that this text is the one which was approved by the Drafting Committee and proposed in the Commission. It is for this reason that I do not object to having the seventh paragraph reworded.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — The Rapporteur of the Commission has agreed that it would be best to return the proposed amendment to the Drafting Committee. Do I have your concurrence? (*Applause.*)

May I propose that we re-examine the new version from the Drafting Committee tomorrow morning. Thus we defer the adoption of the report of Commission II until then.

Dr. Z. DARWICH (Syrian Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — There is a final point to be read, Mr. Chairman.

The CTA's co-ordinating and technical advisory role for National Societies and Governments

After describing the various situations which called for the Central Tracing Agency's intervention, Mr. Aubert, the ICRC representative, emphasized the importance of co-ordinating and standardizing National Societies and CTA methods. For that purpose, the National Societies and the CTA would meet in Geneva in November 1982 at a seminar on the subject. He also stated that the CTA was ready to help in the establishment of national tracing services where they did not exist.

All speakers in the ensuing discussion mentioned the necessity of establishing a national tracing office. They recognized the importance of co-ordinating and developing standard procedures and several offered their support for the seminar scheduled for 1982.

Several delegates described the advantages of setting up a national tracing office in peacetime, particularly for the reuniting of families dispersed by natural disasters.

The ICRC representative pointed out that a national tracing office set up in peacetime would provide an infrastructure and trained personnel who could immediately operate in case of conflict. He then gave some information about the International Tracing Service at Arolsen in the Federal Republic of Germany. He added that a new technical manual on the organization of tracing services was being prepared and would be drawn up in final form at the November 1982 seminar.

This concluded the report of Commission II.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before I give the floor to the Chairman of Commission II, I would like to propose that the Report of Commission II—the whole report, to be corrected by the Drafting Committee—be adopted.

Is it your wish that the whole report now be adopted? (*Applause.*)

Does any delegation wish to dissociate itself from the consensus?

Miss Erika FELLER (Australian Government): — I don't want to delay the plenary session any more than necessary. I am not raising any objection to the adoption of the report but as it has to go back to the Drafting

Committee for certain amendments in relation to refugees, I would like very much to suggest that we consider some relatively important amendments to the text.

The first is on page 7 of the English text of the report and relates to discussions which took place on natural disaster relief action.

A number of delegations, including my own, the Australian Government delegation, made certain recommendations to the study group which I think are not reflected accurately in the text of this report. With the consensus of this meeting my delegation would like to see added, after the fourth paragraph on that page, an additional sentence which would read as follows:

“It was also recommended by a number of delegations that the study group follow closely and take into account discussions presently taking place in United Nations fora on ways to improve and strengthen the international response to demands for disaster relief assistance.”

I have a second suggestion to make, Mr. President, concerning the report on the discussion on refugees.

Paragraph 4 on page 15, describes or summarizes the discussion which took place in relation to the third paragraph of the resolution on refugees. At least in the English text, it is the view of my delegation that it inaccurately reflects the discussion. I am referring in this sense particularly to the second sentence of paragraph 4.

We would like that sentence to be rephrased as follows:

“They introduced the idea of international responsibility in sharing with the host countries the burden of refugee care and assistance occasioned by the entry of refugees into these countries.”

The reason we would prefer it to be phrased in this way, Mr. Chairman, is that the draft report as it presently stands talks about sharing the expenses entailed by the entry of refugees into the host countries.

When we suggested during the Commission discussion that this paragraph in the resolution be amended, we had in mind not only the question of sharing expenses, but the question of sharing the burden in general. And to us, the word burden entails far more than merely the cost of refugees. For example it involves the notion of the burden of finding durable solutions to refugees' problems, and that is something far more complex than merely the cost of refugees.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — May I call on the Rapporteur to comment before we send this back to the Drafting Committee?

Dr. Z. DARWICH (Syrian Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — If I remember correctly, the discussion dealt mainly with the idea of associating the whole international community with responsibility for refugees. In my opinion, this was reflected in the French text.

There are differences, however, in translation between the English, French and the other languages and I therefore suggest that, as we did with the amendment proposed by the honourable representative of Bangladesh, we submit also this amendment to the Drafting Committee so that it can offer us a text acceptable to everyone.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — So, both suggestions should be sent to the Drafting Committee, the suggestions of both the Bangladesh and Australian delegations.

The whole report is approved.

Dr. JOMARD AMER (Iraqi Red Crescent) (*Original French*): — Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, but as I understand it, the report had indeed been adopted, and therefore the amendments presented by the Australian delegation are not valid. Everything said by the delegate can only be regarded as a clarification, or perhaps as a comment, but not as an amendment. I think amendment is not possible.

Mr. Mohamed Abdoulaye DIOP (Senegalese Red Cross) (*Original French*): — What we understood was that the two texts, French and English, were to be sent back to the Drafting Committee for harmonization.

But what has now been proposed is something which affects the substance of the report, and this is impossible. I don't know whether the Conference will accept it or not.

The Rapporteur said that the two texts were to be harmonized. So if changes are desired, they will simply be changes in the style, from the linguistic point of view, I do not think it is possible to change things which affect the content after the report has been adopted.

With regard to the intervention of the Australian delegate, Miss Feller came to see me to say that the term “responsabilité internationale” was not well translated into English, hence the need for harmonization between the French text and the English text, in which the term is not as strong and not as precise as in the French text. I do not believe, therefore, that this is a matter of substance, but only a question of harmonizing the French and English texts.

With respect to paragraph 7, if I understood the speaker, there are several words to be added, to read in effect, “in the framework of the policy of Red Cross assistance to refugees”. I believe they should be added just before the end of the paragraph, which does not seem to change the substance of the paragraph. Under these circumstances, I think that neither the report nor the definition have been questioned as to their substance, but only as to their form, requiring harmonization between the French and English texts in one place and adding a few words in another place.

I don't know if I have made myself clear, but Miss Feller is there to make any further explanations.

Miss Erika FELLER (Australian Government): — I have two comments to make on the intervention of the delegate from Iraq.

The first is a procedural one: we wanted to speak, in fact, before it was decided that the report would be adopted and before this Conference indicated that it was adopting the report. I am afraid it is difficult to see us, because we are sitting so far back. But when you asked if there were any problems with the report we put up a hand immediately. So in that sense we would regard the suggestions we had to make as still being valid and having been made, in fact, before the report was adopted by this Committee.

The second comment is merely an observation that is to say that in relation to the amendment I suggested on the refugee issue it is a question, as the Chairman has suggested, of aligning the French and English texts.

In relation to the amendment I suggested on disaster relief, this is an addition that does not exist in the French text or in the English text. It is in fact an addition to the report.

However, it is my very strong view that it should cause no delegation any particular problem. It was merely the suggestion of a number of delegations, including my own and a number of Government delegations, as I remember, that the report should include this sentence so as to reflect more accurately than it does at present the nature of the discussion which took place in Commission II. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — My understanding was that the remarks of Australia were accepted by the Rapporteur and would be reflected in the Drafting Committee's revised version.

So I would like to explain that the Drafting Committee will take note of the remarks of Australia and Bangladesh and so amend the record. The amendment is merely a matter of style and not of substance. Do you agree with that, so we can save time? (*Applause.*)

Mr. M. A. DIOP (Senegalese Red Cross) (*Original French*): — It was a great pleasure for me to preside over the work of Commission II, of which I had the honour of being elected Chairman.

For three days the members of the Commission, with objectivity and serenity, engaged in a wide exchange of ideas and experience which I am sure will be beneficial to all.

Our discussions were indeed marked by a Red Cross spirit, in which it seemed that everyone who spoke had but one desire: to serve humanity better, without any discrimination, at all times, in all places and under all circumstances.

I therefore wish to express my gratitude to the other officers of the Commission who so efficiently helped me carry out my task.

I extend this gratitude to all the members of the Commission, whose positive contributions enabled us, within the time allotted, to prepare the report and the resolutions which have been submitted to you.

Ladies and gentlemen, I should not like to conclude without thanking you all for the attention and approval you have been kind enough to give to the work of this Commission. (*Applause.*)

SECOND AND FINAL BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION

The second ballot for the election of three members of the Standing Commission was held after a roll-call and distribution of the voting papers.

MISCELLANEOUS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I would like to announce that the meeting tomorrow, in accordance with the wish of a great majority, should start earlier so that we can complete the deliberations before noon.

It was suggested that we start the meeting at 8.30 a.m.

Do you agree with 8.30 a.m.? (*Applause.*)

Before I give the floor to Mr. Høegh, the new Secretary General of the League, I would like to announce that the Standing Commission is going to meet in room 10 at 5.30 p.m. Candidates for election should wait a while to know whether they should attend that meeting at 5.30 p.m.

The results of the ballot will be announced during tomorrow morning's plenum.

I now give the floor to the Secretary General of the League.

SPEECH BY MR. HANS HØEGH, NEW SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE

Mr. Hans HØEGH (League): — Excuse me for taking the floor at this plenary meeting. I wish to thank you all, and everybody who after my appointment as Secretary-General of the League has assured me of his confidence and whole-hearted co-operation. I do hope you will prove it, not only by words, but also in practice.

It is not easy to take over the important job of Secretary-General after our mutual and highly respected friend Henrik Beer.

For nearly 20 years of co-operation and friendship I have experienced his devoted interest in the Red Cross and Red Crescent, his tremendous working capacity and most of all his fundamental humanitarian qualities, his kindness and affection for all human beings across all frontiers.

These qualities are the key-notes of his noble character and a shining example to us all.

The next General Assembly will take place in Geneva in 1983. Let us try to solve at least some of the problems we have talked over here in Manila. Just pushing the problems ahead of us does not solve anything. At the next General Assembly, let us try to talk more of the future, less about the past.

Please convey my warmest greetings to the millions of volunteers in your National Societies. Without them the Red Cross and Red Crescent would not be what it is. (*Applause.*)

End of meeting.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

14 November 1981

SUMMARY: Results of the second ballot for the election of members of the Standing Commission. — Report of Commission I “Protection and Assistance”; discussion and adoption of draft resolutions. — Election of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross (Chairman and Vice-Chairman). — Place and date of the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross.— Miscellaneous: Thanks. Closing speeches.

The session was opened at 8.30 a.m. by General R. C. Espino, Chairman.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I now call the meeting to order and before I make an important announcement I ask that the result of the election for the Standing Commission be given.

While awaiting Mr. Polster, the Chairman of the scrutineers—and in accordance with the request of many delegates who only saw the papers a while ago—the Chair will give you up to 9 o’clock to read your papers, so when we start we will go on very fast.

So I will call the meeting to order again at 9 o’clock.

RESULTS OF THE SECOND BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION

Mr. H. POLSTER (Austrian Red Cross): — On behalf of the Committee of scrutineers for the election of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, may I inform you of the results of the second ballot, for the election of three further members to this Commission.

Voting papers distributed	158
Number of votes	157
Nil	0
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Warras	92 (Applause.)
Mr. Ijas	66 (Applause.)
Mr. Kane	63 (Applause.)
Mr. Whyte	62
Mr. Laroche	45
Mr. Alcantara	41
Mrs. Basque	21

As the International Conference decided at its previous meeting that, on the second ballot, the three candidates who obtain the greatest number of votes will be elected, the following three candidates are therefore elected: Mr. Warras, Mr. Ijas and Mr. Kane.

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the International Red Cross, the five members of the Standing Commission elected by the International Conference in two ballots are: Mr. Abu-Goura, Mr. Hantos, Mr. Warras, Mr. Ijas, and Mr. Kane. (Applause.)

REPORT OF COMMISSION I "PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE". DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — We now proceed to the report of Commission I and I call on Mr. Nathan, the Rapporteur of Commission I.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — It is my pleasure to present the report on the proceedings of Commission I on Protection and Assistance.

There are two points to be stressed. First, the view was expressed regarding the election of a drafting committee, that government delegates present should be offered the opportunity not only of serving on the drafting committee, but also of serving as Chairmen of various commissions.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, it was also thought that it would be useful to have geographic representation on drafting committees. A drafting committee was then elected in accordance with the wishes of the delegates present.

Report of Commission I, Protection and Assistance

1. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur and Drafting Committee members:

1.1 The following were duly elected as:

Chairman:	Mr. D. G. Whyte (New Zealand)
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. Kauko Sipponen (Finland)
Rapporteur:	Mr. V. T. Nathan (Malaysia)
Secretaries:	Mr. Francis Amar (ICRC) Mr. Othman-Chande (League)
Drafting Committee:	Mr. Jean-Luc Florent (France) Mr. R. A. de Carcer (Spain) Mr. Drougov (USSR) Miss Mawia Sheikh Fadli (Syrian Arab Republic) Mr. Henry A. Jenkins (Sierra Leone) Dr. Hans Knitel (Austria) Mr. V. Matross-McIntosh (Jamaica) Mr. Frank Sieverts (USA)

1.2 The Chairman welcomed the delegates. He then recalled some of the rules of procedure, and called for nominations for the Drafting Committee of the Commission. A number of delegates took the floor to express the view that government delegates present should be offered the opportunity to serve on the Drafting Committee and that, in future, they should be not overlooked when electing Chairmen of the respective Commissions.

2. Report on the activities of the ICRC

Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the ICRC, presented a Report on the activities of the ICRC, covering the period since the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference. He said: "No matter how complete an appraisal of humanitarian activities may be, it cannot give more than an incomplete picture of reality. And it is not possible to draw up a listing of the physical and moral suffering endured by men and women or what relief they can be given." He then drew attention to the proliferation of conflicts in the world today and surveyed the areas of violence and the theatres of armed conflicts. He emphasized the humanitarian nature of the mission of the ICRC despite the unfortunate obstacles, refusals and setbacks that it had to contend with in the pursuit of its objectives.

2.1 Several delegates who took the floor referred to the position of pre-eminence occupied by the ICRC in the field of humanitarian relief, its impartiality and neutrality. They emphasized the need for more effective and wider dissemination of knowledge of the Geneva Conventions and the two additional Protocols. Several delegates also drew attention to other areas of humanitarian concern and called upon States at all times to respect and enforce international humanitarian law. A number of delegates welcomed the full report of the ICRC on its activities (CPA/2/1) and recorded their appreciation for the forthright and frank comments. They complimented Mr. Hay for speaking out on the problems faced by the ICRC.

The report of the ICRC was approved.

3. Draft Resolution on the Wearing of Identity Discs

Mr. Jacques Moreillon (ICRC) introduced a draft resolution (CPA/2/PR/1) on the wearing of identity discs by members of the armed forces in order to facilitate identification when killed or missing in action. The latter situation, in particular, had caused and would continue to cause serious distress to the next of kin and families and raise important legal difficulties.

- 3.1 During the debate that ensued, a number of delegates spoke in favour of the resolution, whilst others expressed doubts as to the need to include in it particulars with regard to the date, place of birth and religion. One delegate recommended the inclusion of blood group, as well. Mr. J. Moreillon, in reply, explained the need for the above data in view of their importance, both from a practical and a legal viewpoint, and referred to the provisions of Articles 16 and 17 of the First Convention and Articles 19 and 20 of the Second. He agreed with the recommendation to include blood group.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Red Cross delegate from Australia then moved that the record of the proceedings show the unanimous adoption of the resolution. This was agreed to.

Draft resolution on wearing of identity discs

The Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that, in several situations of armed conflict, the identification of members of the armed forces killed on the battle-field is made extremely difficult for lack of identification documents,

recalling that Articles 16 and 17 of the First Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 provide for identity discs to be worn by members of the armed forces to facilitate their identification in case they are killed and the communication of their deaths to the Power on which they depend,

urges the Parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary steps to provide the members of their armed forces with identity discs and to ensure that the discs are worn during service,

recommends that the Parties to an armed conflict should see these discs give all the indications required for a precise identification of members of the armed forces such as full name, date and place of birth, religion, serial number and blood group; that every disc be double and composed of two separable parts, each bearing the same indications; and that the inscriptions be engraved on a substance as resistant as possible to the destructive action of chemical and physical agents, especially to fire and heat,

reminds the Parties to an armed conflict that one half of each disc must, in case of death, be detached and sent back to the Power on which the member of the armed forces depended, the other half remaining on the body,

notes that the International Committee of the Red Cross is prepared to provide models to States asking for them.

Shri Ajit BHOWMICK (Indian Red Cross): — The original draft resolution on the wearing of identity discs did not contain any recommendation regarding blood group. For obvious humanitarian reasons, I suggested in Commission I that such a reference should be made in paragraph 4.

Now, having consulted an expert, I consider that such a reference should not be made. Accordingly, I now propose that the reference to blood group in paragraph 4 of the resolution should be deleted as inappropriate.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — May I ask the comment of the Rapporteur?

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — I wonder if my understanding of the last remark was correct.

Is there a move for the deletion of the reference to blood group?

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I think there was, yes.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — I understand, Mr. Chairman, that this amendment is proposed at this assembly, because the amendment proposed at the Commission to include the blood group was accepted unanimously. If a move is now made to have the reference to blood grouping deleted I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the amendment be put to the vote.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — According to the Rapporteur, the recommendation to include blood group was unanimously approved by the Commission. Now a proposal has been made to remove the reference to blood group in this resolution.

Mr. J. MOREILLON (ICRC): — I feel there is a little confusion. The Indian delegation in Commission I proposed introducing the blood group and we, being doctors of law, not medical doctors, saw nothing wrong with this. It has been explained to us just now that adding an indication of blood group might endanger the life of the soldier; if the blood group indicated on the identity disc is incorrect, the soldier who receives a transfusion may be killed, not cured.

For this reason, the Indian delegation which proposed including the blood group, now proposes to delete it. In this matter, it seems to me that anybody who is not a doctor should trust the advice of the doctor, namely Dr. Hantchef, who is a specialist in blood donation. I, therefore, rely entirely on the specialist's advice and agree that, for strictly medical reasons, we should delete "blood group" from this resolution.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Dr. Hantchef, please, will you come to the podium?

Dr. Zarco HANTCHEF (League) (*Original French*): — I am very sorry to prolong your discussions, but in response to your request, I am obliged by my professional conscience as a doctor and blood transfusion expert to explain that to include blood group in the resolution is a mistake that could be very dangerous for the person wearing this identification.

Each country can do as it likes. Many countries indicate blood group (in passports, identity cards and driving licenses) but all expert groups, all the expert opinion of the International Blood Transfusion Society, the Blood Transfusion Committee of the Council of Europe, the transfusion experts of the League and of Red Cross Societies as well as the World Health Organization have expressed the wish that the blood group should no longer be indicated on identity papers or identity discs. It is a cause of error that could cost lives.

Dr. Willy KAUER (Swiss Government) (*Original French*): — I would, however, like to emphasize a very important point. We do not practice peacetime medicine in wartime. In wartime, we have to practice mass medicine and under these circumstances we are very pleased to have a blood group on the identity disc that corresponds in 95% of cases to the true blood group. The possibility of error has to be tolerated in wartime; but any doctor would, if time permitted, re-check the blood group immediately before carrying out a blood transfusion. It is thus very useful to have the blood group on the identity disc. For your information, in Switzerland, every soldier has his blood group on his identity disc. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Now I put the question to the vote.

Those in favour of eliminating the blood group on the identity disc, please raise their hands.

Thank you.

Those in favour of retaining the blood group on the identity disc, please raise their hands.

Thank you.

Any abstentions?

The blood group will stay, at the wish of the majority.

We are now going to proceed to adopt the resolution. I can see that you have adopted the resolution by consensus. Does anybody wish to dissociate himself? The resolution is adopted. Thank you.

See below, page 149, the definitive version of Resolution I "Wearing of identity discs".

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

4. *Forced or Involuntary Disappearances*

The Norwegian Red Cross introduced a draft resolution (CPA/2/PR/2) on forced or involuntary disappearances and underscored its humanitarian importance and high priority in the list of urgent Red Cross problems. Twenty-five delegations expressed strong support for the spirit and intent of the draft whilst three expressed the desire to be associated with the draft as co-sponsors.

4.1 The debate put emphasis on the essential humanitarian character of the draft resolution and linked it to problems of torture, mass execution and other recent deplorable violations of international humanitarian law.

4.2 After a long debate it was decided that all proposed amendments be submitted to the Norwegian Red Cross Society, which was to submit an amended draft to the Commission for adoption.

- 4.3 The resolution was re-introduced by the Norwegian Red Cross Society co-sponsored by the National Societies of Colombia, Senegal, Netherlands, Jordan, Cuba and Austria. The delegate from Uruguay moved for the deletion of the reference to “any other impartial humanitarian organization” from the draft and said that the power to investigate should not be given to any organization. When the draft resolution was adopted with one vote against and two abstentions, the delegate from Uruguay asked for his delegation’s express reservation to be noted in the report of the proceedings.

Draft resolution on forced or involuntary disappearances

The Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross,

alarmed at the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances, perpetrated, connived at or consented to by governments,

deeply moved by the great suffering such disappearances cause not only to the missing persons themselves and their families but also to society,

considering that such disappearances imply violations of fundamental human rights such as the right to life, freedom and personal safety, the right not to be submitted to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained, and the right to a just and public trial,

pointing out that families have a right to be informed about the whereabouts, health and welfare of their members, a right which is laid down in various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly,

commending the efforts of the ICRC, the working group established by the UN Commission on Human Rights to investigate the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances and various impartial humanitarian organizations for the benefit of missing persons and their families,

condemns any action resulting in forced or involuntary disappearances, conducted or perpetrated by governments or with their connivance or consent,

recommends that the ICRC take any appropriate action which might reveal the fate of missing persons or bring their families relief and urges that the ICRC Central Tracing Agency and any other impartial humanitarian organization be granted the facilities necessary to take effective action in this matter,

urges governments to endeavour to prevent forced or involuntary disappearances and to undertake and complete thorough inquiries into every case of disappearance occurring in their territory,

urges governments to co-operate with humanitarian organizations, and with the relevant bodies of the United Nations and of intergovernmental organizations, in particular those which investigate forced or involuntary disappearances, with a view to putting an end to that phenomenon.

Mr. Stephen PALMER (United States Government): — The United States government delegation supports this resolution on forced and involuntary disappearances.

However, we regret that the last two paragraphs of the resolution are addressed only to governments; for the cruel practice of disappearances is carried out also by organizations which are not related to governments.

Colonel Carlos Alberto MAYNARD ZOLELIO (Uruguayan Government) (*Original Spanish*): — The Government delegate of Uruguay wishes to inform this assembly that the Uruguayan Government fully supports the text of this resolution, with one exception, to which the rapporteur has just referred.

My Government considers that the words “and any other impartial humanitarian organization” in the recommendation and “collaborating with humanitarian institutions” would mean giving *carte blanche* to innumerable organizations whose impartiality we doubt; we should like to inform this assembly that we confirm and recognize the humanitarian tasks discharged by the ICRC and its work in connection with international humanitarian law. In brief, the Uruguayan Government’s only reservation concerns the words: “and any other impartial humanitarian organization”. That is why my Government will not join in the consensus.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — The delegate from Uruguay said that the reason for his delegation’s reservation was the inclusion of the phrase “any other impartial humanitarian organization”; it was felt that no reference should be made to other organizations.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — What is the position of the Commission?

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — The resolution was adopted with two abstentions and one vote against.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Are there any comments on the United States proposal concerning the last paragraph? If I understand it correctly, the United States proposes that the last two paragraphs include not only governments but also other organizations.

May I call upon the chairman of the Drafting Committee to explain this point?

Mr. Jean-Luc FLORENT (French Government) (*Original French*): — As Chairman of the Drafting Committee, I would like to recall the terms of reference of the Drafting Committee. The Drafting Committee can only work on the text of the draft resolution as adopted by Commission I. The Drafting Committee thus looked at this text as it was adopted by Commission I, without taking into consideration any amendments proposed in the Commission but not adopted by it. Amendments rejected by the Commission did not appear in the final text adopted by the Commission and transmitted to the Drafting Committee.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Do you agree to adopt this resolution by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Does anybody wish to dissociate himself from the consensus?

Uruguay dissociates itself. This will be shown in the record.

Resolution II "Forced or involuntary disappearances" see below, page 149, for the definitive version, was adopted unanimously with one abstention: Uruguay.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Mr. Rapporteur, will you skip resolutions 3 and 4 and go to 5.

H. E. Dr. Waleed M. SADI (Jordan Government): — We are just as eager as you are to conclude our work as soon as possible. When it was decided to begin with the work of Commissions III and II and then go back to I, we did not object, although the normal procedure would have been to begin with I, then proceed with II and end up with III.

But now, I do not understand why you would like to skip resolution No. 3.

Frankly, Mr. Chairman, my delegation believes that the logical sequence is to take one resolution after another, unless there is some reason unknown to us for changing this order. Perhaps you will explain then to me, to my delegation or any other delegations that might be interested, why you have made this suggestion.

I propose, Mr. Chairman, that we deal with the resolutions as they are listed in the text we have.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I proposed skipping resolutions 3 and 4 for expediency's sake; for no other reason.

If we examine the easy question first, we will have more time for the more difficult ones. This is the only reason for wanting to skip 3 and 4, so that we can come back to them after we deal with less controversial resolutions, and thus save time.

Is it your wish that we follow the sequence? (*Applause.*)

Very well. We shall proceed with resolution No. 3.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

5. Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949

The Jordan Red Crescent Society delegate introduced draft resolution (CPA/2/PR/3) on the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention. He stressed the need to ensure the due protection of the civilian population in the occupied territories of the Middle East and expressed his delegation's deep concern over the continued refusal of the occupying power to acknowledge the applicability of and to comply with the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949. He drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that the proposed resolution was similar to such resolutions adopted at previous International Conferences.

A number of delegates expressed full support of the draft resolution and emphasized its humanitarian character, whilst others expressed the view that the draft sought to identify a single specific situation which was political in

nature, and not compatible with humanitarian activities. Some expressed sympathy with the underlying principles but felt that the draft resolution might undermine the Red Cross movement by impairing its neutrality and impartiality and, therefore, were unable to support it. A few delegates expressed the view that it was not the role of the Red Cross to judge political attitudes of governments and expressed their concern over the growing tendency of International Red Cross Conferences to use the reports of the ICRC to make judgments on the conduct of nations. Another delegate expressed doubt as to whether the adoption of the resolution would help the victims in such a situation.

The ICRC declared that it was ready to support any resolution which was based on the substance of its report, although some positive aspects of its report might regrettably be missing from such resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted with amendments.

Draft resolution on application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949

The Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having considered the reports of the ICRC on its activities from 1973 to 1980 and from 1st January to 30th June 1981,

recalling and confirming resolutions X of 1969, III of 1973 and X of 1977 of previous International Conferences of the Red Cross,

deeply concerned about the continued refusal of the occupying power to acknowledge the applicability and comply with the totality of its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12th August 1949 relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war,

deeply disturbed by the policies contrary to article 49 paragraph 6 of the Fourth Geneva Convention affecting the Arab population in the occupied territories in the Middle East,

conscious of the fact that the parties to the Geneva Conventions have undertaken, not only to respect, but also to ensure respect for, the Conventions in all circumstances:

1. *expresses* once more its deep concern for the situation of the Arab civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East,
2. *reaffirms* the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied territories in the Middle East,
3. *requests* the authorities concerned to fulfil their humanitarian obligations by facilitating the return of people to their homes and their reintegration into their communities,
4. *calls upon* the occupying power to acknowledge and comply with its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to this effect cease forthwith all policies and practices in violation of any of the articles of this Convention,
5. *affirms* that the settlements in the occupied territories are incompatible with Articles 27 and 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention,
6. *expresses* its appreciation to the ICRC and its delegates in the Middle East for their continuous efforts in that region.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I see that it will not be possible to adopt the draft resolution by consensus. I therefore put it to the vote.

There were 94 in favour of this resolution, 2 against, with 31 abstentions.

The resolution is adopted. Thank you. Resolution 4.

See below, page 150, Resolution III "Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949".

Mr. D. MILLER (Canadian Government): — The Canadian Government delegation fully understands the sentiments which have inspired the introduction of this resolution and we share the concern of other delegations regarding the policy adopted by Israel of establishing settlements in territories occupied since 1967.

My Government is firmly on record as opposing such settlements. This policy complicates and makes more difficult the search for the lasting settlement in the Middle East that we all seek.

Having said this, I must reiterate my delegation's reservations about the appropriateness of this resolution's being brought into this forum.

The subjects in the resolution involve issues that are better dealt with elsewhere.

The lack of clarity in the resolution on some points also creates problems for a full understanding of its implications.

That is why the Canadian delegation abstained on this resolution.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

6. *Humanitarian activities of the ICRC for the benefit of victims of armed conflicts*

The resolution CPA/2/PR/4 presented by the National Societies of Sweden and Netherlands was introduced by the delegate of the Swedish Red Cross who emphasized the non-political nature of the resolution and declared that his delegation was aware that according to the Statutes of the International Conference, the Conference may not deal with political matters or serve as a forum for political debate. Nevertheless, he contended that it might be necessary for the International Conference to take a position with regard to situations related to armed conflicts, international or internal, for strictly humanitarian reasons. He then referred to the ICRC report and to the three situations mentioned therein in which the ICRC was unable to carry out its humanitarian activities. All the three situations covered had a common denominator, namely: armed conflict (internal or international).

6.1 Most of the delegates agreed with the underlying principle of the resolution although some of them did not want any reference in the resolution to specific areas, as they felt that such reference was contrary to the traditional approach of the Red Cross. The delegate from the Swedish Red Cross, in reply, insisted that the resolution neither named the parties to the conflict nor sought to apportion any blame but merely identified the three specific situations where the ICRC had been unable to act in favour of the victims. The resolution was adopted with some amendments.

Draft resolution on humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the benefit of victims of armed conflicts

The Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the persistence of international and non-international armed conflicts in which the ICRC is partially or totally unable to fulfil its humanitarian tasks in situations covered by the Geneva Conventions,

deploring in particular the fact that the ICRC is refused access to the captured combatants and detained civilians in the armed conflicts of the Western Sahara, Ogaden and Afghanistan,

urges all those parties concerned to enable the International Committee of the Red Cross to protect and assist persons captured, detained, wounded or sick and civilians affected by these conflicts.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Does anybody wish to speak before we put this resolution to the vote?

Dr. NGUYEN-VAN-THU (Red Cross of Vietnam) (*Original French*): — During the discussion in Commission I, a certain number of delegations proposed that the names of the countries and regions should not be cited, as it was not necessary to do so in this case. Our delegation supported this proposal and for this reasons we prefer to abstain, although we are not opposed to the spirit of this resolution.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Is it your wish that resolution 4 be adopted by consensus? (*Applause.*)

See below, page 150, Resolution IV "Humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the benefit of victims of armed conflicts".

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Does any delegation wish to dissociate itself from the consensus?

IRELAND (Red Cross): — I would like you to clarify. You ask which delegations wish to dissociate themselves from the resolution. Are you asking for a contrary vote or an abstention?

Mr. Jacques MOREILLON (ICRC): — It is our understanding, Mr. Chairman, that the answer to this question is that you are asking for abstentions.

They will be put on the record.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — As explained by the expert, when I ask who wish to dissociate themselves, I am, in fact, asking who are abstaining from the consensus.

The following have dissociated themselves from the consensus: Bulgaria (2 votes), Hungary (2), Syria (2), Yugoslavia (2), Vietnam (2), Laos (Red Cross), USSR (2), Ukrainian SSR (Government), Mongolia (2), Byelorussian SSR (Government), Morocco (2), Brazil (Red Cross), Romania (2), Finland (Red Cross), Poland (Government), Sudan (Red Crescent), Algeria (2), German Democratic Republic (2), Afghanistan (2), Czechoslovakia (2), Korea (Dem. People Rep.) (2), Cuba (Government), Ireland (Red Cross).

Mrs. Mavy A. A. HARMON (Brazilian Red Cross): — I would like to make it perfectly clear that the Brazilian Red Cross thinks that every human being is entitled to humanitarian treatment; the Brazilian Red Cross has, however, abstained from this consensus, as it abstained from the consensus on the Resolution on the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention, because we think the point is of political nature. We would like to have it put on record that we abstained from both consensus. I repeat, however, our firm belief that every human being has the right to humanitarian treatment.

Dr. Friedrich WENDL (Austrian Red Cross): — We are not really satisfied with the voting procedure. A large number of delegations have dissociated themselves from the consensus and there seems to be some confusion as to whether they are in fact abstaining or voting against the resolution. I propose that we should only vote by consensus when there are a small number of abstentions (say, up to three abstentions) and that otherwise we should take a vote to ascertain how many are in favour of the resolution, how many against and how many wish to abstain. For your information, the Austrian Red Cross voted in favour of this resolution. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — In the procedure of consensus we presume that everybody votes except those who wish to abstain or dissociate themselves. If the consensus is not agreed upon, then we take a vote. This was explained at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

7. Anti-Piracy Efforts

Draft resolution CPA/2/PR/5 was introduced by the Red Cross Society of the Netherlands. The delegate from the Netherlands Red Cross made a plea for the adoption of the draft resolution in order to prevent or minimize attacks by pirates on persons seeking asylum. He called on States parties to the International Convention on the High Seas to discharge their full obligations under the treaty. A number of delegates supported the resolution and indicated that they would wish to co-sponsor it, whilst other delegates felt that the resolution had legal loop holes and suggested various amendments.

The resolution was adopted, as amended, without any vote against and one abstention.

See below, page 151, the definitive version of Resolution V "Anti-piracy efforts" adopted by consensus, with the following abstentions: Burma (Red Cross), Egypt (Government) and India (Red Cross and Government).

8. Respect for International Humanitarian Law and for Humanitarian Principles and Support for the Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The draft resolution CPA/2/PR/6 was submitted by the Government and the National Red Cross Society of Austria. In introducing the resolution, the Austrian delegate drew attention to the appeal made by the President of the ICRC during his address at the Opening Ceremony of the International Conference and to the report of the ICRC on its activities since the last International Conference. A number of delegates spoke in favour, and offered to be co-sponsors of the draft resolution. The draft resolution was adopted by consensus.

Resolution VI "The respect for international humanitarian law and for humanitarian principles and support for the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross", see below, page 151, was adopted by consensus, unanimously.

9. *Report on Signatures, Ratifications and Accessions to the 1977 Protocols*

Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President of the ICRC, presented a report (CPA/3.1/1) on the subject.

He reported that since the end of the Diplomatic Conference which adopted this new instrument of international humanitarian law, 18 States had become parties to Protocol I on international armed conflicts and 16 States had become parties to Protocol II dealing with non-international armed conflicts. Whilst acknowledging its satisfaction for the steps taken by these countries, the ICRC nevertheless expressed its concern over the slow pace of the ratification procedures in other countries.

Following this report, the draft resolution CPA/3.1/PR/1 sponsored by nine government and Red Cross delegations was introduced by the delegate of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society. He stated that if the present rate of ratification were maintained, it would take nearly 30 years before all States ratified either one or both of the Protocols. He urged the adoption of the draft resolution inviting all States which had not yet done so to become parties to the two Protocols.

During the discussion that ensued, a number of government and Red Cross delegations expressed their support for the activities of the ICRC in this field and their agreement with the draft resolution. Some government delegates reported that they were in a position to announce that the ratification procedures were in the process of being completed in their respective countries. Others reported that in view of the importance and the complexity of the matter their governments required more time to study them. Some of the delegates drew attention to Article 90 of Protocol I which would establish an international fact-finding commission. They urged governments willing to ratify the Protocols to accept the consequence of that commission by specific declarations to that effect.

The draft resolution was adopted by consensus though the government delegation of France declared that it did not participate in the consensus and wished the record to reflect this.

Resolution VII "The Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions", see below, page 151, was adopted by consensus with the following abstentions: France (Government and Red Cross) and Chile (Government and Red Cross).

10. *Identification of Medical Transports and Red Cross Emergency Radio Communication (Follow-up to Resolutions 17, 18 and 19 of the Diplomatic Conference, Geneva 1974-1977 and to Resolution IX of the Twenty-third International Conference 1977)*

The report of the International Committee of the Red Cross (CPA/3.2/1) was presented by Mr. Maurice Aubert of the ICRC. Mr. Aubert highlighted the salient points of the report. The Swiss Government delegate introduced draft resolution (CPA/3.2/1). In his view, it was particularly important to sustain the momentum created by the Diplomatic Conference of 1974-77, which had adopted important rules concerning identification of, *inter alia*, medical transport. The draft resolution pointed to what had to be achieved and called for further development in the system of identification of ships which came to the aid of the wounded, sick and shipwrecked but belonged to States not parties to the armed conflict.

Several delegates expressed appreciation for the work done by the ICRC in this area. They unanimously commended the delegation of Switzerland for the draft resolution.

The draft resolution, subject to the proposed amendments, was adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution on identification of medical transport

The Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross,
considering that:

- the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), pursuant to Resolution 17 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts (CDDH), is working out amendments to the annexes 2, 7 and 10 to the Convention on international civil aviation, and is continuing the study of specifications with a view to making the identification of medical aircraft easier,
- the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 18 by inserting in the International Code of Signals a chapter entitled "Identification of Medical Transport in Armed Conflicts",
- the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 79) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 19 by inserting in the Radio Regulations a section entitled "Medical Transports",
- the WARC 79 also acted upon the Resolution IX of the Twenty-third International Conference of the Red Cross by adopting Resolution 10 on emergency radiocommunications,

noting that pursuant to Article 21 of the Second Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 special protection shall be granted ships and craft assisting the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,

referring further to the pertinent provisions of Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions, relating to the protection to be granted medical ships, craft and aircraft,

believing that any improvement in the system of identification of all ships, craft and aircraft, particularly those of neutral or other States not parties to conflict, used to assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked, will improve the special protection to be granted ships, craft and aircraft in such circumstances,

noting in this context that the WARC 79 adopted a resolution with annex relating to the use of radiocommunications for ensuring the safety of any ship and aircraft of neutral and other States not parties to an armed conflict (Resolution 11),

notes with satisfaction that governments and their national telecommunication administrations and the specialized international organizations, by responding to CDDH Resolutions 17, 18 and 19, have contributed to the improvement of the safety and rapidity of medical evacuations,

welcomes the fact that the Radio Regulations are taking Red Cross radio communications into consideration,

urges governments to do their utmost to ensure the formulation in appropriate international conferences or by a relevant international organization such as the WARC and IMCO, of rules and procedures for the better identification of ships, craft and aircraft of neutral States and of other States not parties to an armed conflict when these ships, craft and aircraft assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,

invites governments to see also in peacetime to the necessary co-ordination between civilian and military telecommunication services on the one hand and medical services on land, at sea and in the air, on the other hand, and to make available as far as possible to medical personnel, modern communication and identification systems providing optimum safety conditions for the evacuation of the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked especially in time of armed conflict.

Mr. Joseph A. ROACH (United States Government): — I have two items: the first is a typographical error in the English text of the resolution itself. In the last paragraph, in the fourth line of the English text, the words “on the other then” should, I believe be “on the other hand”. Secondly, I would bring to the attention of the Conference that paragraph 10 of the report itself is not, I believe, adequately reflected.

I propose that on page 7 of the English and French texts and on page 9 of the Spanish text of the report the following be added after the second paragraph as a new, third, paragraph.

Quote: When introducing the report on this item Mr. Aubert orally modified page 24 of the English text to make clear that the ICRC concern is limited to obtaining an identification procedure for those means of transport engaged in humanitarian activities that do not have one under additional Protocol I. The Swiss Government, in introducing resolution CPA/3.2/PR/1, stated, regarding the more far-reaching goals set forth in WARC 1979, resolution 11, that it did not intend to try to convince governments to accept something very far removed from the ICRC's work when this subject is discussed at a later date in the competent international bodies. The Australian Government noted practical difficulties in WARC 1979 resolution 11 and the United States Government expressed its understanding of the situation. No delegation disagreed with these statements.

Unquote

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Thank you. Can the Rapporteur and the Drafting Committee get together on that aspect?

Does the Rapporteur have any remark before we proceed to Resolution 8?

Is it your wish that we adopt Resolution 8 by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Does anybody wish to dissociate from this consensus?

Resolution VIII “Identification of medical transport”, see below, page 152, for the definitive version, was adopted unanimously.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Would the members of the Standing Commission proceed now to room 10 for a special short meeting? Thank you.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

11. *Prohibition or Restriction on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons (Follow-up to CDDH Resolution 22)*

Mr. Maurice Aubert submitted the report (CPA/3.3/1) on the Prohibition or Restriction on the Use of Certain

Conventional Weapons on behalf of the ICRC, as a follow-up to Resolution No. 22 of the Diplomatic Conference on Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law. Draft resolution CPA/3.3/PR/1 was also tabled.

Several delegates took part in the discussion that followed. Most of them stressed the importance of the results achieved in 1980 but called for further developments in the international limitation of conventional weapons. A few amendments were proposed and after further discussion, it was decided to refer the draft resolution to the Drafting Committee for revisions.

When the revised draft CPA/3.3/PR/1/Rev1 was submitted by the Drafting Committee, jointly sponsored by the ICRC, the Jordanian and Swiss Governments, it was adopted by consensus.

Resolution IX "Conventional weapons", see below, page 153, was adopted unanimously.

12. *Dissemination of Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law and of Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross*

Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President of the ICRC presented the following reports:

1. Report CPA/4.1/1 on the implementation of Resolution VII of the Twenty-third International Conference with regard to the dissemination of knowledge of international law applicable in armed conflicts and of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross.
2. Report CPA/4.2/1 and CPA/4.3/1 on the implementation of the Program of Action of the Red Cross with respect to the dissemination of International Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross, 1978-1981 and the Program of Action 1982-1985.

Following the presentation of the reports, a draft resolution on the Dissemination of Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross, co-sponsored by nine Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, was introduced by the Red Cross delegate of Yugoslavia who emphasized that dissemination should remain a permanent activity. A number of delegates reported on their activities in the field of dissemination. One suggested that the teaching of humanitarian law should be linked with the teaching of human rights. Another suggested that both the ICRC and the League should make a survey of the needs of National Societies in this field and make use of existing materials already produced by National Societies. It was also suggested that dissemination should be integrated with development programs. A number of delegates called on the ICRC to produce and make available a consolidated text on the Geneva Conventions and the additional Protocols.

The resolution, as amended, was adopted by consensus.

Resolution X "Dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the Red Cross principles and ideals", see below, page 153, was adopted by consensus, unanimously.

H.E. Mr. Abdul Hamid EL SHAFEEI (Egyptian Government): — Just to speed up our work, I wonder whether it is necessary for the Rapporteur to read out the resolution each time. Would it not be sufficient if he pointed out that the resolution is contained in document so and so. He could also point out any amendments or drafting errors, etc. That might speed up our work. (*Applause.*)

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

13. *Conduct of International Courses on the Law of War*

A delegate of the Government of the Philippines introduced draft resolution CPA/4/PR/2. He emphasized the need to give members of the armed forces better knowledge of international humanitarian law and contended that this would best be met through the setting up of an international school for the purpose, run by the ICRC. He also drew attention to the need for a uniform interpretation of the Geneva Conventions and other related international laws governing armed conflicts. A number of delegates spoke on this subject and drew attention to, *inter alia*, the efforts of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo, in this regard.

The Chairman invited the UNESCO representative to address the Commission on the work done by UNESCO in regard to humanitarian law and Human Rights. The UNESCO representative gave a brief account of the work of UNESCO in this field.

The resolution, subject to amendments, was adopted by consensus.

See below, page 154, Resolution XI "International courses on the law of war".

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — Mr. Chairman, I was of the view that the delegate from the Government of Egypt suggested that the resolutions be not read but be taken as read, unless there are amendments.

Dr. Etienne BOERI (Monaco Government) (*Original French*): — Although the report mentions the efforts, made under ICRC auspices, of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo, with which the Monaco Medico-Legal Commission has collaborated since its inception, I am very sorry to note that not even a passing reference to these efforts is made in the text of the draft resolution. The Institute holds courses for members of the armed forces. Since 1974, there have been two seminars followed up by 11 courses in English, Italian and French, each lasting a fortnight, in which 300 officers of some 40 different nationalities took part. The courses were given by a colonel of the Swiss Army Reserve, an ICRC official, and a retired Italian general, and were backed up by high-level seminars held by academics and specialists. Since 1976, the course methodology has been constantly refined. The utility of these courses is amply testified by the letters received by the Institute as much from officers who have taken part in the courses and have now become instructors in their countries of origin as from the governments that sent them to the courses.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before we started today's session I had an understanding with the Rapporteur that he would dispense with the reading of the preliminary discussion and just summarize. But there was a need for a final reading of the resolution before it was adopted. The Egyptian delegate proposed that we dispense with the reading of the resolution before we adopt it. Is it your wish that we do so? (*Applause.*)

Very well! I now put resolution 11 to the vote. (*Applause.*)

Does anybody wish to dissociate from this consensus?

None.

Resolution XI "International courses on the law of war", see below, page 154, was adopted by consensus, unanimously.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

14. *Report on the Work of the Joint Working Group of Experts on the Dissemination of Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law and the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross*

Mr. Kai J. Warras, Chairman of the Joint Working Group of Experts on the Dissemination of Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law and the Principles and Ideals of Red Cross, submitted his report on the work done by the Group over the last four years (CPA/4.2/1 and CPA/4.3/1). He highlighted some of the achievements in dissemination and drew attention to some of the more urgent problems faced during the period, especially, lack of manpower.

The report was approved by consensus.

15. *Use and Protection of the Emblem*

Mr. Harald Huber of the ICRC presented Report CPA/5.1/1 on the Use and Protection of the Emblem. He called for increased vigilance by National Societies and Governments in order to check the increase of the misuse of the emblem.

He said that it was not enough to adopt legislation, no matter how adequate it might be, unless a close watch was kept to detect abuses and prosecute those who infringe it.

He called for total vigilance on the part of National Societies and Governments alike to defend the emblem of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in order to maintain its effectiveness in humanitarian actions and drew attention to the Explanatory Guide to the Regulations on the Use and Protection of the Emblem.

The report was approved by consensus.

16. *Revision of the Regulation on the Use of the Emblem by the National Societies*

The Vice-President of the ICRC, Mr. Harald Huber, presented report CPA/5.2/1. He referred to the Regulations on the use of the Emblem of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun by National Societies, adopted by the Twentieth International Red Cross Conference 1965, in Vienna. These rules, although adequate, needed modification in the light of the 1977 additional Protocols. He suggested, therefore, that the ICRC

be asked to draw up the necessary amendments, in co-operation with the League and the National Societies, and to present the new text to the next International Conference. A draft resolution to that effect was then submitted for the consideration of the Commission.

A number of delegates expressed their appreciation for the initiative taken by the ICRC and requested the speedy completion of the revision.

An amendment to add "Pending such revision of the Regulations, the *status quo* shall be maintained" to the end of the draft resolution was adopted by a majority vote.

The draft resolution was then adopted by consensus.

The Swiss Government delegation, pointing out that only a Diplomatic Conference would change provisions of the Geneva Conventions, declared that it had not participated in the consensus. The government delegations of Netherlands and Italy made a similar reservation.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before I put the resolution to the vote, does anybody wish to speak? Is it your wish that we adopt resolution 12 by consensus? Does anybody wish to abstain? The Swiss Government abstains.

Resolution XII "Revision of the regulations on the use of the emblem", see below, page 154, was adopted by consensus, with one abstention (Swiss Government).

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

17. *Information on the Conclusions of the Council of Delegates on the Question of the Emblem*

A brief report on the conclusions of the Council of Delegates on the question of the emblem was presented by Mrs. Marion Harroff-Tavel of the ICRC. The Working Group on the emblem had presented its report to the Council of Delegates last week.

The Working Group on the emblem had been disbanded by the Council of Delegates on a majority vote.

Several delegates expressed their disappointment at the decision of the Council of Delegates. The delegate of the Government of Israel expressed the hope that some day the question of the emblem would be reopened for study.

18. *Report on the follow-up to Resolutions IV, V and VI of the Twenty-third International Conference*

Mr. Robert Tissot (League) reported on the follow-up actions taken by the League on:

Resolution IV: The Red Cross and Famine

Resolution V : Issue of Visas to Delegates appointed in connection with appeals for assistance in time of disaster

Resolution VI: Measures to expedite international relief.

The reports were approved without debate, by consensus.

19. *Report on the Follow-up to Resolution XII of the Twenty-third International Conference 1977: Weapons of mass destruction*

Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President of the ICRC, who presented report CPA/6/1, described the subject as a matter of grave concern to everyone. He said that the ICRC would give its support to any effort to reach agreement on weapons of mass destruction. Any action for protection would be nullified by the use of weapons which did not distinguish between civilian population and combatants.

19.1 The Chairman of the Commission then announced that five draft resolutions had been received for consideration by the Commission. He reminded the delegates of the coincidence that the subject was being debated on Armistice Day, 11th November.

The draft resolutions were then presented.

19.2 The first draft resolution (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/1) was introduced by the delegate of Yugoslavia, on behalf of the Government and National Society, under the title "Peace and Disarmament".

19.3 The draft resolution jointly sponsored by the National Societies of the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria and Cuba (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/2) under the title "The Role of the Red Cross in Safeguarding and Strengthening Peace as the Most Important Condition for the Prevention of Human Suffering" and presented by the delegate from the National Society of the Soviet Union, was the second.

Amendments to this draft resolution were proposed by the delegate from the Government of Uruguay (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/2 Amendment 1) and the National Society of Czechoslovakia (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/2 Amendment 2).

- 19.4 The delegate of the National Society of Finland introduced the third draft resolution entitled "Red Cross and Peace" (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/3), on behalf of the National Societies of Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary and Yugoslavia.
- 19.5 The ICRC then introduced the fourth draft resolution (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/4) on "Disarmament, Weapons of Mass Destruction and Respect for Non-Combatants".
- 19.6 Finally, the delegation of Romania submitted its draft resolution entitled: "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/5).
- 19.7 Both during the speeches made in introducing the draft resolution and during the debates that followed, the delegates repeatedly underscored the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and their concern to prevent and alleviate human suffering.
Because of the number of draft resolutions and amendments proposed, it has been agreed by consensus that only the draft resolution (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/4) presented by the ICRC, and not the others, will be put to the vote.
- 19.8 The delegate of the ICRC, referring to past practices and traditions, called for a consensus on the draft resolution. The National Society of the Soviet Union called for a vote on its proposal to add the final operative paragraph of its draft resolution (CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/2) to the ICRC draft resolution.
This proposal was defeated.
- 19.9 The draft resolution CPA/6/Buc XII/PR/4 was then adopted by consensus.
The delegations of the French Government and National Society, whilst not opposing the consensus, wished not to be associated with it.

Draft resolution on disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and respect for non-combatants

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

emphasizing that the vocation of the International Red Cross, in conformity with its fundamental principle of humanity, is to prevent and alleviate human suffering, in all circumstances, to protect life and health, to ensure respect for human beings and to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all people,

recalling Resolutions XXIV, XVIII, XVIII, XXVIII, XIV and XII, adopted respectively by the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-third International Conferences of the Red Cross,

reaffirming the duty of the parties to an armed conflict to renounce the use of methods or means of warfare that do not make any distinction between combatants and non-combatants,

drawing attention to the fact that the Red Cross has constantly shown particular concern about the use and the existence of weapons of mass destruction, which cause damage without discrimination,

convinced that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that the means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies taking part in which is prohibited by its principle of neutrality,

urges all the parties to armed conflicts not to use methods and means of warfare that cannot be directed against specific military targets and whose effects cannot be limited,

fully endorses the appeal launched by the ICRC to governments participating in the First Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament, requesting them in particular to do their utmost to establish the atmosphere of confidence and security that would allow the deadlock in which mankind is to be broken and an agreement to be reached above particular interests.

Mr. Kauko SIPPONEN (Finish Red Cross): — We discussed in Commission I whether it was our business to consider problems of peace and disarmament. The international situation is characterized by lack of progress in the work of disarmament and arms control. It must be borne in mind that in many countries the Red Cross movement is a genuine mass movement. People want a sincere dialogue on arms control and disarmament. To reflect this desire, and in a humanitarian spirit, the 24 National Societies represented in the Third Regional Conference of European Red Cross and Crescent Societies in Budapest, last May, unanimously adopted a recommendation on Red Cross and peace, expressing the wish that the entire International Red Cross movement support with its moral authority the efforts made by States in the field of disarmament. Six National Societies of Europe (Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Hungary and Yugoslavia) presented in the Commission I a draft resolution proposing that the recommendation be accepted by the Commission as a draft resolution for the plenum of the International Conference. In the Commission, due to the procedure indicated in the report, only one draft resolution was approved and the others, including the one we sponsored, were excluded. I realize there is now no practical possibility to reconsider the matter and to reopen the discussion without necessary preparation. At any rate, it is my feeling that European Societies will take up this matter again in due course and I think they have a right to ask for it to be given adequate treatment and serious consideration.

Prof. Dr. Siegfried AKKERMANN (German Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic): — The resolution under discussion was reached by the chairman of the Commission I in a somewhat strange manner without any in-depth discussion instead of the resolution presented on the Red Cross and peace of the Third Regional Conference of European Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Our delegation of the German Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic proposes a small but important amendment to the resolution now in front of us.

In the fifth paragraph of the English version we ask the Conference to delete in the second line the small word “the”. This means that the fifth paragraph would read as follows: “Convinced that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies taking part in which is prohibited by its principle of neutrality”, and so on. Thus we have a chance to act as a Red Cross world movement at least in favour of all those means of achieving disarmament which are not subject to political controversies.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — This proposal is to amend paragraph 5 of resolution XII by the deletion of the word “the”; I read “convinced that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies...”

H.E. Dr. Waleed M. SADI (Jordan Government): — With reference to this resolution, my delegation supported it but we made a reservation about the contents of the paragraph under discussion where it reads “that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that the means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies...”. My delegation submits for your consideration that the objective of disarmament in the context of weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons is an objective which should not be related to political controversies because this objective is to preserve life and the environment on this planet. In our opinion, there should not be a linkage between the preservation of this planet and any political controversies. I would like to repeat that reservation and I hope and trust that the records will reflect it.

Dr. Bozidar RASPOPOVIC (Yugoslavian Red Cross): — The delegations of the Government and of the Red Cross of Yugoslavia supported the statement of the president of the Finnish Red Cross. We regret that this conference has not adopted any resolution particularly on the question of the Red Cross and peace.

The questions of peace and disarmament are closely connected. They are of great importance for all of us. Wars affect people and nations on a mass scale and therefore the question of peace is very important and of general interest.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Is it your wish that we adopt resolution XIII by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Does any delegation wish to dissociate itself from this consensus?

The names of these delegations will be recorded.

Resolution XIII “Disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and respect for non-combatants”, see below, page 155, was adopted by consensus, with the following abstentions: Afghanistan (Red Crescent and Government), Bulgaria (Red Cross and Government), Cuba (Red Cross and Government), France (Red Cross and Government), Hungary (Red Cross and Government), the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Red Cross), Mongolia (Red Cross and Government), Vietnam (Red Cross and Government), the Ukrainian SSR (Government), USSR (Red Cross and Government).

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh Red Cross): — Mr. Chairman, we note that after our distinguished Rapporteur finished reading the report on point 16 and after resolution number 12 was adopted, points 17 and 18 were skipped and he went on to the next resolution, that is resolution number 13. Our delegation has certain observations and comments on point 17. If you prefer that we raise this point when we finally adopt

the report after the adoption of the resolutions, then we are prepared to wait or, if you allow us, we can give our comments on point 17 right now, before proceeding further.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — The omission of point 17 was an inadvertance. I did not mean it to be overlooked. Have you finished point 16?

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — Not yet.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — It was an omission but not by design.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — Mr. Chairman, let me explain the position. At the outset of the proceedings, you directed that we deal with the resolutions and therefore the parts of the report which did not result in resolutions have not yet been read. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that after the resolutions have been dealt with, when we are going to adopt the full report, we could then deal with those parts of the report that have not been read.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Although we have adopted resolution 13, I return to the amendment proposed by the Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic. This was to delete the word “the” so that the fifth paragraph of the resolution would read: “but aware that means of achieving disarmament are subject...” This is only a question of grammar, not of substance.

Mr. Jean FERNAND-LAURENT (French Government) (*Original French*): — This is a question of drafting. If we omit the “the” in the English text, we shall be obliged to replace the definite article by something else in the French version. Taking into account the reason behind the amendment proposed by the German Democratic Republic, I suggest that we say “consciente que certains moyens...” in French. I think that this is equivalent to deleting the definite article in English.

Dr. Wilfried DE PAUW (Belgian Government): — If we would like to have a linguistically correct text then the same remark of my French colleague applies to the English text: suppressing “the” deteriorates the language: we should also say in English “some means”.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

20. *Follow-up on Resolution XIV of the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference 1977: Torture*

The representative of the ICRC, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, gave a summary of the international legal instruments condemning torture. The ICRC's fight against torture was mainly through visiting places of detention. On the role of National Societies in its fight against torture, he reminded the Commission that an extensive debate had taken place in the Council of Delegates based on a report by the ICRC, CD/6/1. The Council of Delegates had adopted by consensus a resolution introduced by the Swedish and Swiss Red Cross Societies. As these two National Societies had again submitted these texts to the Commission for adoption, the ICRC declared its support of the resolution.

20.1 *Draft resolution on Torture*

The delegate from the National Society of Sweden introduced a draft resolution on torture (CPA/6/Buc XIV/PR/1) co-sponsored by the National Society of Switzerland. Both delegates stressed the need for effective implementation of the ban on torture. The prohibition of acts of torture was not sufficient if the legal instruments did not provide machinery to enforce them. Therefore, all support should be given to the efforts of the United Nations Human Rights Commission which was currently considering a draft convention on torture.

Several delegations voiced their support for the draft resolution. Others suggested amendments.

The Commission rejected the various amendments by a majority vote and the draft resolution was adopted by consensus.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Does anybody wish to take the floor before we adopt resolution XIV? Is it your wish that resolution XIV be adopted by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Does anyone wish to dissociate himself from the consensus?

Thank you.

Resolution XIV "Torture", see below, page 155, was adopted by consensus, unanimously.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

20.2 *The Government delegation of Denmark introduced another draft resolution on Torture (CPA/6/Buc XIV/PR/2)*

In introducing the draft resolution, the Government delegate of Denmark stated that the Red Cross delegation also supported the resolution. This draft resolution was adopted by consensus.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Does anybody wish to take the floor before we take up resolution XV for adoption?

Is it your wish that the last resolution be adopted by consensus? (*Applause.*)

Does anybody wish to dissociate himself from the consensus?

Thank you.

Resolution XV "Assistance to victims of torture", see below, page 156, was adopted by consensus, unanimously.

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent):

21. *Conclusion*

The Commission met seven times from Monday the 9th to Wednesday the 11th November in order to deal with the matters before it. The last session of the Commission was held on Wednesday the 11th November from 8.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. This was despite the transfer by the Bureau of the Conference of items 7 and 8 of the agenda to Commission II.

21.1 The Chairman closed the proceedings of Commission I after expressing his thanks for the fine co-operation he had received from the rapporteur, delegates and from the members of the Commission's Bureau, and the Drafting Committee. The delegate from South Africa moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his infinite patience, good humour and excellent chairmanship.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before taking up the whole Report of Commission I for adoption, may I invite the Bangladesh delegation to take the floor.

INFORMATION ON THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES ON THE QUESTION OF THE EMBLEM (POINT 17) (continued)

Major Ali Hassan QUORESHI (Bangladesh Red Cross): — I am speaking on behalf of the chief of the delegation of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society, the Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society. Our reservation relates to page 11 of the report and to point 17 in particular. Point 17 deals with information on the conclusions of the Council of Delegates on the question of the emblem. As you remember, this item was included in the agenda of Commission I for information only. Consequently it was placed before the Conference for information and that is why there is no formal resolution on this subject.

A report on the conclusions of the Council of Delegates was presented in Commission I by Mrs. Harroff-Tavel of the ICRC. Immediately after the matter was introduced certain delegates wanted to re-open the issue and discuss the merit of the question but the Bangladesh Red Cross delegation raised objection to it and this objection was accepted by the ICRC and the Chairman of the Commission.

The report of the Commission on this subject, at it appears in point 17 on page 11, does not fully depict the decision reached by the Council of Delegates. Paragraph 2 states, in this connection, that the working group on the emblem was disbanded by the Council of Delegates on a majority vote. However, it does not mention that votes were 50 in favour, 44 against and 5 abstentions. By this majority of votes, the Council of Delegates decided

to maintain the *status quo* on the question of the emblem and dissolve the working group. So, since this Council of Delegates decided to maintain the *status quo* we feel that this should be specifically mentioned in the report. In the light of these observations, our delegation proposes that we delete the second paragraph of point 17 and replace it by the following:

“Mrs. Marion Harroff-Tavel reported further that the Council of Delegates, by a majority vote, decided not to extend the mandate of the working group, but dissolved the working group and favoured maintenance of the *status quo* on the question of the emblem.”

Mr. V. T. NATHAN (Malaysian Red Crescent): — At the Commission meeting, information was given by a representative of the ICRC. There was nothing before the Commission for decision on the report submitted on behalf of the Council of Delegates.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Are we ready now to adopt the Report of Commission I?

Does anybody wish to dissociate himself from the adoption of the Report of Commission I? One abstention (Belgium).

I would ask the Chairman of Commission I to take the floor.

Mr. D. G. WHYTE (New Zealand Red Cross): — It was a great pleasure and honour for me to be invited to be Chairman of Commission I. It was not an easy task and our meetings extended over three days and evenings.

I believe we had fruitful discussions and exchanges of experiences but there were so many interventions that it was necessary to transfer two items of our agenda to Commission II. In this respect, I should like to offer my thanks to Mr. Diop, the Chairman of Commission II, for undertaking extra work that he had not expected and he did it with a very good grace and I am most grateful.

I should like to thank all those who participated in the debates in Commission I. I should like to thank the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Sipponen, for his unfailing courtesy and assistance. I should like to say what a tremendous task was undertaken by Mr. Nathan, the Rapporteur, which he did so splendidly and to the great credit of our Commission.

I should like to thank the secretaries, Mr. Amar and Mr. Othman-Chande and last but not least, I should like to refer to our Drafting Committee of eight members. They had a Herculean task. They were very fortunate in having Mr. Florent of France as their Chairman. They worked extremely long hours on Thursday when some of you were doing other things. They worked from 8.30 a.m. until I believe about 9 or 9.30 at night with absolutely no breaks and I think this is something rather special that we should acknowledge. Thank you very much indeed. (*Applause.*)

ELECTION OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS (CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before we go to item 9 of the agenda, I have pleasure to announce the election of Dr. Abu-Goura as Chairman, and Mr. Hantos as Vice-Chairman, of the Standing Commission. (*Applause.*)

PLACE AND DATE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I call on Prof. Dr. Ludwig to come to the podium to speak on the time and date of the next Conference.

Prof. Dr. Werner LUDWIG (German Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic) (*Original French*): — Article 4 of the Statutes of the International Red Cross provides that the International Red Cross Conference be

preceded by the General Assembly of the League. Elections to the statutory organs of the League take place from time to time at its General Assembly, as happened this year and as will be the case in four years' time.

It appears, however, that the work of the Conference would benefit from being preceded by a shorter General Assembly of the League in which there were no elections. To achieve this, it would be necessary once to leave a gap of five years between Conferences. Article 3 of the Statutes of the International Red Cross indicates that, in principle, the Conference is to be held every four years. In other words, this assembly has the right to decide to hold its next session in five years time, i.e., in 1986. In the name of the Standing Commission, I have the honour of making this suggestion to this august assembly.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — You have heard the proposal by Professor Ludwig that the next Conference be held five years from now, instead of 4 years. That interval will apply only for the next Conference, after which it will return to four years. He explained the reason why this should be adopted.

Does anybody wish to make any remark before we put this to vote? Is it your wish that we adopt the suggestion that the next meeting of the Conference be held in 5 years from now? In 1986? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

Prof. Dr. W. LUDWIG (German Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic) (*Original French*): — The Standing Commission of the International Red Cross has received an official invitation from the Swiss Red Cross to hold the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross in Geneva. This invitation is supported by the Swiss Government. May I ask you, Mr. Chairman, to invite the President of the Swiss Red Cross to speak on this subject.

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — May I ask Mr. Haug, President of the Swiss Red Cross, to come to the podium?

Prof. Hans HAUG (Swiss Red Cross) (*Original French*): — On behalf of the Swiss Red Cross, I have the honour of inviting you to hold the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross in 1986 in Switzerland, in Geneva. The Swiss Government has given its agreement and promised its support. It means by that to mark the attachment of Switzerland to the international Red Cross movement and its support to the institutions of which it has the honour to be host.

In the event that our invitation finds favour, the Conference would be organized jointly by our National Society, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies.

I hope that you will be able to accept this invitation. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Thus the next Conference will be held five years from now in 1986, in Geneva.

Do you accept the offer? (*Applause.*)

Thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS

THANKS

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before closing the meeting I call on the Chairman of the Drafting Commission.

Dr. Wongkulpat SNIDVONGS (Thai Red Cross): — Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on behalf of the Drafting Committee of this Conference, the members of which are Mr. Noel Buckley of the Australian Red Cross

Society, our Chairman who had to leave the Conference before the final conclusions, Mr. Jean-Paul Buensod of the Swiss Red Cross Society, Mr. Maurice Aubert, of the ICRC, Mrs. Aracelis Mastrapa Melero, of the Cuban Red Cross Society, and Mrs. Yolande Camporini of the League.

It gives me great honour and pleasure to propose to the Conference the following resolution of thanks: The Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference presents its respectful thanks to His Excellency President Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines, for having granted his high patronage, for having honoured the opening meeting with his presence and for having made an elegant and inspiring speech; expresses its gratitude to the government of the Republic of the Philippines for its assistance to the Philippines National Red Cross in the preparation and the running of the Conference;

thanks the city of Manila and the Philippine people for the friendly welcome extended to all the delegates and observers;

conveys its most sincere gratitude to General Romeo C. Espino, the Chairman of the host Society for having presided over its debates with kind authority as well as to the Philippine National Red Cross and its staff and volunteers, not forgetting the League and the ICRC personnel who so untiringly contributed to the smooth conduct of the deliberations;

expresses to all the representatives of the press, radio and television of the Philippines and to the foreign news agencies who covered the Conference its sincere appreciation of their efforts in making its deliberations and results known to the world. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I believe it's your wish to adopt the resolution by consensus. (*Applause.*)

Any abstention? None.

Decision VII "Thanks", see below, page 170.

CLOSING SPEECHES

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Before we close the Conference I would call on several people to speak.

Mr. Hay has requested to speak first. In fact he had to speak at twelve, because he is leaving, but I am asking him to speak at twenty to twelve.

Mr. A. HAY (ICRC) (*Original French*): — I would like to begin by warmly congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, for directing our discussions with all the professional efficiency of a soldier who, when he says something, sticks to it; I think that we are all very pleased to have been able to complete our work this morning. I would also like to take this opportunity of associating myself with the thanks that have just been expressed by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and, in particular, also to address our congratulations and thanks to all those, at all levels, who have contributed to the success of this Conference. A special tribute should be paid to the interpreters who have had a very hard time constantly translating us during this period.

It is a little early to draw up a balance sheet for this Conference. We need a bit more distance but we all have certain impressions of it. Personally, I would like to say that I have very positive feelings about this Conference and the results that we have achieved.

Most of the resolutions that we have adopted, and the most important of them, have been adopted by consensus and this, I believe, bears witness to the unity of our movement, not only the Red Cross movement but also that of all the Governments which have joined in our work during this Conference. It illustrates the very general agreement which exists between Governments and National Societies in humanitarian matters, whether in action or in legal concept. This is certainly a very positive point and it should encourage us in the years to come to continue our efforts to relieve the sufferings of the victims of disasters, whether natural or man-made, and unfortunately they are many.

The task is immense. We well know that what we are doing is insufficient. We would like to do more, but at least we are morally encouraged to go ahead, and that is the most important thing for us today.

Our next meeting will be in Geneva a few years from now. Alas, the world will face other problems before then and we shall have to find solutions to those problems.

Thank you for the co-operation and support that you can give the International Committee of the Red Cross. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — Can I now call on Dr. Abu-Goura, the newly elected Chairman of the Standing Commission?

H.E. Dr. Ahmad ABU-GOURA (Jordan Red Crescent): — I have no policy to tell you about or to read to you. My policy will be the fundamental Principles of the Red Cross. And in addition to the fundamental Principles of the Red Cross, the policy will be one of neutrality in order to create good co-operation and collaboration between the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and National Societies.

This policy will be followed in a neutral way to create a better understanding, a good relationship. Then we can ask many societies and many people to help these two organizations to do better for the future. We know that there are problems in almost every part of the world. We, as humanitarian people, have to do something about this. The two organizations which carry the responsibilities for the humanitarian work need support and need some people to work with them to create the understanding for a better future in this bitter world. Thank you, Gracias, Shoukran, Spaciba, Merci and thank you once again. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — I now give the floor to the President of the League, Mr. Enrique de la Mata.

Mr. Enrique DE LA MATA (League) (*Original Spanish*): — As the work of this 24th International Red Cross Conference is drawing to a close, all the participants, I am sure, would wish to come to the podium and express the feelings that I as President of the League wish to convey in this short speech on behalf of all National Societies.

Basically I want to say three things:

Firstly, to show satisfaction with the development of the discussion at the Conference. We have I think had the opportunity of considering, discussing and studying in depth very important questions for the development of relations between people and nations; these are delicate issues which have required a special sensitivity on the part of all delegates, who have reached an agreement strengthening the resolutions of the Conference or of previous Conferences and contributing to the Red Cross doctrine and thinking on the problems facing the whole of mankind.

Secondly, it is precisely from this point of view that the work of the heads of various Red Cross bodies, the International Committee, the Standing Commission and of course the League, also increases, and those of us who have taken on the responsibility of directing and presiding over these organizations are ready to carry out our new task with dedication, and wishing everyone every success.

Throughout debates it is only natural that there are discussions and votes and that in the voting there was a majority that wins and a minority that does not win. And what I myself would like to do is to point out that the general atmosphere and the feelings of all the participants represent a clear acceptance of the results and a constant concern of those who form part of a majority always to respect the minority views. This is a concern I recommend all to nourish, as I do myself. This is the way to reconcile divergent opinions; we must never forget that we all form part of a large family throughout the world, struggling for the well-being of others and that we must try and achieve a perfect understanding among all the members of this extended family; my intention is to encourage the League to work in this spirit.

My third and last point, Mr. Chairman, is that I wish to express, on behalf of all participants, full support for all the statements made by speakers addressing this Assembly, first the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, then Mr. Hay and Mr. Abu-Goura, whom we all congratulate on his election. I should of course also like to convey our sincere gratitude to the Philippine Red Cross, Government and people for having given us such a warm welcome.

We were provided with excellent facilities which made our work much simpler. I should like to emphasize, however, that what really facilitated our task was the hospitable spirit of all the members of the Philippine Red Cross who worked together to make our stay here in Manila so pleasant.

I wish to pay tribute to the Philippine people for their hospitality and express our gratitude and admiration for the efforts of all those who did their best to facilitate our task. I also wish the Philippines the best of success in the efforts it is making in the field of international relations. My best wishes also go to all participants in our discussions; with the closing of this Conference, our responsibilities are clearly laid down and we should try and develop them. I would now like you all to join in congratulating General Espino on the great skill with which he has chaired the debate in our plenary meetings. (*Applause.*)

General R. C. ESPINO (Chairman): — It is not 12 o'clock yet so let me have the last word: We in the Red Cross have a duty to humanity and I feel that in this modern age we should really apply ourselves with all seriousness to the betterment of the life of man.

We all agree that the most important component of any society, the most important resource of any nation, is man; not gold or silver or guns or land, but man. Without man this world would be nothing. And we are not alone. Before the millennium in war time it was not customary to keep prisoners alive. Cyrius the Great, 600 years before the millennium, was perhaps the first leader in war to take compassion on the captured enemy.

The parable of the Good Samaritan is known to us all. Unfortunately the moral of the story is not always complied with.

We all know that our founder, Henry Dunant, in 1863, after seeing the suffering at the battle of Solferino, started what is now the oldest international society in the world, the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Very soon we are going to recruit other countries into this great organization.

We in the Philippines have been honoured by your presence in our country. Several years ago, when we invited you to come to Manila, we were afraid that we would never have the privilege of having 121 countries in one conference under peaceful auspices. We have tried to hear everybody and give everybody his chance and we feel that what we have achieved in this conference is consensus. What remains is to put into action what we have resolved in this Conference, and I know that, as you leave Manila, you will share my opinion that we did not meet here in vain.

On behalf of the Philippine National Red Cross, my government and my country, I am happy to convey again to you our heartfelt good wishes and I notice that, of the 24 conferences since they started in 1867, Geneva has been host four times, London twice. I don't see any reason why the Philippines cannot host it again in the future. (*Applause.*)

I now declare the Twenty-fourth International Conference over. (*Applause.*)

The session ended at noon.

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

A. Resolutions of the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross

I

Wearing of identity discs

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that, in several situations of armed conflict, the identification of members of the armed forces killed on the battle-field is made extremely difficult for lack of identification documents,

recalling that Articles 16 and 17 of the First Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 provide for identity discs to be worn by members of the armed forces to facilitate their identification in case they are killed and the communication of their deaths to the Power on which they depend,

1. *urges* the Parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary steps to provide the members of their armed forces with identity discs and to ensure that the discs are worn during service,
2. *recommends* that the Parties to an armed conflict should see that these discs give all the indications required for a precise identification of members of the armed forces such as full name, date and place of birth, religion, serial number and blood group; that every disc be double and composed of two separable parts, each bearing the same indications; and that the inscriptions be engraved on a substance as resistant as possible to the destructive action of chemical and physical agents, especially to fire and heat,
3. *reminds* the Parties to an armed conflict that one half of each disc must, in case of death, be detached and sent back to the Power on which the member of the armed forces depended, the other half remaining on the body,
4. *notes* that the International Committee of the Red Cross is prepared to provide models to States asking for them.

II

Forced or involuntary disappearances

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

alarmed at the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances, perpetrated, connived at or consented to by governments,

deeply moved by the great suffering such disappearances cause not only to the missing persons themselves and their families but also to society,

considering that such disappearances imply violations of fundamental human rights such as the right to life, freedom and personal safety, the right not to be submitted to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained, and the right to a just and public trial,

pointing out that families have a right to be informed of the whereabouts, health and welfare of their members, a right which is laid down in various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly,

commending the efforts of the ICRC, the Working Group established by the UN Commission on Human Rights to investigate the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances and various impartial humanitarian organizations for the benefit of missing persons and their families,

1. *condemns* any action resulting in forced or involuntary disappearances, conducted or perpetrated by governments or with their connivance or consent,
2. *recommends* that the ICRC take any appropriate action which might reveal the fate of missing persons or bring their families relief and urges that the ICRC Central Tracing Agency and any other impartial humanitarian organization be granted the facilities necessary to take effective action in this matter,
3. *urges* governments to endeavour to prevent forced or involuntary disappearances and to undertake and complete thorough inquiries into every case of disappearance occurring in their territory.
4. *urges* governments to co-operate with humanitarian organizations, and with the relevant bodies of the United Nations and of intergovernmental organizations, in particular those which investigate forced or involuntary disappearances, with a view to putting an end to that phenomenon.

III

Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having considered the reports of the ICRC on its activities from 1973 to 1980 and from 1 January to 30 June 1981,

recalling and confirming Resolutions X of 1969, III of 1973 and X of 1977 of the previous International Conferences of the Red Cross,

deeply concerned about the continued refusal of the occupying power to acknowledge the applicability and comply with the totality of its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war,

deeply disturbed by the policies contrary to article 49 paragraph 6 of the Fourth Geneva Convention affecting the Arab population in the occupied territories in the Middle East,

conscious of the fact that the Parties to the Geneva Conventions have undertaken, not only to respect, but also to ensure respect for the Conventions in all circumstances,

1. *expresses* once more its deep concern for the situation of the Arab civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East,
2. *reaffirms* the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied territories in the Middle East,
3. *requests* the authorities concerned to fulfil their humanitarian obligations by facilitating the return of people to their homes and their reintegration into their communities,
4. *calls upon* the occupying power to acknowledge and comply with its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to this effect cease forthwith all policies and practices in violation of any article of this Convention,
5. *affirms* that the settlements in the occupied territories are incompatible with articles 27 and 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention,
6. *expresses* its appreciation to the ICRC and its delegates in the Middle East for their continuous efforts in that region.

IV

Humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the benefit of victims of armed conflicts

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the persistence of international or non-international armed conflicts in which the ICRC is partially or totally unable to fulfil its humanitarian tasks in situations covered by the Geneva Conventions,

deploring in particular the fact that the ICRC is refused access to the captured combatants and detained civilians in the armed conflicts of Western Sahara, Ogaden and later on Afghanistan,

urges all parties concerned to enable the International Committee of the Red Cross to protect and assist persons captured, detained, wounded or sick and civilians affected by these conflicts.

V

Anti-piracy efforts

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

profoundly concerned that persons seeking asylum continue to be attacked by pirates at sea,

emphasizing the urgency of further steps to combat this heinous crime against humanity,

1. *calls* on States parties to the International Convention on the High Seas (Geneva, 1958) to discharge to the full their obligations under that Convention,
2. *urges* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the ICRC, as well as concerned governmental international organizations to co-operate to the fullest extent possible in measures designed to assist regional and other efforts in eradicating piracy on the high seas and in territorial waters.

VI

Respect for international humanitarian law and for humanitarian principles and support for the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

deeply concerned by the Report on the Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

noting that in several armed conflicts fundamental provisions of the Geneva Conventions are violated and that these grave violations have often the consequence of impeding the International Committee of the Red Cross in the discharge of its activities pursuant to international law applicable in armed conflicts—international, internal or mixed,

observing further that the International Committee of the Red Cross is not always able to discharge its humanitarian activities in internal disturbances and tensions,

alarmed by such violations of the rules of the law of nations and of humanitarian principles, and likewise by the development of violence and contempt for human rights in the world,

recalling that, pursuant to the Geneva Conventions, the States have the obligation not only to respect but to ensure respect for these Conventions,

makes a solemn appeal that the rules of international humanitarian law and the universally recognized humanitarian principles be safeguarded at all times and in all circumstances and that the International Committee of the Red Cross be granted all the facilities necessary to discharge the humanitarian mandate confided to it by the international community.

VII

The Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution III adopted by the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross and Resolution 2 adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1979,

having examined the ICRC Report on signatures, ratifications and accessions to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,

confirming the interest which the International Conference has always had in the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts,

1. *notes* the fact that 18 States are parties to Protocol I and 16 to Protocol II,
2. *reaffirms* its will to do everything in its power so that the two Additional Protocols should be as universally accepted as the Geneva Conventions,
3. *invites* the States which have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the two Additional Protocols,
4. *invites* the ICRC, within its statutory mandate and in co-operation with the National Societies, to pursue its efforts to promote knowledge and universal acceptance of the two Additional Protocols.

VIII

Identification of medical transport

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that:

— the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), pursuant to Resolution 17 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts (CDDH), is working out amendments to the annexes 2, 7, 10 and 11 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, and is continuing the study of specifications with a view to making the identification of medical aircraft easier,

— the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 18 by inserting in the International Code of Signals a chapter entitled “Identification of Medical Transport in Armed Conflicts”,

— the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 79) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 19 by inserting in the Radio Regulations a section entitled “Medical Transports”,

— the WARC 79 also acted upon the Resolution IX of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross by adopting Resolution 10 on emergency radiocommunications,

noting that pursuant to article 21 of the Second Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 special protection shall be granted to ships and craft assisting the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,

referring further to the pertinent provisions of Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions, relating to the protection to be granted to medical ships, craft and aircraft,

believing that any improvement in the system of identification of all ships, craft and aircraft, particularly those of neutral or other States not Parties to the conflict, used to assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked, will improve the special protection to be granted to ships, craft and aircraft in such circumstances,

noting in this context that the WARC 79 adopted Resolution 11 with annex relating to the use of radiocommunications for ensuring the safety of any ship and aircraft of neutral and other States not Parties to an armed conflict,

1. *notes with satisfaction* that Governments and their national telecommunication administrations and the specialized international organizations, by responding to CDDH Resolutions 17, 18 and 19, have contributed to the improvement of the safety and rapidity of medical evacuations,
2. *welcomes the fact* that the Radio Regulations are taking Red Cross radio communications into consideration,
3. *urges* Governments to do their utmost to ensure the formulation in appropriate international conferences or by a relevant international organization such as the WARC and IMCO, of rules and procedures for the better identification of ships, craft and aircraft of neutral States and of other States not Parties to an armed conflict when these ships, craft and aircraft assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,

4. *invites* Governments to see also in peacetime to the necessary co-ordination between civilian and military telecommunication services on the one hand and medical services on land, at sea and in the air, on the other hand, and to make available as far as possible to medical personnel, modern communication and identification systems providing optimum safety conditions for the evacuation of the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked especially in time of armed conflict.

IX

Conventional weapons

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the general principle of the protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities, the principle of international law that the right of the Parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, and the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering,

recalling the deliberations on the use of certain conventional weapons by an *ad hoc* Committee of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, Geneva (1974-1977), and, amongst others, the Conferences of Government experts held at Lucerne (1974) and Lugano (1976) under the auspices of the ICRC,

recalling also Resolution 22 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts,

1. *notes with satisfaction* the adoption by a United Nations Conference, on 10 October 1980, of a Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects and of its annexed Protocols, and the adoption by this Conference, at its 1979 session, of a Resolution on small-calibre weapon systems,
2. *invites* States to become Parties to the Convention and its annexed Protocols as soon as possible, to apply them and examine the possibility of strengthening or developing them further,
3. *appeals* to Governments, in conformity with the above Resolution, to exercise the utmost care in the development of small-calibre weapon systems, so as to avoid an unnecessary escalation in the injurious effects caused by such systems,
4. *invites* the ICRC to follow these matters and to keep the International Conference of the Red Cross informed.

X

Dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the Red Cross principles and ideals

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having with satisfaction taken cognizance of the work accomplished by the ICRC, the League, the National Societies and the Henry Dunant Institute for the implementation of Resolution VII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross, including the drawing up of a Programme of Action of the Red Cross with respect to dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross,

mindful that, pursuant to articles 47, 48, 127 and 144 of, respectively, the First, Second, Third and Fourth 1949 Geneva Conventions and to article 83 of the 1977 Protocol I and article 19 of the 1977 Protocol II, the States Parties have undertaken a commitment to disseminate knowledge of these treaties as widely as possible, an obligation of which, moreover, they were reminded by Resolution 21 on the dissemination of knowledge of international

humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts adopted by the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts,

1. *urges* the Governments of States Parties to the Geneva Conventions and, as the case may be, to the 1977 Protocols, to fulfil entirely their obligation to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law among their armed forces, ministries, academic circles, schools, medical professions and general public, in particular by encouraging the establishment of joint committees representing the appropriate ministries and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to develop such activities,
2. *notes* the special responsibilities of National Societies to assist their Governments in this work and invites National Societies, in co-operation with the ICRC, the League and with the assistance of the Henry Dunant Institute, to train national officials to be responsible for dissemination, and to co-operate also with their authorities, especially on the joint committee on dissemination,
3. *asks* the ICRC and the League, each within its own sphere, to help National Societies to draw up and implement national and regional dissemination programmes,
4. *requests* the ICRC and the League to report jointly to the next meeting of the Council of Delegates and to the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross on international, regional and national dissemination action, and on the follow-up of the present resolution.

XI

International courses on the law of war

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the unanimous desire of the nations of the world to fully implement the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and other rules of international law applicable to armed conflicts,

considering that there might be a great number of members of armed forces who may not be familiar with or even know the said Conventions and other rules,

recognizing that there is urgent need to conduct a continuing legal education on the Geneva Conventions, law of war and other rules of international law applicable to armed conflicts of international or non-international character in order to:

- attain a uniform interpretation and application of the said Conventions and other rules,
 - familiarize members of armed forces with the provisions thereof, and to make them fully understand and appreciate the concept and philosophy behind this international humanitarian law, particularly legal officers who interpret these rules and unit commanders who are themselves the implementors of said rules and who are really the ones directly involved in actual combat and in actual contact with civilians in areas of combat operations,
1. *recommends*, therefore, that the ICRC conduct, and/or sponsor the conduct of, international courses on said Conventions and other rules, annually or as often as possible, and request States to send legal officers and commanders of their armed forces to attend these courses,
 2. *recommends* further that the ICRC urge all Governments to require their armed forces to continuously conduct the same courses in their service schools with the graduates of the international courses as instructors to attain a universal standard of instruction.

XII

Revision of the regulations on the use of the emblem

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the adoption by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, meeting in Vienna in 1965, of

the “Regulations on the use of the emblem of the red cross, red crescent and red lion and sun by National Societies” (Resolution XXXII),

noting that, since 1965, experience has shown that the Regulations could be improved in a certain number of points,

noting that the adoption, in 1977, of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 requires an adaptation of these Regulations for the National Societies of States which have become Parties to the Protocols,

1. *requests* the ICRC to prepare a draft revision of these Regulations for the next International Conference, in co-operation with the League and the National Societies and after having consulted signaling system experts, and having previously submitted this draft to the next Council of Delegates,
2. *notes* that pending such revision of the Regulations, the *status quo* will be maintained.

XIII

Disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and respect for non-combatants

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

emphasizing that the vocation of the International Red Cross, in conformity with its fundamental principle of humanity, is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in all circumstances, to protect life and health, to ensure respect for the human being and to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples,

recalling Resolutions XXIV, XVIII, XVIII, XXVIII, XIV and XII, adopted respectively by the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-third International Conferences of the Red Cross,

reaffirming the duty of the Parties to an armed conflict to renounce the use of methods or means of warfare that do not make any distinction between combatants and non-combatants,

drawing attention to the fact that the Red Cross has constantly shown particular concern about the use and the existence of weapons of mass destruction, which cause damage without discrimination,

convinced that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that some means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies, taking part in which is prohibited by its principle of neutrality,

1. *urges* Parties to armed conflicts not to use methods and means of warfare that cannot be directed against specific military targets and whose effects cannot be limited,
2. *fully endorses* the appeal launched by the ICRC to Governments participating in the First Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament, requesting them in particular to do their utmost to establish the atmosphere of confidence and security that would allow the deadlock, in which mankind is, to be broken and an agreement on disarmament to be reached above particular interests.

XIV

Torture

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting that torture is condemned and forbidden by international humanitarian law, international instruments relating to human rights and the general principles of international law,

noting that despite such prohibition torture is practised to an alarming extent in many countries,

1. *urges* the Governments of all States and the international organizations concerned to make greater efforts to ensure universal respect for these prohibitions,

2. *requests* the United Nations Organization to expedite the adoption of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and including provision for the effective supervision and enforcement of its application,
3. *appeals* to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as well as to the League to enhance public awareness of and support for the struggle against torture and to support all efforts, in particular those of the International Committee of the Red Cross, designed to prevent and eliminate torture.

XV

Assistance to victims of torture

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution XIV on torture adopted by the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross in which all forms of torture were condemned, Governments and appropriate international organizations were urged to do their utmost to eliminate such practices, and the Red Cross organizations were invited to co-operate in the realization of this objective,

disturbed by the fact that acts of torture still take place in various parts of the world,

deeply concerned over the plight of victims of torture,

recognizing the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit,

1. *welcomes* current efforts within the United Nations to establish a Voluntary Fund for the victims of torture, enabling the fund, through established channels of humanitarian assistance, to extend humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose fundamental rights have been severely violated as a result of torture and to relatives of such victims,
2. *urges* Governments to consider responding favourably to requests for contributions to such a fund.

XVI

Promoting Red Cross: Joint efforts of the ICRC and the League

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having examined the document entitled “Concept of the International Red Cross and Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross”,

1. *expresses* satisfaction at the effective follow-up given to Resolution XX of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross on “Promoting the Image of the Red Cross worldwide”,
2. *approves* the orientation suggested by the ICRC and the League for the use of the concept of the International Red Cross, taking into account the Statutes and specific nature of each of its component bodies,
3. *adopts* their joint proposal to insert, in each of their publications and communications to the media, a boxed note mentioning that they belong to the International Red Cross and giving a short description of their respective functions, with a view to making them more easily understood by the public at large,
4. *invites* the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to follow the recommendations of the ICRC and the League to insert similar boxes in their own publications and communications to the media,
5. *encourages* the ICRC and the League to continue their joint efforts to make known to the public at large the nature and scope of the Red Cross activities at international level, and to support the National Societies in their information programmes,
6. *considers* that the Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross—jointly administered by the ICRC and the League—is an important means by which the Red Cross movement can attain its objectives relating to information and dissemination.

XVII

Financing of the ICRC by Governments

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the specific mandates entrusted to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the Geneva Conventions of 1949, their 1977 Protocols, and the Statutes of the International Red Cross relating to armed conflicts and similar situations,

recognizing the need for adequate financial support for ICRC activities carried out in fulfilment of these mandates, in particular for those activities which the ICRC alone is capable of discharging, especially in the field of protection,

recalling the resolution adopted by the 1949 Diplomatic Conference requesting Governments to provide the ICRC with regular financial support,

recalling also the resolutions adopted by previous International Conferences on the financing of the ICRC,

1. *appeals* to all Governments to provide the ICRC, through sufficient regular annual and special contributions, with the means required to carry out its humanitarian tasks,
2. *recommends* that Governments include in their budgets provision for regular financial support for the humanitarian assistance activities carried out by the ICRC in aid of victims of armed conflicts or similar situations,
3. *decides* to renew the mandate of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC, the members of which shall be the National Societies of Algeria, Colombia, Denmark, Germany (Fed. Rep.), Honduras, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritania and Romania.

XVIII

Financing of the ICRC by National Societies

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the report submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC,

noting the continual increase in the ICRC's tasks and the financial burden arising therefrom,

drawing attention to the resolutions adopted by numerous previous International Conferences,

stressing that by virtue of the principle of solidarity binding the members of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, National Societies should help the ICRC to achieve its humanitarian objectives,

1. *encourages* the National Societies to support the ICRC in its negotiations with their Governments,
2. *expresses* the wish that the National Societies will do their utmost so that their total voluntary contributions should reach 10% of the ICRC's ordinary account expenditure for the preceding year. The share of each National Society in these contributions should be equal to the percentage assigned to that Society in the League's scale of contributions,
3. *proposes* that the said amount of 10% be re-examined at each meeting of the Council of Delegates.

XIX

The role of voluntary service in the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recognizing that voluntary service is a fundamental principle and an essential characteristic of the world Red Cross movement,

considering that the rapid development of contemporary society and its socio-economic implications generate new needs,

noting the diversification of Red Cross activities and the part taken by a large number of volunteers in the life of their communities, bringing assistance to people in need of aid,

bearing in mind the necessity for continuity in the provision of voluntary service, where applicable in close co-operation with public bodies,

expressing its gratitude to the Henry Dunant Institute and to the League for their excellent and constructive report,

endorsing Recommendation 4 of the Third Regional Conference of European National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, held in Budapest in May 1981,

1. *recommends the National Societies:*

- (a) to proceed to re-examine their activities in order to cause a larger number of volunteers to take part in determining, organizing and carrying out their tasks;
- (b) to provide opportunities to volunteers in co-operating, when appropriate, with the authorities and private organizations in planning health and social welfare programmes to cover the needs of the population, and in implementing plans made;
- (c) to associate volunteers more closely with the development of health and social welfare activities in their own country, and to give them such tasks as will rouse their sense of responsibility and maintain their interest;
- (d) to offer youth real opportunities for training and participation, as volunteers, in all their National Societies activities including management and decision-making;
- (e) to encourage dissemination within and outside the Red Cross of the objectives and means of using voluntary services; and to pay more attention to recruiting, selecting and training methods;
- (f) to make sure that volunteers admitted to National Societies are fully informed on the ideals and fundamental principles of the Red Cross and are ready to serve them with the loyalty and devotion to duty that are the hallmark of their work for human solidarity;

2. *recommends the League of Red Cross Societies*, within the limits of its plan and budget:

- (a) to disseminate the experience acquired in the field of voluntary service, facilitate the setting up and strengthening of links between National Societies, and support them in developing such activities as require the participation of volunteers; and on the basis of information received to see that guidelines on voluntary service are published;
- (b) to invite inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to recognize the actual and potential value of Red Cross volunteers in humanitarian activities, support them and help them within the limits of their ability to carry out their mission;

3. *recommends Governments:*

- (a) to support the National Societies' efforts to extend the scope of voluntary services and increase their efficiency;

4. *recommends the Henry Dunant Institute:*

- (a) to work in close co-operation with the League and the ICRC for more effective adaptation of voluntary service to the actual needs of society by means of studies and seminars on voluntary service in all its forms;
- (b) to submit its study to the next International Conference.

XX

Joint Commission for National Society statutes

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken cognizance of the report of the Joint Commission set up by the ICRC and the League to examine National Society statutes,

acknowledging the co-operation established between the two international Red Cross institutions to watch over the application and constant observance of the rules governing the recognition of new National Societies and their admission to the League,

recalling Resolution VI of the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

1. *requests* the National Societies to continue their collaboration with the Joint Commission, by regularly communicating to the League and the ICRC the amendments which they plan to introduce in their statutes, and by adapting them to the Joint Commission's recommendations,
2. *expresses the wish* that, in respect of recognition of new Societies by the ICRC and their admission to the League, the Joint Commission continue its works in co-operation with the League Development Programme, within the framework of the Strategy for Development of National Societies in the 80's.
3. *approves* the report and thanks the Joint Commission for its work.

XXI

International Red Cross aid to refugees

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution I of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross which stated that the fundamental mission of the Red Cross includes the provision, without discrimination as to race, nationality, religious beliefs or political opinions, of protection and assistance to those who need it, in the event of armed conflict and other disasters,

conscious of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and the extent of human misery caused by the displacement of populations in many parts of the world,

recalling the primary responsibilities of the Governments of countries of asylum for the care of refugees on their territories, while bearing in mind the obligation of the international community to share equitably the burden of refugee protection, assistance and resettlement, in accordance with accepted principles of international solidarity and co-operation,

recalling that in accordance with their auxiliary role in the humanitarian services of their Governments and with the relief principles of the International Red Cross, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should take immediate actions to alleviate suffering of victims of calamities, including emergency aid to refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

recalling the primary function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the field of international protection and material assistance to refugees, persons displaced outside their country of origin and returnees, as laid down by its Statutes, the United Nations Conventions and Protocol relating to the status of refugees and relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly,

considering that the ICRC and the League have respective functions in co-ordinating international Red Cross assistance to these victims, especially when they do not fall under the competence of the Office of the UNHCR,

1. *approves* the policy of the Red Cross in this field as set out in the statement annexed,
2. *pledges* the unremitting support and the collaboration of the Red Cross with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in their respective activities in favour of refugees and displaced persons, within the framework of this policy.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AID TO REFUGEES STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. The Red Cross should at all times be ready to assist and to protect refugees, displaced persons and returnees, when such victims are considered as protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, or when they are considered as refugees under article 73 of the 1977 Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions

of 1949, or in conformity with the Statutes of the International Red Cross, especially when they cannot, in fact, benefit from any other protection or assistance, as in some cases of internally displaced persons.

2. The services offered by a National Society to refugees should conform to those offered to victims of natural disasters, as indicated in the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief. These services should be of an auxiliary character and undertaken in agreement with the authorities. They should be in strict accordance with Red Cross fundamental principles.
3. Assistance from the Red Cross should at all times take due account of the comparable needs of the local population in the areas in which refugees, displaced persons and returnees are accommodated. Since Red Cross relief programmes are essentially of an emergency character, they should be phased out as soon as other organizations are in a position to provide the aid required.
4. All National Society actions for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons should be immediately reported to the League and/or the ICRC.
5. It is the responsibility of each National Society to inform the League and/or ICRC of any negotiations likely to lead to a formal agreement between the Society and the UNHCR. The League and/or ICRC should be associated with the Society in the negotiations and concur with the terms of agreement.
6. Societies, when possible, should use their influence to encourage their Governments to accept refugees for resettlement as well as to participate as appropriate by assisting with welfare programmes in the resettlement process in close co-operation and co-ordination with their Governments.
7. The ICRC, League and National Societies should co-operate to the maximum possible extent with UNHCR and all other institutions and organizations (governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental) working in the field of refugee relief.
8. As a neutral and independent humanitarian institution, the ICRC offers its services whenever refugees and displaced persons are in need of the specific protection which the ICRC may afford them.
9. The Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC is also always ready in co-operation with National Societies to act in aid of refugees and displaced persons, for instance by facilitating the reuniting of dispersed families, by organizing the exchange of family news and by tracing missing persons. When necessary, it offers its co-operation to the UNHCR, as well as its technical assistance to National Societies to enable them to set up and develop their own tracing and mailing services.
10. The international institutions of the Red Cross will have regular consultations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on matters of common interest and, whenever considered useful, will co-ordinate their humanitarian assistance in favour of refugees and displaced persons in order to ensure complementarity between their actions.

XXII

Co-operation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with Governments in the field of primary health care

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

taking into account the importance of promoting health and well-being of the population as a necessary condition for social progress and safeguarding peace in the world,

recalling Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross, defining the role and main forms of medico-social activities of National Societies in the framework of the Red Cross humanitarian mission,

recalling the readiness of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to co-operate with their respective Governments—which was confirmed by Recommendation 1 of the Second Session of the General Assembly of the League—in promoting health and well-being by providing primary health care in line with the principles and tasks of the Red Cross,

noting the necessity of further developing community services of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in order to meet the needs of the population taking into account local socio-economic conditions,

sharing the position of the WHO, that the main social task of Governments and health bodies in the coming decades should be the attainment by all people of such a level of health which would allow them to lead a socially and economically productive life,

stressing the importance of primary health care as the main factor of achieving the goal "health for all by the year 2000",

1. *recommends* the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to consider the development of primary health care a main task in the field of medico-social activities, paying special attention to those elements and directions of these activities which meet their national needs,
2. *recommends* the National Societies to broaden as far as possible interregional and intraregional co-operation in setting up and improving community services through the exchange of experiences, personnel and information,
3. *requests* the League Secretariat to ensure elaboration of regional strategies and programmes for developing primary health care as an integral part of the strategy for the development of National Societies,
4. *invites* all Governments to take into account in formulating their countries health strategies the potentials of their National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies and assist them in a practical way in the preparation and implementation of primary health care programmes.

XXIII

Involvement of volunteers in Red Cross community services

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of Recommendation 7 of the first session of the League General Assembly in 1979,

recalling Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross defining the Red Cross role in medico-social activities of National Societies,

1. *stresses* the importance of the role of the volunteer in all Red Cross activities,
2. *urges* National Societies and the League to provide every facility for basic orientation, training and supervision of volunteers, to involve volunteers and users of services to actively participate in the planning and management of services, and to ensure that professionals and volunteers work in a complementary manner,
3. *invites* Governments to give every possible support in enabling National Societies to utilize volunteers to the greatest benefit of the community.

XXIV

Integrated approach to community services

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

taking note of the Report on the Integration of Red Cross Activities in Community Services as a follow-up to Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference,

stressing the importance of close co-operation between Governments and National Societies in order to implement national development plans,

noting with satisfaction the awareness of the need for intersectoral collaboration in order to meet the needs of the community,

recommends that all efforts be made both within the National Societies and the League Secretariat to further implement an intersectoral approach to their work notably through joint projects and joint seminars.

XXV

Development of National Societies in the context of national development plans

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the League General Assembly's deliberations and decisions regarding the "Strategy for the Development of National Societies",

sharing the concern of the General Assembly about the need for a realistic Red Cross development strategy,

being aware that the strengthening of the organizational and operational capacity of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the developing countries is a prerequisite to their primary health care, preparedness for situations of natural disasters and of armed conflicts including relief as well as participation in other service programmes for their communities and concurring with the other views expressed by the General Assembly,

recognizing the need for co-operation between the League, the ICRC, the National Societies, the Governments and other organizations, both governmental and non-governmental,

invites Governments and other organizations to co-operate with the Red Cross movement by supporting its efforts to develop self-reliant and capable National Societies in all countries.

XXVI

The role of medical personnel in the preparation and execution of Red Cross emergency medical actions

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

aware of the great number of armed conflicts and natural disasters in which the National Societies, the ICRC and the League must provide emergency medical assistance,

desiring the experience acquired by the Red Cross to be fully used in the better preparation of medical personnel and material,

mindful of the Red Cross need to obtain for that purpose the services of experienced members of the health professions for the analysis of needs and for the planning, co-ordination, conduct and appraisal of emergency medical actions,

bearing in mind Resolution XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross recommending that the skills and knowledge of professionals be mobilised in the planning and implementation of all humanitarian activities,

1. *recommends* the ICRC and the League to improve the instruction material to be made available to National Societies and to help the National Societies to train personnel for national and international emergency medical actions,
2. *urges* the National Societies to follow the guidelines issued by the ICRC and/or the League when making medical personnel and material available to those two organizations,
3. *recommends* each National Society wishing to participate in ICRC and League emergency medical actions to use for their preparation members of the health professions having the necessary experience of emergency medical action, who could also assess the work of returning teams and process their reports,
4. *recommends* also each National Society undertaking a medical action in a country where neither the ICRC nor the League is operating to follow the rules and principles evolved by the International Red Cross and to entrust the planning and conduct of the action to experienced members of the health professions,
5. *requests* all National Societies to participate in Red Cross national and international development programmes for emergency medical action.

International year of disabled persons

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that in its Resolution A/31/123 of 16 December 1976 the General Assembly of the United Nations decided to proclaim the year 1981 the “International Year of Disabled Persons”,

noting with satisfaction that the same Resolution stresses the importance, to the success of the said Year, of active participation by non-governmental organizations at the national and international levels,

convinced that all the objectives proposed under the motto of this year “full integration and participation” are compatible with Red Cross activities and correspond to its humanitarian desire to promote health and well-being,

remembering the interest taken by the Red Cross movement, in co-operation with the disabled and their organizations, in education and training of disabled, making them self-reliant by using their own resources in the daily life,

noting the results obtained by the ICRC in helping the most disadvantaged disabled persons by the use of knowledge and technology appropriate to local conditions and by making use of the participation of the disabled themselves in the projects,

1. *invites* National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the League and the ICRC to pursue and develop the co-operation with the disabled,
2. *expresses* the hope that Governments will intensify their efforts to support National Societies, the League and the ICRC in their activities in aid of the disabled,
3. *recommends* that a special fund to be jointly administered by the ICRC and the League be formed for the benefit of the disabled and to promote the implementation of durable projects to aid disabled persons.

B. Decisions of the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross

I

Modification of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

decides:

1. to amend Article 14 as follows:

Article 14 — Role of the League

The League acts as the information centre for the Red Cross regarding situations caused by disaster and coordinates at the international level the assistance provided by National Societies and the League or channelled through them.

2. to add the following new Article 14 A:

Article 14 A — Initial information

To enable the League to act as the disaster information centre, National Societies shall immediately inform it of any major disaster occurring within their country, including data on the extent of the damage and on the relief measures taken on the national level for assisting victims. Even if the National Society does not envisage appealing for external assistance the League may, after having obtained clearance from the National Society, send a representative to the spot to gather the information it needs.

3. to revise Article 20 A of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief as follows:

Accounting and auditing for joint or separate League and/or ICRC operations and programmes

National Societies receiving gifts from sister Societies, the League, the ICRC or any other source in the context of a joint or separate League and/or ICRC operation or programme must conform to the following rules as regards accounting:

Gifts in cash

The operating Society shall be reminded of the provisions of the "Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief", and that in the interests of sound financial administration donors oblige the League/ICRC to require that the National Society's accounts relating to the operation/programme be audited at intervals as decided in the interest of the operation/programme by auditors designated or approved by the League/ICRC. A final audit will be required upon completion of all operations/programmes. The cost of the audit work will be met from the funds available for the operation/programme.

The operating Society shall open in its own name a special bank account whose sole purpose shall be to receive all the funds and cover all the expenditure of the operation/programme and which shall not be used for any other of the Society's normal transactions.

The operating Society shall render a monthly account of the funds held by it for the operation/programme showing: opening balance brought forward from the previous month; income *from all sources* during the current month; actual disbursements during the month; and the closing balance for the month. The further information required for the following month comprises: anticipated income, an estimate of expenditure and cash requirements. The League/ICRC would in that way be prepared to give consideration to making an appropriate supplementary advance in cash.

The expenditure charged to the operation/programme shall be shown in a detailed monthly statement which, together with copies of vouchers for all amounts debited and a recapitulatory statement from the bank, shall be sent promptly to Geneva.

The delegate responsible for contact with the operating Society shall be given a copy of the Society's financial reports and shall keep himself informed on the progress of the operation/programme. He shall examine the financial situation in the light of his knowledge of the conduct of the operation/programme.

Gifts in kind

Where gifts in kind are made a statement of the stocks showing the origin and use made of such contributions shall be submitted monthly and upon completion of the relief operation.

4. to amend the title of Article 24 as follows and add the following new paragraph:

New title:

Article 24 — Unsolicited relief supplies

New paragraph:

In the absence of such an agreement, the receiving National Society is free to use unsolicited relief supplies at its own discretion, without being bound by the provision of the third paragraph of Article 25.

5. to add the following new Article 29:

Article 29 — Obligations

A National Society which accepts spontaneous or special assistance is bound to conform to the obligations laid down in the present "Principles and Rules" even though it has not requested assistance within the terms of the first paragraph of Article 15.

II

Revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

mindful of Resolution III adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1963 approving in principle the creation of a Henry Dunant Medal as a reward for exceptional merit acquired in Red Cross service,

mindful also of Resolution XII adopted by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross (Vienna, 1965) which created the Henry Dunant Medal and laid down the relevant regulations,

having noted the report on the revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal,

1. *reiterates* its thanks to the Australian Red Cross on whose initiative the Henry Dunant Medal was created and whose generosity permits of its continued production,
2. *approves* the revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal, the new version of which reads as follows,
3. *decides* that the Council of Delegates shall be the body competent to deal with any matter relating to the Henry Dunant Medal, including any proposal to amend these Regulations.

Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

*(as adopted by the XXth International Conference, Vienna, 1965,
and revised by the XXIVth International Conference, Manila, 1981)*

1. The Henry Dunant Medal is intended to recognize and reward outstanding services and acts of great devotion, mainly of international significance, to the cause of the Red Cross by any of its members.
2. Criteria for the award of the Medal include risks run and arduous conditions endangering life, health and personal freedom. It may also be awarded for a long period of devoted service to the International Red Cross.
3. The Henry Dunant Medal is a red cross bearing the profile of Henry Dunant in relief, attached to a green ribbon. When worn with other Red Cross badges or decorations it takes precedence.
4. The Henry Dunant Medal shall be awarded every two years by decision of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross in plenary session. Exceptionally the Standing Commission may, provided all its members expressly agree, award the Medal at once without regard to the two-year interval and even without meeting in plenum.
5. No more than five Medals shall normally be awarded every two years. The Standing Commission shall be free to reduce that number or in exceptional cases to increase it.
6. The Henry Dunant Medal may be awarded posthumously to members who have died recently.
7. Nominations for the award of the Medal should be addressed to the Secretariat of the Standing Commission, giving full details and wherever possible enclosing supporting documents and testimonies. Individuals may be proposed for the award by National Societies, the ICRC, the League or a member of the Standing Commission.
8. Candidates need not be members of the Red Cross organization proposing them.
9. Before the Standing Commission meets, its Secretariat shall submit candidates' files to a joint meeting of the League and the ICRC empowered to recommend the rejection of any obviously ineligible candidates or to ask for further information to be added to a candidate's file before it is passed to the Standing Commission.
10. The Chairman of the Standing Commission shall present the Medals at a plenary meeting of the Council of Delegates. If the beneficiary or a member of his family is not present the Medal will be handed to the President or senior representative of the National Society or of the institution concerned for presentation to the beneficiary on behalf of the Chairman of the Standing Commission.

III

Revision of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

mindful of Recommendation 2 of the first session of the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies (Geneva 1979),

having studied the report on the examination of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal,

approves the revised text of those Regulations, which reads as follows:

Article 1

In accordance with the recommendation of the VIIIth International Conference of the Red Cross held in London in 1907, and the decision of the IXth International Conference held in Washington in 1912, a Fund was established by contributions from National Societies of the Red Cross in memory of the great and distinguished services of Florence Nightingale for the improvement of the care of wounded and sick.

The income of the Fund shall be used for the distribution of a Medal, to be called the "Florence Nightingale Medal", to honour the spirit which marked the whole life and work of Florence Nightingale.

Article 2

The Florence Nightingale Medal may be awarded to qualified nurses and also to voluntary aids who are active members or regular helpers of a National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or of an affiliated medical or nursing institution, for having distinguished themselves in time of peace or war, by their exceptional courage and devotion to wounded, sick or disabled persons or those whose health is threatened.

The Medal may be awarded posthumously if the prospective recipient has fallen on active service.

Article 3

The Medal shall be awarded by the International Committee of the Red Cross on proposals made to it by National Societies.

Article 4

The Medal shall be in silver-gilt with a portrait on the obverse of Florence Nightingale with the words "Ad memoriam Florence Nightingale 1820-1910". On the reverse it shall bear the inscription on the circumference "Pro vera misericordia et cara humanitate perennis decor universalis". The name of the holder and the date of the award of the Medal shall be engraved in the centre.

The Medal shall be attached by a red and white ribbon to a laurel crown surrounding a red cross.

The Medal shall be accompanied by a diploma on parchment.

Article 5

The Medal shall be presented in each country either by the Head of the State, or by the President of the Central Committee of the National Society directly or by their substitutes.

The ceremony shall take place with a solemnity consistent with the distinction of the honour conferred.

Article 6

The distribution of the Florence Nightingale Medal shall take place every two years.

Not more than 50 Medals may be issued at any one distribution.

If by reason of exceptional circumstances due to a widespread state of war it has been impossible for one or more distributions to take place, the number of Medals awarded at subsequent distributions may exceed the figure of 50 but may not exceed the total number which would normally have been attained, if the preceding distributions had been able to take place.

Article 7

From the beginning of September of the year preceding the year in which the Medal is awarded, the International Committee of the Red Cross shall invite the Central Committees of the National Societies by means of a circular and application forms to submit the names of the candidates they consider qualified to be awarded a Medal, in accordance with the conditions mentioned in Article 2.

Article 8

The Central Committees of the National Societies, having taken all requisite advice, shall submit to the International Committee of the Red Cross the names and qualifications of the candidates they propose.

To enable the International Committee to operate a fair selection, the candidates' names shall be accompanied by all relevant information justifying an award of the Medal.

All applications submitted must come from the Central Committee of a National Society.

The Central Committees may submit one or more applications, but are not bound to submit applications for each distribution.

Article 9

The applications with the reasons in support of them must reach the International Committee of the Red Cross before March 1 of the year in which the award of the Medal is to take place.

Applications reaching the International Committee after that date cannot be considered except in connection with a subsequent award.

Article 10

The International Committee of the Red Cross retains complete freedom of choice. It may refrain from awarding the total number of Medals contemplated, if the qualifications of the applicants submitted do not appear to merit this distinguished honour.

Article 11

The International Committee of the Red Cross shall issue on the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, namely on May 12, a circular informing the Central Committees of the National Societies of the names of those to whom the Medal has been awarded.

It shall forward to the Central Committees as soon as possible after that date the Medals and diplomas to be handed to their recipients.

Article 12

The present Regulations, adopted by the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross held in Manila in 1981, supersede all previous rules relating to the Florence Nightingale Medal, in particular those of the International Conference in Washington, 1912, the Regulations of 24 December 1913, and the amendments to the latter by the Xth Conference in Geneva, 1921, the XIIIth Conference in The Hague, 1928, the XVth Conference in Tokyo, 1934, and the XVIIIth Conference in Toronto, 1952.

IV

Code of ethics for blood donation and transfusion

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the important role played by the Red Cross Societies in national blood programmes, in particular in the promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation,

referring to Resolution 28.72 of the Assembly of the World Health Organization (Geneva, 1975) on the utilization and supply of human blood and blood products; to Resolution of the General Assembly of the International Society of Blood Transfusion (Montreal, 1980) requiring its members to improve the ethical, medical and technical standards of blood transfusion practice to the best of their ability in accordance with the Code of ethics of this Society as well as to previous recommendations adopted by the governing bodies of the International Red Cross,

noting the approval of the Code of ethics of the International Society of Blood Transfusion by the International Group of Red Cross Blood Transfusion Experts and by the Second Session of the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies,

recognizing the necessity of ensuring the best possible protection of blood donors and recipients,

approves the following Code of ethics of the International Society of Blood Transfusion and urges all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to communicate it to their respective health authorities with a view to its application, and to disseminate it as widely as possible.

The object of this Code is to define the principles and rules to be observed in the field of blood transfusion; these should form the basis of national legislation or regulations.

I. The Donor

1. Blood donation shall in all circumstances, be voluntary; no pressure of any kind must be brought to bear upon the donor.
2. The donor should be advised of the risks connected with the procedure; the donor's health and safety must be a constant concern.
3. Financial profit must never be a motive either for the donor or for those responsible for collecting the donation. Voluntary non-remunerated donors should always be encouraged.
4. Anonymity between donor and recipient must be respected except in special cases.
5. Blood donation must not entail discrimination of any kind, either of race, nationality or religion.
6. Blood must be collected under the responsibility of a physician.
7. The frequency of donations and the total volume of the blood collected according to the sex and weight of the individual, as well as the upper and lower age limits for blood donation, should be defined by regulations.
8. Suitable testing of each donor and blood donation must be performed in an attempt to detect any abnormalities:
 - (a) that would make the donation dangerous for the donor,
 - (b) that would be likely to be harmful to the recipient.
9. Donation by plasmapheresis should be the subject of special regulations that would specify:
 - (a) the nature of additional tests to be carried out on the donor,
 - (b) the maximum volume of plasma to be taken during one session,
 - (c) the minimum time interval between two consecutive sessions,
 - (d) the maximum volume of plasma to be taken in one year.
10. Donations of leukocytes or platelets by cytophoresis should be the subject of special regulations that specify:
 - (a) the information to be given to the donor about any drugs injected and about the risks connected with the procedure,
 - (b) the nature of any additional tests to be carried out on the donor,
 - (c) the number of sessions within a given time frame.
11. Deliberate immunization of donors by any foreign antigen with the aim of obtaining products with a specific diagnostic or therapeutic activity should be the subject of special regulations that would specify:
 - (a) the information to be given to the donor about the substance injected and the risks involved,
 - (b) the nature of any additional tests which have to be carried out on the donor.
12. The donor must be protected by adequate insurance against the risks inherent in the donation of blood, plasma or cells, as well as the risks of immunization.

N.B. The purpose of the special regulations in items 9, 10 and 11 above is to safeguard the donor. After being told about the nature of the operation and the risks involved, a statement of informed consent must be signed by the donor. For donors immunized against red cell antigens, a special card should indicate the antibodies and specific details as to the appropriate blood to be used in case the donors need to be transfused.

II. The Recipient

13. The object of transfusion is to ensure for the recipient the most efficient therapy compatible with maximum safety.
14. Before any transfusion of blood or blood products, a written request, signed by a physician or issued under his responsibility must be made, which specifies the identity of the recipient and the nature and quantity of the substances to be administered.
15. Except for the emergency use of type O blood or red blood cells, every red cell transfusion necessitates preliminary blood grouping tests on the recipient, and compatibility tests between the donor and the recipient.
16. Before administration, one must verify that blood and blood products are correctly identified and that the expiry date has not been passed. The recipient's identity must be verified.
17. The actual transfusion must be given under the responsibility of a physician.
18. In case of a reaction during or after the injection of blood or blood products, appropriate investigations may be required to ascertain the origin of the reaction and to prevent its recurrence. A reaction may require the interruption of the transfusion.
19. Blood and blood products must not be given unless there is a genuine therapeutic need. There must be no financial motivation on the part of either the prescriber or of the establishment where the patient is treated.
20. Whatever their financial resources, all patients must be able to benefit from the administration of human blood or blood products, subject only to their availability.
21. As far as possible the patient should receive only that particular component (cells, plasma, or plasma derivatives) that is needed. To transfuse whole blood into a patient who requires only part of it may deprive other patients of necessary components, and may carry some additional risks to the recipient.
22. Owing to the human origin of blood and to the limited quantities available, it is important to safeguard the interests of both recipient and donor by avoiding abuse or waste.
23. The optimal use of blood and blood products requires regular contact between the physicians who prescribe and those who work in blood transfusion centres.

III. Controls

24. Appropriate controls should be required by the Health Authorities to verify that blood transfusion practices meet internationally accepted standards and that the guidelines or regulations issued in accordance with this code are effectively respected.
25. The following should be regularly checked:
 - (a) the proficiency of the staff,
 - (b) the adequacy of the equipment and premises,
 - (c) the quality of methods and reagents, source material and finished products.

V

Appointment of the Members to the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

elects the following persons to membership of the Standing Commission until the next International Conference:

Mr. Ahmad Abu-Goura (Jordan), Mr. János Hantos (Hungary), Mr. Soehanda Ijas (Indonesia), Mr. R. James Kane (Canada) and Mr. Kai J. Warras (Finland).

VI

Place and date of the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

accepts with gratitude the Swiss Red Cross Society's invitation to hold the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross in Geneva in 1986.

VII

Thanks

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

presents its respectful thanks to His Excellency, President Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines, for having granted his high patronage, for having honoured the opening meeting with his presence and for having made an eloquent speech,

expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for its assistance to the Philippine National Red Cross with the preparation for and the running of the Conference,

thanks the City of Metro Manila and the Philippine people for the friendly welcome extended to all the delegates and observers,

conveys its most sincere gratitude to General Romeo C. Espino, the Chairman of the host Society, for having presided over its debates with kindly authority, as well as to the Philippine National Red Cross and all its staff and volunteers, not forgetting the League and ICRC personnel, who so untiringly contributed to the smooth conduct of the deliberations,

expresses to all the representatives of the press, radio and television of the Philippines, and to the foreign news agencies who covered the Conference its sincere appreciation of their efforts in making its deliberations and results known to the world.

C. Resolution of the Council of Delegates

1

Development of the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute

The Council of Delegates,

having considered the report of the Henry Dunant Institute on its activities since the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross (Bucharest, October 1977),

1. *expresses* its appreciation of the positive results which it achieved and encourages it:

- to continue its action in the service of the Red Cross movement in the fields of research, training and publications,
- to reinforce its contribution to the efforts of the ICRC in disseminating international humanitarian law,

- to continue to support the action of the ICRC and of the League in the dissemination of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross;
- 2. *encourages* National Societies to contribute to the activities of the Institute, especially:
 - by providing it with research subjects and programmes of a humanitarian character and by making available as far as possible qualified personnel to carry them out,
 - by assisting the Institute in organizing for their own nationals or for other categories of people who do not belong to the Red Cross, seminars on the Red Cross, international humanitarian law and other specific subjects,
 - by helping it produce and publicize its publications and by providing it with any useful material of a historic or legal character;
- 3. *invites* National Societies to provide it with the means necessary to the implementation of specific projects, thus enabling it to pursue and develop its action.

D. Decisions of the Council of Delegates

1

Commission on the Red Cross and Peace

The Council of Delegates,

having adopted the Report of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace,

bearing in mind that the Commission's terms of reference, assigned to it by the Council of Delegates in 1977 and confirmed by the Council of Delegates in 1979, was to "follow the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a factor of Peace, by studying the activities of the Red Cross in terms of their contribution to Peace and by proposing to the appropriate bodies of the League, of the National Societies and to the ICRC measures for the realization of the objectives and tasks deriving from that Programme",

mindful of the fact that these terms of reference have not been fully discharged,

1. *asks* the Commission to continue its work with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition, and to report to the Council of Delegates in 1983,
2. *decides* that the Council of Delegates in 1983 will devote a full day to consideration of the item "the Youth Red Cross contribution to Peace", and entrusts the preparation for that day to the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, stressing that such preparation must attribute importance to concrete projects,
3. *asks* the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to study all questions relating to its existence, terms of reference, composition, duration and proceedings, and to submit to the Council of Delegates in 1983, proposals relative to these points after consensus within the Commission.

2

Emblem

The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the report by the Working Group on the Emblem, set up pursuant to Decision 3 of the 1977 meeting of the Council of Delegates to examine all questions relating to the emblem,

considering that the Working Group was unable to reach agreement by consensus on either the substance or procedure of a recommendation to be submitted to the Council,

having noted that the same divergent views existed in the Council of Delegates as in the Working Group,
decides, by a majority vote, to terminate the activities of the Working Group on the Emblem.

3

Approval of Accounts

The Council of Delegates

approves the accounts of the Florence Nightingale Fund, the Augusta Fund and the Empress Shôken Fund.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Reports presented jointly by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies

- The International Conference and its provisional Agenda: presentation and explanations
(CD/2/2 P-CPA-CGO-CSC)
- Report by the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace (CD/4.1/1)
- Report by the Working Group on the Emblem (CD/5/1)
- Information on the Joint ICRC-League Working Groups (CD/7/1)
- Concept of the International Red Cross (IRC) and Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross
(CD/7.3/1)
- Report of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund 1977-1981
- Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross
(CPA/4.2.1 CPA/4.3/1)
- International Red Cross aid to refugees (CPA/7/1)
- The role of the Central Tracing Agency as co-ordinator and adviser to National Societies and Governments
(CPA/8/1)
- Report of the Joint ICRC-League Commission on National Society Statutes (CGO/9/1)
- Preparation of National Societies for emergency medical action (CSC/8/1)

Reports presented by the International Committee of the Red Cross

- Action of the Red Cross against torture (CD/6/1)
- Funds and Medals (CD/9.2/1 CD/9.4/1)
- Report of the Commission for the financing of the ICRC and proposals for the future (CGO/5/1)
- Report on ICRC activities (1 January-30 June 1981) (CPA/2/1)
- Report on signatures ratifications and accessions to the 1977 Protocols (CPA/3.1/1)
- Identification of medical transports — Red Cross emergency radiocommunications (CPA/3.2/1)
- Prohibition or restriction of the use of certain conventional weapons (CPA/3.3/1)
- Dissemination of knowledge and teaching of International Humanitarian Law and of the Principles and Ideals of
the Red Cross — Answers from governments and National Societies to the ICRC Questionnaire (CPA/4.1/1)
- Use and protection of the emblem (Explanatory guide) (CPA/5.1/1)
- Revision of the 1965 Regulations on the use of the emblem by the National Societies (CPA/5.2/1)
- Weapons of mass destruction (CPA/6/1)
- Attitude of the Red Cross to the taking of hostages (CGO/3/1)
- Review of the regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal (CGO/11/1)

Reports presented by the League of Red Cross Societies

- Secretary General's Report on the Work of the League (1 January to 30 June 1981) (CGO/2/2)
- Progress report on the study on "Natural disaster relief actions and international law — Protection of human
beings in disaster situations" (CGO/6/1)
- Cooperation between governments and Red Cross in organizing Primary Health Care Programmes (follow-up to
Recommendation 7 of the 1st session of the League General Assembly, 1979) (CSC/2/1)

Integration of Red Cross activities in Community Services (follow-up to Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference) (CSC/3/1)
Development of National Societies in the context of National Development Plan (follow-up to recommendations of the 1st session of the League General Assembly, 1979) (CSC/4/1)
Role of the Red Cross in the Development of National Blood Transfusion Programmes (follow-up to Resolution XVI of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross) (CSC/5/1)
The Red Cross contribution to a better human environment in relation with governmental programmes (follow-up to Resolution XXI of the XXIIIrd International Conference) (CSC/6/1)
Report on follow-up to other resolutions of the XXIIIrd International Conference (Resolutions XIX and XXII) (CSC/7/1)

Reports presented by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross

Report of the Chairman on the work of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross (P/6/1)
Revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal (CGO/10/1)

Report presented by the League of Red Cross Societies and the Henry Dunant Institute

Voluntary service in the Red Cross (CGO/8/1)

Report presented by the Henry Dunant Institute

Report on the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute (1977-1981) (CD/8/1)

Reports of the Commissions of the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross

Report of Commission I "Protection and Assistance" (P/7a/1)
Report of General and Organizational Commission (II) (P/7b/1)
Report on Community Services and Development Commission (III) (P/7c/1)

Reports submitted by Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Afghanistan	Germany (Federal Republic of)
Australia	Greece
Bahamas	Guyana
Belgium	Hungary
Burma	Italy
Canada	Japan
China	Korea (Republic of)
Colombia	Korea (People's Democratic Republic of)
Czechoslovakia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Denmark	Malaysia
Fiji	Mauritania
Finland	Monaco
France	Mongolia
German Democratic Republic	Nepal

Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Singapore
South Africa
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Syria
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Thailand
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